

Annual General Meeting

Held at Steeton Hall on Thursday 8 March 2018

Roll Call – Tony Hennigan, J. Chambers, Graham Berry, Dave Lonsdale, Lionel Fletcher, Ian & Elizabeth Hemsworth, Dave & Audrey Sands, Paul Margerison, Steve Walker, Peter Whitley, Les & Margaret Allinson, Roger & Ann Yearby, George McAlpine, Joe Graham, Terry Nattrass, Jens Hislop, Fred Dadswell, Graham Sheard, Fraser Dunn, Simon Todd, Patrick Rout, Alex Robb, Sue Marshall, John Cowan, John Downie, Keith Foster, Lee Holmes, Jim McSharry, Elizabeth Baluk, M. Spencer, Sheila Dunstan & Andy Holmes, Kay Patterson, Peggy Holmes, Terry Slocombe, Les Scaife, Dave Brooksbank, Milly Wheelwright, Bob Bousfield, Chris Allan Steve Norman and Mick Emmet. **(46 members)**

Apologies for absence – Vince Curran, Pete Maughan, Brian Russell, Jack & Loraine Davies, Allan & Angela Jacks, Bill Nicholson, John Sharp, Duncan Durham, George Wardley, Hilary Baxter, Tony Thornton, Hilary Smith, Bernard Grundy, Rod West, Graham Melia, Richard Berry, Richard Beeston, Brian Hinchliffe, Bob Herbert, Gary Hayhurst, Richard Anelay, John Hicks, Steve Littlewood, Steve Brown, Tony & Isobel Lyon and Ron & Carol Harrison. **(30 members)**

Minutes of last Annual General Meeting held on 1 March 2017 – Were read and approved on a proposal by Graham Berry and seconded by Dave Lonsdale. **Carried**

Matters Arising – None

Chairman's Address - Tony began his address by informing the meeting that, he and John Chambers had been elected to serve the North East Region of NARPO for the next two years as Chairman and Secretary, representing the Keighley & District Branch. This task is quite an honour and privilege to take on. It is the first time in living memory that our Branch has chaired and run such meetings.

Membership - Between 1 January and 31 December 2017 our Branch Membership has increased as follows: -

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Full Members	176	182
Life Members	1	2
Associate Member	1	3
Total Number of Precept Branch Members	178	187
Police Widows/Widowers	9	11
Additional Members	11	13
Total Number of Branch Members for 2017	198	211

New Members - The following members have joined the Branch since 1st January 2017:-

John Padgett, Susan Sanderson, Joan Gore, Kathleen Scarborough, Simon Atkin, Steve Norman, Elizabeth Baluk, William Hall, Phillip Smith, Keith Foster, Hilary Smith, Alex Rob, Sheila Dunstan, Sue Marshall, Roy Wensley & Dorothy Margerison. (John Downie transferred in January 2018).

Obituaries - It is with deepest regret that we must record the death of Howard Scarborough and Peter Taylor since our last A.G.M.

Welfare – Spare a thought for Joe O’Doherty’s wife, Anne Marie, who is suffering from Alzheimer’s; Richard Beeston (our oldest member) who was admitted to Bradford Royal Infirmary a fortnight ago suffering from Alzheimer’s, who would like some visitors after being discharged and when a care package is in place, as he lives alone; John McGlynn, another member, who is also suffering from Alzheimer’s and is in a care home in Scotland; and, Bernard Grundy, who is suffering from breathing difficulties and was only discharged from AGH last week. Our thoughts and prayers go out to anyone else who is poorly.

Social Gatherings - Several meetings have been arranged during the year, these included:-

Thursday, 6 July 2017 – A talk by George Wardley, a local bobby from Oakworth and a ‘Life Membership’ Award presented to our Secretary, John Chambers.

Thursday, 12 October 2017 – An update from the Scarborough Conference.

Sunday, 3 December 2017 – Christmas Lunch at Steeton Hall.

NARPO Subscriptions - The annual reporting of the CPI, published in September 2017, confirms that the annual percentage increase for police pensions 2018 will be 3% (previously 1%).

As from the 1 January 2018, the minimum subscription will be £20.64 (previously £20.04); this amounts to £1.72 per month (previously £1.67). The new subscription rate remains extremely good value for money.

Scarborough Conference - This was attended by Tony & Marion Hennigan and John & Susan Chambers last September. There was only one motion discussed.

Motion One – Rules of the Association - proposed and seconded by the NEC. **‘Carried’**

All the amendments were discussed. **‘Carried’**

Torquay Conference – The Annual Conference will be held at Torquay on Friday 7 September 2018 and will be attended by Mr & Mrs Hennigan and Mr & Mrs Chambers. **‘Agreed’**

Centenary Celebrations – Tony announced the NEC has agreed to hold a Centenary Dinner at The Tower of London on Thursday 19 June 2019. The Branch has been allocated 4 tickets at £25.00 per person. At this point, Tony asked if anyone else would like to attend. There was no one so it was agreed that Tony, Marion, John & Susan would attend on behalf of Keighley.

As a Branch, we intend to arrange a 'Centenary Photograph of Members of our Branch' to commemorate the Centenary. Tony asked for any ideas and to report back at the next meeting.

