

All England Bar Billiards

**ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING**

2020



THANK YOU

MEETING NOTES

Apologies: Dave Lillie (Suffolk), Pauline Withey (Oxon)

Attendees: Matthew Knight Mark Trafford, Stu Carruthers, Dawn Jordan, Jean Brackenridge, Kevin Tunstall, Tony Jenner, Peter Sainsbury, Curt Driver, Michelle Baden, Lorin Clough, Nigel Senior, Gerry Fitzjohn, Joe Foxon, Dave Alder, Simon Coleman, Chris Saville

Voting: Matthew Knight (Lewes), Mark Trafford (Oxford), Stu Carruthers (Horsham), Dawn Jordan (High Wycombe), Jean Brackenridge (Brighton), Kevin Tunstall (Worthing), Curt Driver (Tunbridge Wells), Lorin Clough (Northants), Gerry Fitzjohn (Medway), Joe Foxon (Nottingham), Dave Alder (Reading), Chris Saville (Dover & Deal)

Meeting Opened: 14:25

Curt Driver needed to leave the meeting at this point

Minutes of 2019: Minutes of the 2019 AGM were accepted unanimously.

Report Summaries:

Peter summarised his comments from his published report - he thanked everyone for their commitment and whilst the Association has some challenging days ahead, it enjoys widespread support and commitment which will inevitably see it through to the better times to come.

MEETING NOTES

England Captain:

Curt had to depart the meeting and was unable to present his report - that said, given no matches had taken place, it was only likely to concern future selection and fixtures.

Mark Trafford suggested that it may be the case that the England team selected last year would be unchanged for any 2021 events - this will require confirmation from Curt and the England Selection Committee.

Secretary:

Lorin set out his outstanding actions as follows:

- Handover of website, handover of WordPress management and management of association email accounts to Nigel Senior
- Handover of AEBBA Paypal account for online entries to Gerry Fitzjohn - Lorin clarified how the charges are applied and how this has been covered to date
- Handover of secretary@ email account to successor
- Most of the AEBBA display and merchandising assets are already on the van - 2x banner stands, 1x 'pop-up' artwork, 2x tablecloths. Remaining assets (1x 'pop-up' artwork, remaining branded pens, branded tape measures, branded mints will be posted to successor in the coming days.

MEETING NOTES

Treasurer: Gerry said that he agreed with most of the findings in the Verifier's statement. The balance in the AEBBA account is £2,509.08 down on the the closing balance of last year - this is in large part due to the reduction of table hire revenues (some £3,600) but it is clear that there has been a lack of expenses too as a result of the lack of events.

Gerry is eager to introduce budgets for events and other expenditure in order to improve good financial practice in line with Chris Saville's recommendations. Peter confirmed that the committee will develop a clear strategy before the end of 2020. A plan will be developed to ensure adequate funding is in place in order to replace the van in 3 years time (if required). Gerry will also review the table maintenance program currently undertaken by Matt Jones.

Matthew Knight asked whether any monies are owed on the van - Gerry confirmed that it is completely owned by the association and that AEBBA carries no debt. Mark Trafford asked whether the association had investigated the possibility of a government grant to mitigate some of the losses - Gerry agreed to investigate and report back before the end of the calendar year.

Gerry recommended that there be no change to county affiliation fees - Peter noted the recommendation and marked for discussion later in the meeting.

Chris Saville added that he believed many of the bad practices of the last two or three years would be resolved moving forward and so recommended that the accounts be accepted.

Accounts Proposed for acceptance: Proposed by: Kevin Tunstall, **Seconded by:** Mark Trafford

Vote: In favour - Lewes, Oxford, Horsham, High Wycombe, Brighton, Worthing, Northants, Reading, Tunbridge Wells, Nottingham, Medway

Abstentions: Dover & Deal

MEETING NOTES

Election of Officers: See elections in main body of document

Honoraria: After a debate to clarify that this decision is based on the year passed, it was suggested by Gerry that, as most of the playing year was completed, the honorarium remain unchanged. Lorin confirmed that he will not be accepting any honorarium offered as the money should be retained by the association given the financial challenges ahead.

