



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KING'S OWN
SCOTTISH BORDERERS ASSOCIATION HELD AT BERWICK BARRACKS
15 JANUARY 2022**

(The meeting was carried over from 27 Nov 2021 due to Storm Arwen)

Attending

Colonel AJ Loudon MBE	President KOSB Association
Lieutenant Colonel RS Combe MBE	Vice Chairman KOSB Association
Lieutenant Colonel CGO Hogg OBE DL	Trustee
Major DP Sturrock TD WS	Trustee
Major AG Horsburgh	Trustee
Captain Andrew Herberts	Trustee
WO1 J Gillie	Trustee (pending)
Major Lance Thornton	Association Executive Officer
WO2 Gerry O'Neill	Museum Officer

Branches

Major EFR Scroggie MBE	Edinburgh
Mr Bill Heaney	Berwick upon Tweed
Mr B Stuart	Stranraer
Mr Pat McIntyre	Riders Branch

Members

There were a total of 28 members in attendance.

Apologies

Maj IDA Gibbs	London
Maj R Edlmann	Trustee
Brig A Alstead	
Capt D Griffiths	
Lt Col M Reynolds	
Mr R Hill	Northern Ireland
Mr R Rae	Dumfries
Mr A Currie	Lanarkshire
Mr J Coltman	
Capt T Duff	Treasurer

1. Chairman's Welcome

Angus Loudon welcomed all and noted that this our first face to face AGM since 2019. He also welcomed and introduced Lady Zoreen Hill who was present, her husband Lt Andrew Marshall sadly died in a climbing accident 50 years ago on this day.

The meeting observed a moment of reflection for him and those Borderers who have passed in the past year most notably Ken Fraser, John Pullman and Charlie “Buddha” Smith.

He also welcomed and introduced John Gillie as a Regimental Trustee.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the previous KOSB Association AGM held on Saturday 12 October 2021 by video were read and passed as a true record.

Proposer: Colin Hogg

Seconded: Gerry O’Neill

3. Matter arising

There were no matters arising as all points were to be covered during this meeting.

4. Accounts

David Sturrock went through the accounts, noting that the full accounts were available both through Companies House and the Scottish Charities regulator, OSCR. The accounts discussed are as at Dec 2020. Subscriptions have risen from £7030 to £7851. The £11107 is Grant in Aid money used to pay staff costs this is money from the MOD and can only be used for that purpose. The £2100 in designated funds was the cost of the NI Memorial stone. The Chronicle costs were £6306. The welfare grant to RHQ SCOTS was £13325 with 44 grants paid out compared with 58 grants in 2019. The expected increase in welfare grants has yet to be seen, in the unaudited figures for 2021 the trend is still downward.

There were no payments to Branches as activities were curtailed by the pandemic.

Bryan Johnson asked if the value of assets was reducing, Angus Loudon briefed that we had moved from a dividend income to a capital growth-based fund to generate income. The performance of the fund was typical of all such funds in the early phase of the pandemic and there had been a rebound in value that would be seen in the next set of accounts.

Angus Loudon briefed all charities were suffering some losses so we need to drawdown some funds to operate, it should even out when the economy bounces back. We have moved away from income based funds to capital growth portfolio, so we will sell stock which works better for us.

Hiram Dunn asked why our welfare money is at RHQ SCOTS.

Angus Loudon briefed it is the most efficient and effective system. The SO2 Welfare at RHQ SCOTS (Norrie MacKinnon) almonises funds from various organisations, taking the work away from the Association HQ, which was a welcome reduction in work.

The financial statement is attached to these minutes.

5. Branch Reports

The following reports were submitted and read out to the AGM:

London - Active membership is over 40 with another hundred plus on our distribution list. 12 members attended the delayed AGM in London in September. Magnus Falk organised the wreath laying ceremony at Donald Chalmers' grave (the soldier who was ambushed in County Cork on 21 May 1921). Four Borderers attended including Willie Cochrane who played the pipes. Many thanks to Gerry for alerting us all to the anniversary of this barely known event and arranging the simultaneous ceremonies at the three graves across the country.

Our Remembrance weekend was well supported. Numbers were slightly down. Brigadier Andrew Myrtle stood in front of the regimental plot at the opening of the Field of Remembrance by the Duchess of Cornwall. Our short cross planting and wreath laying ceremony on the Saturday was well received by many onlookers and we sat down just short of fifty for lunch at the Victory Services Club. It was great to see Nancy and her daughter and grandchild at the cross planting ceremony.