Officers Course – The NEC have decided to run two Branch Officers Courses in October, to be held at the Cedar Court Hotel, Denby Dale Road, Wakefield. Tony then asked if there were any volunteers to attend but none were forthcoming.

Claim a Power of Attorney Refund – Tony explained that members can get part of their application fee back, if they applied to register a power of attorney from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2017. This applies to 'lasting powers of attorney' (LPA) and 'enduring powers of attorney' (EPA).

Visit – <https://www.gov.uk/power-of-attorney-refund> or <http://www.narpo.org/>

Widows/Widowers Pension Entitlement – Clarification – Tony read out a letter from Steve Edwards (CEO), as follows:

'There appears to be some uncertainty regarding widows pension entitlement and the message previously sent out.

For clarity prior to April 1972 widows entitlement was a third. The Police Pension Regulations changed in 1972 and Pension Contributions increased to 7% which increased the widows entitlement to a half.

The Regulations allowed those in service prior to 1st April 1972 to enhance their pre April 1972 widows entitlement to a half at a cost. At that time officers were given a time limited opportunity to upgrade pre 1972 service for the purpose of their widows pensions. In order to achieve this upgrade of earlier years three options were offered; the payment of a lump sum, additional contributions from pay until the end of service or payment from the future police pension. Not all officers took the option to 'buy' back service.

Anyone who joined after April 1972 will automatically leave a half rate widows pension. Anyone with service prior to April 1972 and continuing to serve will either leave a half [if they chose to upgrade] or a mixture of a third for service prior to April 1972 and a half for the period after 1972. The election was effectively to 'buy back' previous service pre April 1972, to attract a half rate widows pension.'

Chairman's Closing Remarks - In his final address to Conference, the Retiring President Ian Potter stated that there was statistical evidence that showed membership growth was greater in Branches which have amalgamated to form just one representing the area's Police Force. Three Branches in the Thames Valley Police area were amalgamating to form just one this year. We were also told that 2019 is the target year for all Branches to form one Branch per Force! The words 'merge or disband' were also heard. (We say good luck with that one!!).

We, along with the other 7 Branches in West Yorkshire, are happy to keep going as long as possible – so keep coming folks – we need your support to keep our functions viable. If you know anyone who is entitled to come but is feeling shy then tell them how welcome they are to join us.

Keighley & District Branch of NARPO remains open for business!

Treasurer's Report – Graham Berry, the Treasurer, presented a written balance sheet of the year's activities and events. (A full copy of the balance sheet is included in the Minute Book). The report was read and approved on a proposal by Joe O'Doherty and seconded by Dave Lonsdale.

'Approved'

West Yorkshire Web-site's Future – Tony explained the background to the 'web-site's future'.

The background to the dispute between Leeds & District Branch and our Branch concerns the death of Peter Taylor (Web-site Manager). His sudden demise created many problems and implications appertaining to the smooth running of the web-site. John and Tony spoke to David (Peter's son) whilst they were leaving the funeral and chattered about the web-site in general. On arrival home, Tony immediately emailed Phoebe of our meeting. Her response was very demeaning, somewhat insulting and completely out of order. She then posted the email to all 7 Branches. At this stage Tony offered to read the email but thought it was unnecessary.

He told the meeting that other Branches had withdrawn their support. The recent results of the Survey to our members showed little interest in the web-site.

The cost to our Branch was £67.82 in 2016. As yet, we have not received the bill for 2017.

Tony told the meeting that the possibility of Mail-Chimp could be used in place of the West Yorkshire NARPO Website. This is a free service run by Martin Stow, one of our members. He then explained how the system worked.

It was proposed by Graham Berry and seconded by Dave Lonsdale that, 'Keighley & District Branch withdraw from the West Yorkshire NARPO Web-site and join the free Mail-Chimp Website.'

'Carried'

It was further proposed by Graham Berry and seconded by Dave Lonsdale that, 'Graham Stow will be the website manager in future.'

'Carried'

Election of Branch Officials for 2018 –

Proposed by Graham Sheard and Seconded by Bob Bousfield that, ‘the following officers are elected Branch Official for 2018.’ **‘Carried’**

Honorary President	Vince Curran
Chairman	Tony Hennigan
Vice Chairman	Dave Lonsdale
Secretary	John Chambers
Assistant Secretary	Jim McSharry
Treasurer	Graham Berry
Welfare Officer	Jens Hislop
Committee	Steve Brown
Committee	Dave Sands
Committee	Steve Walker
Committee	Steve Metcalfe
Committee	Hilary Baxter
Committee	Sue Neave
Committee	Les Scaife
Auditor	Vince Curran

Christmas Lunch 2018 – Tony announced that the Christmas Lunch will be held at Steeton Hall on Sunday 2 December 2018. The cost of the meal, wine and entertainment would be set when prices are known. **Agreed**

Future Events – The next Social Meeting will be held on Thursday 26 July 2018.

Any other business – There was no other business and the meeting was closed at 8.40pm, followed by a talk from John Downie on ‘stone walling in the dales’ and a pie & pea supper. Raffle tickets were bought and the raffle made a total of £124.00.

Proposed by **Graham Berry**

Seconded by **Dave Lonsdale**

Chairman **Tony Hennigan**

Date **7.3.2019.**