Honoraria to remain unchanged: Proposed by: Kevin Tunstall, **Seconded by:** Nigel Senior

Vote: In favour - Lewes, Oxford, Horsham, High Wycombe, Brighton, Worthing, Tunbridge Wells, Nottingham, Medway, Dover & Deal

Abstentions: Northants, Reading

Proposals: See main body of document

Resumption of Activities: See main body of document

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

All

Wow, what a year, who could have predicted the last major event was the pairs at Bournemouth and probably the last of 2020. So under the current circumstances I would like to thank everyone for attending the AGM. It is essential that as many attend as possible.

Dave Alder is standing down and no words can really say enough or thanks enough to Dave for his contribution to the association, it is probably more than any other individual has contributed. We wish him well in his future endeavours but hope we see him at some opens enjoying himself.

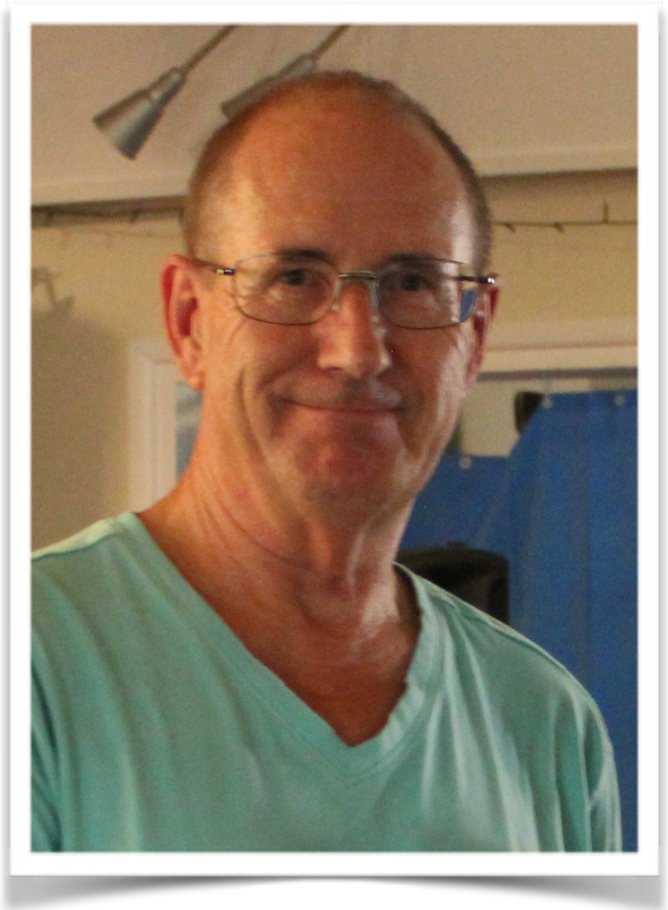
Sadly we are also losing Lorin Clough as Secretary and this really saddens me. Lorin has brought so much to the association in his short tenure and the benefits will be seen in years to come but at least he leaves a solid foundation for the incoming Secretary. Truly disappointing as I had posted on 'proboards' that the abuse of officers had to stop but it didn't and losing Lorin is the result.

I would normally be delighted to congratulate all of the winners, runners up and competitors in each of the AEBBA tournaments as well as the open competitions but this year it's just the pairs and Oxfordshire open winner, runners up and competitors to congratulate.

Looking forward, the way is uncertain but I am sure we will prevail as we all continue to play this game despite the fact that at times it can be so frustrating and unforgiving when an error is made.

Also thanks to Nigel Senior not for providing statistics and ranking points but providing the virtual competitions despite the fantasy results, it probably kept some of us sane.

Lastly thanks to all those who have supported the association through good times and bad, please stay safe and I look forward to being beaten by you next time we play..



Annual General Meeting 2020

AGENDA

- Apologies
- Minutes from AGM 2019
- A New Normal - A New Direction
- Association Finances
- Committee Elections & Operations
- Proposals to AGM
- Getting restarted
- Any Other Business





APOLOGIES

Thank you to those who have notified in advance that you are unable to attend this meeting. We hope that you will remain committed to the game and to our association in the coming year.

MINUTES FROM AGM 2019

The minutes of the 2019 AGM were published on the Association's website on 22nd December 2019 and have been available for review at this address:

<http://aebba.co.uk/a-e-b-b-a-annual-general-meeting-2019/>

It is the view of the Secretary and the Committee that they represent an accurate account of the 2019 Annual General Meeting and should be adopted into permanent record as such.