Sadly three members, all WW2 veterans, died during the year – Harry Gornall (just short of his 95th birthday) – he served in 1 KOSB in Germany in 1945 before going to Palestine, Theo Dalgliesh aged 96, who was wounded while serving with 6 KOSB in Normandy, and Dennis Crockett who served with 7 KOSB at Arnhem – which is the name he gave his house in Devon. And of course sadly John Pullman died who was also a regular attendee at our Remembrance weekend and who helped encourage so many to join us. Our oldest member is Douglas Baldwin who served in 6 KOSB in Normandy and was taken prisoner in the same battle where Theo Dalgliesh was wounded.

In 2022 we hope to be back at The Scotland Office for the Colonel's rehearsal of Trooping the Colour and we look forward to welcoming many from up north at Remembrance weekend in London. We are waiting for confirmation of this. I would like to thank Spike, Gerry and the Trustees for all the support they give us all. I am sorry not to be with you but I did try to join you in November!!!
Ian Gibbs

Edinburgh - The past year has been frustrating for the Branch as activities have been severely limited by the COVID restrictions. We held a small-scale Minden event on the Salvesen estate in Edinburgh which was attended by Borderers, family members and friends.

We held Borderers' Breakfasts in September and October in the Caley Picture house on Lothian Road. We had to forego further breakfasts because of the COVID restrictions.

The branch was well represented at the opening of the Garden of Remembrance in Princes Street Gardens and at the Remembrance Parade and Service at the City Chambers.

There have been changes in appointments of our committee. Russell Combe has replaced Grant Horsburgh as Chairman and Mike Tierney has replaced Russell as President.

We look forward to a much more active and sociable year ahead, free of the constraints of COVID.

Lanarkshire - Current Lanarkshire Branch Membership – 83. The Lanarkshire Branch has for most of 2021 not had the ability to function as normal during the period of the restrictions imposed upon everyone as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic. That said, remote communications such as post, email and various forms of social media have been used to keep everyone informed about Association matters as best we could during this time.

All regular Lanarkshire Branch activities including, Branch meetings & informal gatherings, Armed Forces Day and Minden Day were again cancelled, as they were in 2020. The situation improved later this year and for the first time in 21 months, we were able to hold a face to face branch meeting on 6th October 2021. The meeting was well attended on the night, with new members joining and a pleasingly large number of members submitting apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.

This meeting was extremely important as it allowed the committee to send out a message to members that things were getting back to normal and here was an opportunity for everyone to get together again, after what seems like an eternity. We were also pleased to welcome the KOSB Association EXO Spike Thornton and Gerry O'Neill as guests at this meeting, with Spike giving the branch a very useful update on Association matters and plans for the future. The most important function of this meeting was the nomination and confirmation of Brigadier Rob Jeffries as the President of the Lanarkshire Branch for a further 5 years, which received unanimous support.

Further branch business was then conducted, including plans for the various remembrance parades in November 21 and the branch Christmas party in early December 21. A regular Branch meeting was then held on 3rd November 21, when it was confirmed that the Branch would be represented at various Remembrance Parades as follows:

Main Branch Parade Airdrie – Standard Bearer (Wul Dymond) & Wreath Layer (Craig Fretwell).

Glasgow Parade – Standard Bearer (John Burns) & Wreath Layer (Jimmy McMullen). The turnout for these Remembrance parades was excellent.

It was also confirmed that the branch Christmas Party will take place on Saturday 4th December 12, with Andy McLuckie volunteering to organise this

event. Everyone is looking forward to this event as it will be the first time many branch members have come together socially for nearly 2 years.

The Lanarkshire Branch will be represented by Andy McLuckie (Treasurer) at the AGM in Berwick on 27 November 21, with other branch members indicating they will also be present on the day.

The branch members are looking forward to fully participating in all regular Association activities going forward by making huge efforts to be there and make up for the lost experiences of most of the last 2 years.

“Once A Borderer, Always A Borderer!”

Andy Currie

Stranraer - We have 19 Active members currently in the branch we started up again in person in September 21 with Breakfast club also resuming with 8 regular Fry eating Members.

