

MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE BATTALION COUNCIL HELD AT Battalion HQ

On Tuesday 24th October 2017, at 7.30 pm

1 Opening Devotions

Rev. Neil Galbraith, Battalion Chaplain led opening devotions.

2 Present & Welcome

Ross Stewart, Battalion Vice-President welcomed all to the meeting;

24 Leaders, 5 Reserve Officers from 16 Companies were represented.

20 members of Council had tendered their apologies (representing an additional 6 Companies)

3 Minutes of Meeting held 14 June 2017

Approved

4 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved

5 Matters Arising

All matters arising are covered in the agenda

6 Finance Report

The Treasurer spoke on the Battalion finances and funds and drew attention to the following:

For the 6 months to 30th September 2017;

- Income & expenditure are in line with budget.
- Progress is being made in building relationships with potential sources of funds and these are now beginning to bear fruit.
- The stock market continues to be buoyant, and so far dividend income is holding up. The value of our investments is currently £25k higher than at 31st March 2017

7 Committee Reports

7.1 Board of Trustees Report

Ronnie Campbell reported to Council that a summary of each Board of Trustees meeting is posted to the Battalion web-site and highlighted a number of key points.

- Concern had been raised at Brigade UK processes relating to Online Brigade Manager (OBM) and decisions to 'deactivate' Companies who do not wish to use the system. Discussions have now taken place and a solution to the issue has been agreed.
- Gary McQueen, 130th Glasgow had agreed to take on the role of PR Trustee.
- Over 80 Boys attended the recent Juniors 100 Challenge event held at HQ on Sat 30th Sept 2017. 35 challenges were delivered over the 3 hour session and we were pleased that our local MSP & First Minister Nicola Sturgeon was able to join us for a short period.
- The 60th Glasgow & 85th Glasgow Companies have closed. Work is in hand to encourage Boys to attend adjacent Companies.
- The 119th Glasgow will operate as an Anchor Section & Junior Section in the short term.
- The 132nd Annual Review had now been published highlighting the work of the Battalion in session 2016/2017

The Secretary provided a report on the recent Brigade Council Conference noting that:-

- A motion to change the structure of Annual Capitation fees for session 2018/2019 by removing the Company fee and equalising the individual member fee for both young people & Leaders (£19.50) was approved, subject to an amendment that keeps the helper fee at the same figure as 2017/2018 (£14.00)
- Future levels of capitation fees will be proposed as a 2 part amount, a Brigade UK element to fund the organisation and a Brigade Scotland element specifically for

regional activities.

- A motion from Northern Ireland District requesting that the Brigade Executive provide proposals at Brigade Council 2018 to allow more regional autonomy was passed.
- A motion to reduce the size of the Brigade Executive, supported by the Board of Glasgow Battalion was lost.
- A number of motions proposed by the Brigade Executive to change regulations to allow compliance with UK Company Law were defeated, effectively as a result of a large proxy bloc vote from the Northern Ireland group. The Board of Trustees had contacted the Brigade Secretary and expressed concern that these proxy votes had not been used properly. Our request to the Brigade Executive to hold an Extra-ordinary AGM was not approved at the recent Brigade Executive meeting.

7.2 Activity Committee Reports

The Secretary provided the following updates.

7.2.1 Anchor Section

The Anchor Section Pantomime is scheduled for 2nd December 2017. Colouring competition events are in hand. A Lego event is planned for 2018

7.2.2 Junior Section

Details of Junior Section Events are as per the printed schedule.

7.2.3 Company Section

Schedules for events have been distributed.

Football fun days have been scheduled for October & November to gauge interest in organised leagues following a reduced entry last session.

The opportunity for Senior members of the Battalion to represent the Boys' Brigade at the Glasgow Remembrance Service at George Square on Sunday 12th November 2017 has been communicated to all Companies

7.3 Training Committee Report

Alan Murray had provided a report to Council highlighting;

- Skills 4 Queen's Badge September 2017 Completed
- Captain's Training Completed. 6 attendees, 3 from Glasgow
- Scheduled Courses
 - YLT Parts 1 & 2 – 28th & 29th October 2017
 - Skills 4 Queen's Badge course B – 5th November 2017
 - YLT Part 3 on 19th November 2017

7.4 Scotland Committee Report

Ronnie Campbell provided a report highlighting;

- The Juniors Science Centre Sleepover event scheduled for 3rd/4th November 2017
- A repeat of the Company Section Cumbrae Camp in May 2018
- A Scottish Parliament exhibition to raise the profile of the organisation
- A Scottish Parliament debate highlighting the centenary of the formation of the Boy Reserves (Junior Section)
- The gaining of 533 President's Badges, 446 Queen's Badges and 154 Duke of Edinburgh Awards during the last session.

7.5 Kilbryde Hike

The Secretary provided a report on the event proposed for 9th – 10th June 2018. Changes to the competition include

- An increase to team size, now 4
- The introduction of an Explorer Category – This allows younger members to participate in a 1 day challenge on day 2 of the hike, with an option of camping overnight on day 1.
- Classification of the hike as a Duke of Edinburgh Bronze practise expedition

8 Boys' Brigade Church of Scotland World Mission Fund

John Armour, Secretary of the fund, provided an update to Council of the project for 2017/2018. Playground for StARS is designed to raise funds to provide new play facilities at the St Andrews Refugee Services centre in Cairo. Plans are in hand to:-

- Create a February Focus Month
- Introduce AS, JS & CS programme material
- Allow 2 Young Leaders to visit the project

9 Appointments

Council approved the appointment of Gary McQueen, Lt 130th Glw as PR Trustee

10 Any other business

- Rev. Neil Galbraith, Battalion Chaplain, advised Council of a funding opportunity with Glasgow The Caring City Charity who are organising a 'Conga' event in late November. A limited number of packs are still available to allow participation
- R. McLay, 9th Glasgow, commented on the lack of Founders Day recognition, advising Council that Eastwood District appears to be the only area arranging a Parade.
- A. McColl, 229th Glasgow, commented on the new Online Brigade Manager (OBM) system and a brief discussion showed that a varied use is being made of the new facility.

11 Date of next meeting:

The Vice-President noted the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 14th March 2018, 7:30pm at Battalion HQ.

12 Closing Devotions

The meeting was closed with the Grace.