Minutes Accepted (Y/N):

Proposed by: Dawn Jordan; Seconded by: Kevin Tunstall

Accepted Unanimously.





A NEW NORMAL? A NEW DIRECTION!

Some changes are chosen and some are enforced. The last three years has seen many changes for those of us close to the A.E.B.B.A - many of them we chose. However, nobody would have chosen what has happened to the world in the last nine months - and the knock-on effect on our operations and way of life has been significant.

Before anything else, I'd like to take this opportunity to praise all of the Key Workers and helpers in our Bar Billiards Community who have gone the extra mile and taken countless risks in order to keep the nation ticking along and to keep the people safe, fed and healthy. Thank you. When we needed you, you were there - nobody could have expected everything you delivered - you are heroes.

The impact on Bar Billiards nationally has been devastating and there will be many changes required before all of our community feels able to participate once more. Changes that will be difficult, changes that may be unpopular but - like those we have chosen in the last three years, changes that are absolutely necessary.

I am fully aware that change is difficult for many - in my time as Secretary of the association I have received tremendous volumes of feedback about the changes we have implemented. Feedback that has covered a full spectrum of satisfaction levels and opinions. Feedback regarding my personal lack of competence in the role, feedback regarding how changes are killing the game, and feedback implying dishonesty. It has been tough to hear that given my passion for the game - but people are, of course, entitled to their opinions. That said, I have been heartened to hear others that supported the efforts of the committee in bringing about positive change for all participants. The destination is sometimes more important than every step of the journey - I am grateful to those who felt able to listen and to understand that. I believe passionately that everyone should have the chance to present their views - and I have always been committed to seek to ensure all views are considered.

It is possible that there has not been as important an AGM than this for perhaps a decade or more - the association will need the full support of every affiliate county, every competition participant and every voice from the sidelines if it is to successfully navigate the choppy waters ahead.

The agenda over the coming months will be dominated by how to successfully resume play, how the association can provide additional support to affiliated counties and how to minimise the long-term impacts of COVID-19 and economic hardships on our playing community.

I also believe that the modernisation of the association, the relentless focus on improvement and the desire to increase participation for all should not be lost during this time. I remain of the view that the association is in a healthy position to help and support others and to weather this storm.

I have also been convinced for some time that I am not the best person to lead the association - my approach, my desire for change and my 'style' has not been easy for many to come to terms with and that is why I believe the association will be better served if I stand aside to enable others with very strong views and ideas to lead the way of the coming years.

I am proud of many of the changes we implemented, highest among them being the Challenger Championships - the first real effort by the association in many years to be inclusive and to promote play more widely around the country. There are others which I'm thrilled about and others still which I feel could have been better thought through - I wouldn't be being honest with myself if I didn't think improvements could have been made!

None of this would have been in any way possible without the support of a fantastic committee, the tireless work from many including Kevin Tunstall, Pete Sainsbury, Curt Driver, Gerry Fitzjohn, Chrissie Newson, Chris Saville, Nigel Senior, Matt Jones, Dennis Atkins and many others. The future of Bar Billiards can look very bright when you consider the fantastic commitment these people provide - it's great to know that Bar Billiards has such a great community watching its back!

Most importantly, by some distance, I'd like to thank Dave Alder for his constant support and counsel - I have enjoyed much about my time with the A.E.B.B.A. but nothing more than the times Dave and I set up events and the laughs we have shared on the admin desk. I will treasure memories like that.

Finally, I'd like to congratulate the new Secretary on their appointment and wish them every success in the role.

Good luck and best wishes to everyone.

Lorin



ASSOCIATION FINANCES

The Treasurer will provide a statement in support of the presented finances and will be happy to answer any questions that follow.