Remembrance and the Christmas party went ahead although on a smaller scale. The Branch continued its work as per below with COVID not really slowing them down:

Event Calendar – Key Dates: 2019-2021

- 13 Dec 2019 - Memorial service for LCpl Patterson Killed in Derryard.
- 16 Dec 2019 - presentation to the lifeboat Brownies Guides.
- 31 Jan202 - Princess Victoria Memorial in Stranraer.
- 16 Oct 2020 - Memorial service at Wig Bay overlooking Lochryan.
- Nov 2021 - Remembrance Parade Stranraer (no marching).
- 31 Jan 2021 - Princess Victoria Memorial service in Stranraer.
- 26 Jun 2021 - Veterans Gardens Parade Dumfries along with the opening of the Gardens.
- 27 Jun 2021 - RBL100th Centenary parade in Stranraer.
- 21 Aug 2021 - Garlieston, Mulberry Harbour Memorial Service KOSB were the only organisation to lay a wreath XXV.
- 25 Sep 2021 - The Branch President attended a reunion in East Kilbride for all those that joined junior leaders in Folkestone 1967.

Upcoming main events are on 31 Jan 2022 Princess Victoria Memorial service in Stranraer and a Scottish Night on 5 Mar 2022.

The Branch have remained steadfast and resolute during the COVID period and continue to do so. With restrictions and limitations, we have managed to cover some ground. The Branch remains strong and dedicated to the Regiment.

Best Wishes to you all from the Stranraer Branch.

Bryan Stuart

Northern Ireland - Greetings from NI Branch across the water. Like all the branches the pandemic put a stop to our social gatherings and only last week we had our first meeting in 20 months.

However the branch members have carried out the following: In March Eddie McLeod attended the memorial to the three RHF soldiers at Braehead murdered by the IRA in 1971, he laid a wreath on behalf and tidied up the site. In July several members travelled to Berwick for the Minden golf weekend and catch up with fellow Borderers. In September we were invited to Palace Barracks to attend the 1 SCOTS Minden parade and sports day, afterwards there was a family barbeque lasting into the evening, we were well hosted by the Battalion. Also in September Jimmy Drysdale and Jig McKeown took part in the Op BANNER Golf Tournament with Jimmy winning nearest the pin. The weather was wet with both soaked to the skin.

In November we were back at Palace for the short remembrance service where we laid a wreath on the Regiments memorial stone. Once again many thanks to all those who contributed to the cost and erecting of the stone, hopefully in the near future other Borderers will be able to travel and pay their respects to those who fell during Op BANNER. In December we held our Christmas and invited members of 1 RANGER.

Overall during this time of restrictions we have kept in touch and offered assistance when it was needed. Hopefully the pandemic will ease and like all true Borderers we can travel to our mecca (Berwick) this year for a 'houlie'.
Ronnie Hill

Dumfries - Sadly there are no Branch members available for the meeting due to various issues. Over the past year the branch has had few activities due to pandemic restrictions. Concerns have been raised about the implications for charities and collecting donations as we move to a cashless society are card reader machines an option for the museum and branches. A number of Borderers have expressed concerns at the number of traders making money by selling KOSB themed items, do we hold a licence for our titles and crests?

Our Association should get some money back from these traders. In the past the Branch has sold KOSB items to raise funds, will there be a sale of surplus items from the museum/RHQ in the future? There is concern about the nature and implementation of the end of 1 SCOTS and the change to being Rangers which seems like a cowboy move maybe they are the Texas Rangers! Is there a plan for 1 SCOTS to parade through Edinburgh to say farewell and will the Rangers have the freedoms of our towns?

Looking forward the Branch will continue to attend remembrance service's with two parades being held in Dumfries, we also had our Christmas dance on Sat 18 December at the Abbey Inn Lincluden.
Ronnie Rae

Berwick -The Berwick Branch had another quiet start to the year, like everyone else, due to the continuing COVID-19 situation which had affected all planned events right up until the annual Minden Parade. The annual Branch Dinner, in the Marshall Meadows Hotel was cancelled for the second year but it is hoped that this can be arranged to take place on Friday 18th March 2022. The dinner is now confirmed and is open to all Borderers, an application form is on the website.

The Regimental Museum was able to open again in June, after some relaxation of COVID restrictions, and a number of Branch members helped with providing front of house cover during the days it was open until the end of September. The Museum will open again at the end of March and we will continue to provide the same cover.

