

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT STEETON HALL ON WEDNESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2016

Prior to the commencement of the meeting there was a minute's silence in respect of members who were no longer with us – in particular Tom Chalmers, Scowan Crawford Mogg, Haydn Lyness, Ray Ackroyd, Brian Holmes & John Saxby.

Roll Call – Tony Hennigan, John Chambers, Graham Berry, Jens Hislop, David Lonsdale, Terry Nattrass, Peggy & Andy Holmes, Jack & Laraine Davies, Les & Margaret Allinson, Ron & Carol Harrison, Roger Yearby, Fred & Barbara Dadswell, Vince Curran, Joe Graham, Les Scaife & Margaret Elliott, Mick Spencer, Dave & Audrey Sands, Steve Walker, Steve Metcalfe, Ian & Elizabeth Hemsworth, Milly Wheelwright, Sue Neave, Peter Maughan, George McAlpine, Allan & Angela Jacks, Patrick & Bridget Rout, Bernard Grundy, Peter Corkindale, John Taylor, Tony & Isabel Lyon, Peter Whitley and Peter Taylor. (43 Members)

Apologies – Rod West, George Wardley, T. Slocombe, Richard Anelay, Bruce & Hilary Grannan, Cath Winstanley, Bill Nicholson, Alan Pritchard, Simon Todd, Nigel Schofield, Craig Marshall, Jack Birse, H. Baxter, Hugh Robinson, Colin Edwards, Bob Herbert, Jim Mcsharry, Lionel Fletcher & Gwyneth Alcock (20 members).

Minutes of the AGM held on 25 February 2015 – were read and approved on a proposal by Jens Hislop and seconded by Dave Lonsdale.

Matters arising – None.

Chairman's Address – Tony Hennigan told us that there had been an increase in membership over the last year. Between 1 January and 31 December 2015 our Branch Membership has increased as follows:

| | 2015 | 2014 |
|---|------|-------|
| Full Members | 163 | (152) |
| Life Members | 1 | (3) |
| Associate Members | 2 | (1) |
| Total Number of Precept Branch Members: | 166 | 156 |
| Widow/Widowers | 11 | (11) |
| Additional Members | 7 | (7) |

Total Number of Branch Members for 2015: 184 (174)

The following members had joined the Branch since 1 January 2015:-

15 New Members: - Ian Shaw, Monika Beckwith, David Brooksbank, Colin Stansbie, Greg McArthur, Tony Walker, David Horne, Peter Kitching, Colin Edwards, Craig Marshall, Paul Margerison, Robert Herbert, Anthony Hutton, Peter Whitley & Joan Taylor. The last 3 Members joined after 1 January 2016 and will be included in next year's 'precept' figures.

Widows: - Susan Sanderson and Catherine Winstanley

Associate Member: - Scott Carter

Additional Members: - Hilary Baxter & Tony Lyon

Other Full Members: - Mick Hazard (transferred from Bradford to Keighley) and Paul Hammond (transferred from Keighley to Halifax).

Obituaries between 1 January 2015 and 17 February 2016: - Tom Chalmers, Scowan Mogg, Haydn Lyness, Ray Ackroyd, Brian Holmes and John Saxby.

Social Gatherings: - Several meetings had been arranged throughout the year; these included: -

1. Monday, 29 June 2015 – Keighley Police Station – A talk provided by Chief Supt. Simon Atkins.
2. Monday, 6 July 2015 – Bradford Cathedral – West Yorkshire Summer Concert.
3. Thursday, 12 November 2015 – General Committee Meeting and Get-to-gether – Steeton Hall.
4. Sunday, 6 December 2015 – Christmas Lunch – Steeton Hall.

NARPO Subscriptions: - Did not change this year (2016). They had been set at £19.80 per year (38p per week) and remained extremely good value for money. Tony mentioned the benefits such as home, car and travel insurance; the quarterly glossy magazine filled with information and member's offers; plus the fact that NARPO continues to campaign to maintain and improve police pensions and other matters relating to older people.

Southport Conference: - This was attended by Mr & Mrs Hennigan and Mr & Mrs Chambers last September. There were six motions discussed, but only one carried (Publication of NEC Minutes). The main topic was about the Rules of the Association which, after a long day, lost by one vote. Following a full discussion on this matter, the NEC unanimously agreed that the 'proposed new rules' would not be brought back to Conference in 2016; however, they will bring back the 'proposed new rules' at Conference in 2017.

This year's Conference is to be held in Torquay in September. It was agreed that Mr & Mrs Hennigan and Mr & Mrs Chambers would attend and vote for the membership as in previous years. There were no objections. Les Scaife asked who would attend if for some reason Tony or John were unable to attend – it was agreed that Mr & Mrs Berry and Mr & Mrs Lonsdale would take their places.