A.E.B.B.A ACCOUNTS

All England Bar Billiards Association

Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2020

Income		Expenditure	
Opening Balance	14,417.69	Accruals b/f	933.32
Debtors b/f	480.00		
Debtors b/f	240.00		
Debtors b/f	150.00		
Bournemouth Surplus	826.72	C Driver England Shirt	18.00
AEBBA Events	(204.96)	D Alder Diesel	86.45
Affiliation Fees	300.00	Van Insurance	557.15
Truck Fund	0.00	M Jones - Table Cover	200.00
Table Hire	1,260.00	Commercial Insurance	980.69
		D Alder Diesel & Van repairs	351.07
		C Driver England shirt and logos	63.48
		D Alder Bags for table leg storage	155.09
		M Jones - Table Cover	300.00
		D Alder MOT, Parking & repairs	259.05
		L Clough - Honorarium	300.00
		D Alder - Honorarium	900.00
		L Clough - Table cloth	411.00
		D Alder - DVLA	265.00
		<u>Funds as at 31st August 2020</u>	
		Closing Balance at Bank at 31-08-2019	11,908.61
Accruals at 31-08-2020 c/f	459.46	Debtors at 31-08-2020 c/f	240.00
	17,928.91		17,928.91

AFFILIATION FEES

		2019	Received	2020
Debtor b/f	Bucks	(30.00)	30.00	-
Debtor b/f	Notts	(30.00)	30.00	-
Debtor b/f	Northants	(30.00)	30.00	-
Debtor b/f	Berkshire	(30.00)	30.00	-
Debtor b/f	Surrey	(30.00)	30.00	-
Kent	2020		30.00	30.00
Sussex	2020		30.00	30.00
Oxford	2020		30.00	30.00
Northants	2020		30.00	30.00
Suffolk	2020		30.00	30.00
Bucks	2020		30.00	30.00
Cambridge	2020		30.00	30.00
Notts	2020		30.00	30.00
Berkshire	2020		30.00	30.00
Surrey	2020		30.00	30.00
		(150.00)	450.00	300.00
			300.00	

A.E.B.B.A EVENTS

[illegible]

BOURNEMOUTH 2020

		<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>
Rooming		22,480.00		22,040.00
Sponsor B		250.00		-
Trophies				234.24
Prize Money				230.00
Entry Fees (collected at Bournemouth)		110.00		
Van Hire				239.04
Raffle		730.00		300.00
Raffle Sponsorship		300.00		
		23,870.00		23,043.28
Surplus		826.72		

ACCOUNTS VERIFICATION STATEMENT - CHRIS SAVILLE

On Monday 7th September I was invited to verify the accounts for 2019- 2020. This left very little time which is understandable as the AGM had been pulled forward to thirteen days after the accounting period closed due to the truncated season.

Basically, my comments mirror those of Paul Sainsbury who verified the accounts last year. This is hardly surprising as the belated appearance of last year's accounts and coronavirus mean that this year's accounts had effectively closed when last year's were verified. Thus there was no time to act upon Paul's comments apart from Bournemouth for which I produced the accounts.

The comments from Paul on last year's were:

- Missing invoices particularly one for £982 van MOT.
- Level and accountability of prize monies.
- Bournemouth 2019 needed to be itemized to show a proper profit/loss.
- Paul was unable to verify the invoices and payments from the AEBBA competitions because of a combined payin, covering some thirteen competitions, in the time available.

The same applies this year except Bournemouth:

- Not all invoices were available to view and some expenditure could not be explained even with an invoice.
- All AEBBA competitions prize monies were paid out of petty cash and so unaccountable once again.
- Comments were acted upon for Bournemouth and prizes were paid by cheque and so could be verified. Bournemouth account was fully itemized with a profit/loss.
- The AEBBA comps could not easily be separated financially and most monies paid out of petty cash without an audit trail so verification has not been fully completed.
The current Treasurer has been very helpful this week during a period when other problems have limited the amount of time I could spend on the accounts.

ACCOUNTS VERIFICATION STATEMENT - (CONT)

As a past Treasurer and still an account holder, I have an excellent knowledge of the accounts and the expected payments. Thus to save time I have only sample checked the invoices as I anticipate no questionable payment values.

My job is to verify the accounts not to comment on financial aspects of the year's severe trading loss but I would hope that is looked at in detail by the AEBBA committee and 2020-21 budgeted for before the bills start rolling in. Sponsorship could well be far less than we were fortunate to receive over the previous two years.

I thus recommend acceptance of these accounts to the AGM.