After further COVID restrictions were lifted during the summer, we were lucky enough to have a small Minden Parade inside The Barracks on Saturday 31st July. We were able to have an attendance of 38 Borderers and the parade went well, with the Association EXO reading the greetings from HRH and also reading the President's Minden Message. The Branch Secretary read the Minden Address. After the parade, we were treated to breakfast rolls and coffee, served by Mrs Sheena Thornton and Nancy Steele. It was a great end to a great day

The next Minden Parade will take place on Saturday 30th July 2022 and we hope that it will be a return to a full parade. That date needs to get passed round all Borderers so that we get a huge attendance for the parade. The Branch then held the first Branch AGM for two years in the ACF Drill Hall on Saturday 16th October, we managed to elect Mr Bob Bolton as our new Branch Chairman and that was an excellent choice. Bob was responsible for reforming the Regimental Band for the Minden Parade in 2017 and he is a dedicated and loyal Borderer who will make a great job of looking after the interests of the Branch.

Our new Branch Chairman quickly made his presence felt when he organised a Branch 'Pre-Remembrance Breakfast' for Saturday 6th November in 'The Brewer's Arms ('The Battery'). We had an attendance of nine Borderers, including Capt (Retd) James Murdoch, who was on a short stay in the UK from his home in America.

After a bit of a recruitment drive during the year, the Branch membership has gone up to 60 Borderers. We are always looking for new members so if there are any Borderers who are not members of any of the Branches, join the Berwick Branch!

Sadly this year we lost our long serving former chairman Maj Ken Fraser on 30 Nov, who worked tirelessly to promote not just the branch but the wider Regimental Association.

“Once A Borderer, Always A Borderer!”

Bill Heaney

Riders - We now have 34 members attending memorial events around the country including the National Arboretum Memorial (NAM) in Staffordshire and in Berlin. It was noted that the Regimental memorial at the NAM is very small, and we should look at ways to improve the KOSB presence.

Pat McIntyre

6. Regimental Council update

Angus Loudon briefed that the Regimental Council is continuing to work hard to provide the correct governance for the Association. The trustees work in the best interests of the charity. They meet twice yearly to discuss all matters including welfare, finance and heritage, further meetings are held if required. The constitution was re written in Jan 2019 and remains extant.

Russell Combe briefed that this was part of making sure improved communications and transparency were in place ensuring all Association members had a voice. To facilitate this further there will be a Regimental Council meeting to be held on the Saturday morning of Minden weekend to which Branches will be invited to send at least one Branch official. This meeting will be candid and open allowing all concerns or suggestions to be raised. Once Minden weekend arrangements are confirmed, a calling notice for the Regimental Council meeting will be issued.

7. Barracks and Museum Update

Angus Loudon briefed on the Barracks project, there was a meeting on 8 Dec 2021 at which all partners (English Heritage (EH), Northumberland County Council, the Maltings, Berwick Archive and KOSB) were positive. The Woodhorn Trust, who run Berwick Museum, will leave the site and have withdrawn as it does not meet their needs. The Communities Development Fund Bid for redevelopment of the East Block (bid is for £4.2m) is pending with a decision expected in Feb 2022.

The total cost of the East Block work is £9.5m, we will need to begin fund raising when it is approved. NCC Will look fund £1.2m leaving a £4m gap. The Guild of Berwick Freemen have stated they may be willing to help fund the Berwick archive building (the KOSB archive may be collocated). The Mob store and gym are funded separately as part of the Maltings project. Questions still arise over site management and governance.

An outline timeline is- Maltings move into Mob store 2023 until 2024, the east range work begins Oct 2023 until Mar 2025. The Officers Mess will be completed at same time. The west range will be at the discretion of any future developer.

The President of EH (Admiral Sir Tim Lawrence) is very keen on the project and hopes to see support for veterans included. The KOSB must now establish a project team to work with the other partners and decide what we want our museum to look like. We have one of the finest and largest collections in the country and need to showcase our best items. Angus stated the plan is good and positive and that patience and understanding is required by all members as it goes forward. EH will leave the site as an exhibiting partner and will only retain ownership.

Grant Horsburgh gave the following Museum update:

Museum Brief

- Museum opened for parts of the summer, when COVID permitted. New volunteers are providing some weekday front of house capability. When visitors are made aware that we receive no income from the entry fee, they have been generous donors.
- Winter works plan co-ordinated by XO, with volunteers as required. Key work has been movement of much of the Archive to the Picture Store where it can be made available to researchers who can sign docs out and read them in the Library. Photographs remain downstairs in old Archive where the overhead scanner from the National Army Museum is to be used to digitise them slowly.