Police Treatment Centres: - Tony asked, 'How many now contribute (donate) to the scheme'. There was about 25% of the membership present. He mentioned the officer who attended as an out-patient and was refused treatment as per the Regional Meeting (9.2.16.). Tony also mentioned the article on Page 20 of the NARPO News by Patrick Cairns (CEO PTC) explaining the 'Changes at Police Treatment Centres'. Tony felt that the PTC had run its course and time would tell whether or not it remained a PTC in the future.

Christmas Lunch held on 6 December 2015: - A huge success, with no places available. John took names after the meeting for this year's Christmas Lunch.

NARPO Website: - Anyone having difficulty in 'logging on', please speak to Peter Taylor afterwards. Does anyone wish to receive E-mails only (No Newsletters) – this will save on postage – again speak to Peter or John after the meeting.

POLICE WIDOWS/WIDOWERS

There are two separate items to discuss.

1. There was no change in the Rules at Conference – widows/widowers were members of NARPO but 'NO Precept' was required. However, the W.Y. Regional Committee (except Bradford who were in the act of changing) thought it best if such a category of membership paid a minimum subscription of 20 pence per month (£2.40 pence per year). This could be taken by Kier Pensions Unit and continue until they die. In that way, the Secretary would be able to keep contact of their whereabouts. No precept is required by NARPO Headquarters.

It was proposed by Tony Hennigan and seconded by John Chambers that 'the subscription for police widows/widowers be set at 20 pence per month (£2.40 pence per year).'

Agreed Unanimously

2. The situation regarding police widow/widowers losing their pension if they marry, co-habit or enter into a civil partnership has not been resolved as far as the Government is concerned. There are three different approaches in operation within the United Kingdom.

In Northern Ireland, **all survivors** of members of the RUC pension scheme should retain their pensions for life irrespective of the circumstances of the death of the former officer. As a result all survivors are entitled to have their pensions reinstated effective from 1 July 2014.

On the 18 January 2014 the 2006 Police (Injury Benefit) Regulations were amended (see Circular 39/15). This change means that survivors' pensions paid in respect of 1987 Police Pension scheme members will no longer have to forfeit their pension where the police officer dies on duty or dies as a result of an injury received on duty.

In England and Wales this change only applies to widows, widowers or surviving civil partners who marry, remarry, form a civil partnership or start to cohabit **on or after** 1 April 2015. This change came into force retrospectively from 1 April 2015.

In Scotland however, the change applies to **all** those wives, husbands or civil partners of police officers who died on duty who have already had their pension withdrawn because of remarriage, forming a civil partnership or cohabitation and consequently they will have their

pension reinstated with effect from 1 October 2015 irrespective of when the remarriage, cohabitation or civil partnership occurred.

Tony pointed out that if anyone wishes to write to their MP, there is a copy of the template letter on the website for members to use at: <http://www.narpo.org/index.php/notices/widows-pension-for-life-petition.html>

Tony explained that this topic matters to one of our members.

Tony then took several photographs of those present which he later published on our NARPO Website.

Treasurer's Report – Graham Berry, the Treasurer, presented a written report of the year's activities and events. (A full copy of the report is included in the Minute Book) The report was read and approved on a proposal Terry Natrass and seconded by Jack Davies.

Election of Branch Officials – Due to the sad death of Brian Holmes in December 2015, it was proposed by Graham Berry and seconded by Tony Hennigan that Vincent Curran be elected as Honorary President of the Branch. **Agreed Unanimously**

The below officials were elected on a proposal by Les Allinson and seconded by Terry Natrass: -

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Honorary President | Vincent Curran |
| Chairman | Tony Hennigan |
| Vice Chairman | Dave Lonsdale |
| Secretary | John Chambers |
| Assistant Secretary | Jim McSharry |
| Treasurer | Graham Berry |
| Welfare Officer | Jens Hislop |
| Committee | Jack Davies |
| Committee | Les Scaife |
| Committee | Peter Taylor |
| Auditor | Vince Curran |

Christmas Lunch 2016 – Jack Davies proposed and Ian Hemsworth seconded that, 'the Keighley Branch of NARPO should attend Steeton Hall for their 2016 Christmas Lunch.'

Agreed Unanimously

Future Events – None.

Any other business – There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 8.30 p.m. Refreshments followed and a very good evening was had by all.

Proposed **Graham Berry**

Seconded **Peter Taylor**

Chairman **Tony Hennigan**

Date 1.3.2017.