For the coming year the enforced break means that AEBBA have the perfect opportunity to look at their accounting practices. I would recommend as verifier:

- All transactions, where possible, go through the account.
- Invoices be paid out of the account, not using petty cash as it bypasses the secure dual signature authorisation system
- All receipts be paid into the account in a timely fashion, not months later.
- The AEBBA committee look at issuing a debit card to the tables' delivery manager so that truck expenses are better controlled, invoices still to be collected though.
- The AEBBA competition finances must be completed for each competition immediately after it takes place.
- The multiple methods of collecting entry fees for the AEBBA comps caused errors in the accounts last year and much confusion and conversation with the Treasurer this year! I am not happy about the concept of an individual accepting entry fees for AEBBA comps by web payments into an account that is not controlled or verified by AEBBA.

I commend this report to AEBBA

Chris Saville B.Sc.

COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The AEBBA committee always seeks to work in the interests of the game - a commitment that every member takes very seriously.

With the departure of Dave Alder from his function of table hire booking and delivery as well as AEBBA Tournament Management, the association requires someone with equal commitment to step forward to fulfil these vital functions. The association and the wider Bar Billiards community owes a huge debt of gratitude to Dave who has sacrificed many thousands of hours over many years to ensure that leagues around the country get to enjoy a first class playing experience on the national tables set. Dave's contribution and effort has been one of the reasons we still have an AEBBA and so we should like to place on record how grateful we are to him. You are one in a million, Dave!

Anyone who is eager to contribute and wishes to stand for election to serve on the committee is always welcome.

Elections shall be conducted for the following roles:

Role	Incumbent
Chairman	Peter Sainsbury
Vice Chairman	Kevin Tunstall
Secretary	Lorin Clough - standing down
Treasurer	Gerry Fitzjohn
Tournament Director	Dave Alder - standing down
Assistant Tournament Director	Nigel Senior

Role	Nominee	Proposed By:	Seconded By:	Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions	Elected (Y/N)
Chairman	Peter Sainsbury	Gerry Fitzjohn	Kevin Tunstall	12	0	0	Y
Vice Chairman	Kevin Tunstall	Mark Trafford	Dawn Jordan	12	0	0	Y
Secretary	Jean Brackenridge	Matthew Knight	Nigel Senior	11	0	1	Y
Treasurer	Gerry Fitzjohn	Kevin Tunstall	Mark Trafford	12	0	0	Y
Tournament Director	Nigel Senior	Mark Trafford	Tony Jenner	11	0	1	Y
Assistant Tournament Director	Vacant	No Vote Held					

Peter stated that he will confirm with Curt and Tony Cross that they wished to continue as co-opted members of the committee. Confirmation was received from Stephen Coleman that he will stand down from the committee. Mark Trafford stated that he is willing to be a co-opted member of the committee.

Peter added that the loss of Dave Alder from the association is the most significant change in many years and the volume of thanks given to Dave will never match his contribution. He hoped that in 2021 a proposal would be brought ton make Dave an Honorary Life Vice-President of the association.

Jean asked to clarify the role of Delivery Manager and how this would be dealt with. Lorin explained the premise behind the role and that it was intended to find a suitable candidate to fill this function prior to the COVID-19 outbreak but that this had become impossible. This represents a significant challenge to the association’s operations. Peter confirmed that the committee will develop a plan before the end of the calendar year.

PROPOSALS TO THE AGM

PROPOSAL 1 (Amendment to Rule 88):

In our league, a significant fraction of our players are new to the game, and occasionally when reading the rules, misunderstandings occur. One such misunderstanding is on the rule regarding the last ball shot. It's clear to me personally that the intention of the rule is that the only cushion the ball may hit is a side cushion, however it can also be interpreted that the ball may hit the back cushion, so long as it doesn't go down any of the holes. This rule change is a wholly cosmetic one to make clear that the ball may only strike one side cushion. The asterisks added are just for emphasis, and should not be included in the text of the rule.

If only one ball remains, either in the rack or on the table, the break score should be recorded before the last shot is played. The last ball must then be played from the centre of the "D" into either the 100 or the 200 hole, ***off exactly one cushion, which must be a side cushion.*** This is known as the 'Last ball shot'. Before playing the last ball shot the white skittles should be placed in the 50 holes and the top holes guarded. If the ball strikes a skittle in the 50 hole, and falls into the 100 or 200 hole, the score will not count. Both players should continue to play the last ball shot alternately until the ball is potted or the black peg is knocked down.