Museum development – Stirling Castle/A&SH Museum visit

- Grant Horsburgh organised visit to A&SH Museum and its prime mover, Col AKM Miller (known as AK), with Spike Thornton (XO), Andrew Herberts and Gerry O'Neill, our Museum Officer. Key aim was to learn from the experience of AK in running the project and the considerations with regards to collection and exhibition management.

Background:

On the loss of MoD funding, A&SH wanted to secure the financial security of their Regimental Museum in Stirling Castle (their depot since 1881). It undertook a substantial renovation/rebuild of their museum in order to secure visitor and other sources of income. Close liaison with Historic Environment Scotland (HES) was required given the scheduled monument status of the building and it also needed to agree terms with HES regarding income share, staffing and the division of maintenance and upkeep responsibilities.

Key similarities:

- Listed building work
- Regimental museum rethink and rebuild
- Required income streams to secure future/robust business model

Key differences:

- A&SH undertook entire project on its own with HES as an interested party/landlord
- Responsible for entire fund raise, including applications to HLF
- Responsible for entire project management of the scheme

Lots of content to meeting, summary of conclusions:

- Authority on the project resided in an individual (AK) – any other set up would have unnecessarily delayed implementation
- Need a very clear vision from the outset
- Should have as much detail settled in terms of the build and fit-out as possible before work starts or project manager appointed
- Budgeting and financial control is key (A&SH had dedicated, qualified, individual tracking finances)
- Cost over-runs in excess of original budget contingency make fund raising harder!
- HLF are very important to the success of the project
- Listed consent progress is onerous and sometimes unfathomable
- Regimental engagement in story telling is non-negotiable
- Designing the museum and interpreting the story is a huge undertaking and should be started as soon as possible
- Need very close liaison and relationship with all partners and contractors
- Aligning the PM's interests with that of the project is vital
- Start early with preparation of collection for display in terms of restoration and/or preservation
- Ongoing communication is vital to all stakeholders
- Delays are almost inevitable, as are cost over-runs
- Project flexibility is vital

The meeting was extremely useful and leads to a number of recommendations.

Recommendations

Immediate activity

Trustees authorise the establishment of a project team to drive KOSB engagement with Project and in the first instance to work up a concept document capturing the purpose of the project from the KOSB point of view (what are we for? Who are we targeting? How can we deliver?) This will be broader than simply the museum and capture the needs of the wider organisation to ensure that the Barracks Redevelopment Project can deliver a functional and enduring Regimental Home or Centre incorporating the Museum and the Association

functions (including veteran support). It will identify work streams and ultimately result in a concise “Vision Statement” which can be used with stakeholders.

The following questions were raised:

Bryan Johnson asked about lease, peppercorn rent and utilities, Angus Loudon answered that we pay no rent just now and that utilities are covered by MOD these are still to be finalised for the future.

John Currie asked about the housing development, Angus Loudon replied that it would be in the hands of a private developer and was hopeful there would be some consideration given to veterans accommodation.

Andy Middlemiss asked about actions on the bid failing. Angus Loudon stated that the process would start again.

Billy Heaney asked if our Minden Parade was safe. Angus Loudon stated we had submitted some redlines which included Association events and office space which would be factored in.

8. Future of 1 SCOTS/1 RANGER

Angus Loudon briefed on the history of 1 SCOTS, after the move to Belfast from Edinburgh 1 SCOTS establishment was reduced, they became a Specialised Infantry Battalion working mostly in Africa. This meant there was no establishment for a Pipe Band which was disbanded in mid-2021 and its members were posted to other SCOTS Bns. The Integrated Review followed and the four battalions working as Specialised Infantry would be re-named to create a new regiment, The Ranger Regiment, formed on 1 Dec 2021. This Regiment will form the Army Special Operations Brigade based in Aldershot although 1 RANGER (formerly 1 SCOTS) are remaining in Belfast for the foreseeable future.

This is an Army/RHQ SCOTS issue, we as an antecedent association are at two stages of remove, and have no input or involvement. The Borderers will be dropped from the Army list and 1 SCOTS are in suspended animation. RHQ SCOTS did not oppose the change, and we will continue to support those soldiers who were Borderers however it is accepted that the Battalion will quickly change and have few if any Borderers/SCOTS in it. As the Ranger Regt has no set HQ, RHQ SCOTS will provide manning and welfare support in the immediate future.

With regards to KOSB property on loan to 1 RANGER it has been decided to leave it in place for the short term. Detailed liaison headed up by Russell Combe will take place along with effective property checks. A visual inspection and inventory check will take place sometime in April with Gordon Vevers and Spike Thornton. This was to have been conducted jointly with representatives of The Royal Scots, however, separate visits will now take place.

John Currie asked if there was a timeframe for the return of our property as there was a question about security as the appointments will change quickly with future

incumbents having no interest or connection to KOSB. Russell Combe replied that all this was being considered by us and RHQ SCOTS along with CO 1 RANGER. We plan to identify and recover surplus and significant items quickly. The Bn move to Aldershot likely 2025 will be to messes shared with 4 RANGER (formerly 4 RIFLES) already in place, so there will be little room.

Hiram Dunn and John Gillie stated we should get everything back as soon as possible before rules are put in place making it difficult in the future, it is KOSB property belonging to all members. Angus Loudon stated that we would look after the Regiments property and ensure its security.

9. Regimental Calendar

Russell Combe covered the calendar including two additional events, the memorial to the crashed glider in 1944 due to take place on Mon 4 April 2022 and the rededication of the FM Earl Haig statue in France to take place on Sat 18 June 2022.

Arthur Neil reminded all that the Minden Golf on the Friday before Minden was open to all ranks and he welcomed any officer to join in.

10. AOCB

- Chronicle - At printers for draft, cost could rise, stories and articles welcomed from all Borderers.
- Minden 2022 - Planning for a full Minden Jul 30, all bids in, and costs may increase. Restrictions may return.
- Museum fund raising- Grant Horsburgh to lead on museum fund raising. All proceeds from Hiram Dunn's book will go to the museum.
- KOSB property at 1 RANGER - as previously discussed situation will be monitored.
- Association membership - steady increase, all encouraged to join.
- Battlefield tour 2022 - Andy Middlemiss discussed possible ideas, D Day and France. 6 SCOTS are going to Walcheran as a study. Not possible to visit Burma. Possibility of a Cold War tour by Dougie Cochrane in British Forces Germany. Grant Horsburgh gave brief on a proposed 14 day tour to S Africa.
- SSAFA update - Andy Middlemiss briefed on the new SSAFA pamphlet and how they support the veteran community. He also appealed for people to consider being caseworkers or volunteers. The expected increase has not been seen although COVID has had a big impact on veterans and their families. The ABF assessment is that welfare cases will increase as the pandemic lessens.
- Melrose RFC Frank Coutts Memorial Award (FCMA) - Russell Combe briefed we await Melrose RFC response to our written proposals for the FCMA. Ross Thomson a member of Melrose RFC has been informed.

- Korean War Memorial - John Gillie asked who was responsible and suggested we take an active interest in it. It is the West Lothian Council who run the site and Alan Cameron is our lead. Russell Combe attended the last time the Korean Ambassador visited the memorial and will liaise with Alan Cameron and John Gillie to arrange a visit.
- The following two points were raised by e mail from Mike Reynolds and were not read at the AGM:

I have studied the Integrated Review and had discussions with other KOSB Officers and concluded that the long term existence of the association may be affected by the removal of 1 SCOTS from the Army's order of Battle. We should be thinking about this.

Regarding a battlefield tour and acknowledging Andy Middlemiss as the expert and the issues with COVID I would suggest: Normandy covering the 1st & 6th Bns around Caen however the landing at Walcheren by 52 Div including our 4th & 5th Bns would be a worthwhile option, we have excellent accounts from Frank Coutts and Peter White on record.

- The following points were raised by e mail from Ian Gibbs and were not read at AGM:

I fully concur with the idea of Walcheren for a battlefield tour.

With 1 Scots being absorbed into the Ranger Regiment I don't think that General Borton's letter is clear as to how it will stand within the Royal Regiment of Scotland going forward apart from the token wearing of the black hackle. Will soldiers and their families within this battalion be looked after by the Ranger Regiment going forward or will there be a new Ranger Regimental Association set up? I get the impression the golden thread will be lost and RRS are saying goodbye to 1 SCOTS and therefore the RS and KOSB. Is this correct? I have had one comment which I received just before the original date planned for the AGM: "I sincerely hope no quick decisions / responses are going to be made to the Divisional Colonel's two faced letter at this AGM. After a couple of readings I reckon something is very wrong."

I think there is no point in pretending that any Borderer has a stake in the Ranger Regiment or RRS. We need to consider the best option for the Regimental Association going forward as MOD support ends

11. Date of next meeting

The meeting closed at 1305hrs, the next meeting will take place in Motherwell hosted by the Lanarkshire Branch on Sat 22 Oct 2022 starting at 1100hrs.