Proposed by: Joe Foxon
by Lorin Clough)

Seconded by: Nottinghamshire Committee (seconded at meeting

Votes in favour: Unanimous

Votes Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Proposal Accepted (Y/N): Yes - Rule to be updated on published media by Lorin

DISCUSSION ON RESUMPTION OF PLAY

Peter stated that, given the association has no jurisdiction over leagues around the country, it is not possible or appropriate to issue guidelines for the safe resumption of play.

Chris Saville added that the advice from DCMS and other government agencies is not entirely clear but that 'three players per team' matches should be possible.

Mark Trafford asserted that AEBBA is not a governing body and therefore should not seek to provide national guidance. Peter agreed that this mirrors the view of the association. Nevertheless, the association will be on hand to support local leagues with advice and recommendations where sought.

Peter added that it is likely that Bournemouth 2021 would be the association's next tournament followed by planning for the standard Autumn schedule.

Lorin clarifies that this means the cancellation of the 2020 All England Individual Championships - this was agreed and accepted.

2021 EVENT CALENDAR



The event calendar should be set out in discussion with attendees of the AGM.

The following table hires and events were provisionally scheduled for 2021:

Feb 21st-22nd: Sussex Table Hire 7 tables (£420 hire revenue)

Feb 27th-28th: Sussex Table Hire 7 tables (£420 hire revenue)

Mar 20th-21st: World 4-Pin Doubles & World 4-Pin Championships (Suffolk) - no hire revenue

Apr 17th-18th: Sussex Table Hire 6 tables (£360 hire revenue)

Jun 5th-6th: Sussex Table Hire 8 tables (£480 hire revenue)

Jul 3rd-4th: Kent Table Hire 8 tables (£480 hire revenue)

Jul 31st-Aug 1st: Bucks Table Hire 8 tables (£480 hire revenue)

Aug 7th-8th: Bucks Table Hire 8 tables (£480 hire revenue)

Sep 5th: County Championships Division 1

Sep 12th: County Championships Division 2

Sep 26th: Over 50's & Mixed Pairs

Oct 10th: AEBBA Individuals & Over 60's

Oct 24th: 'Off the Spot'

Nov 21st: Grand Prix

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

AOB items discussed:

Bournemouth 2021: Michelle Baden set out that she had met with a number of hotel options for 2021 and the recommendation is to book with The Cumberland Hotel. The hotel has 117 rooms available and will not book any rooms for out of party if the association books 100 rooms. The fees proposed are as follows:

Friday-Sunday DBB: £115 per person

The hotel will offer reduced bar prices broadly in line with The Queens Hotel

The hotel has committed to commensurate tournament sponsorship prizes and no charge for tournament event rooms. Evening entertainment will not be included and must be charged by the association to guests.

There will be no additional charges for single subsidy but an additional charge for sea-view rooms of approx. £10 per person.

Lorin asked whether the hotel expect a minimum order of rooms and Michelle confirmed that they had agreed no minimum order and so no liability to the association. Mark Trafford sought to clarify if rates are available for B&B only - Michelle confirmed she will ask and feed back.

Joe Foxon asked when the hotel will need confirmation of numbers - Michelle said that the deadline to notify the hotel of numbers is the 31st December. Michelle also confirmed, in response to a query from Dave Alder, that all fees will be fully refundable.

Entry forms will be released in the next week or two.

Michelle was thanked for her efforts.



AOB CONTINUED

Affiliation Fees: It was agreed by all that Affiliation Fees should remain unchanged for the forthcoming year.

AEBBA Tables: Dawn asked where the tables are and where would they be stored? Lorin explained that eight tables are currently on the van at Dave Alder's and three are with Matt Jones for refurbishment. The payment due on table 11 to Reading BB is still outstanding. Further, Lorin stated that Didcot Conservative Club had offered to store, as had Totteridge - although Totteridge require the AEBBA to pay for the build of the storage capacity. Gerry to investigate costs.

Matt Knight drew attention to the Secretary's report - Peter set out that it was not acceptable that any officer of the league be subject to abuse and that it should not continue.

Kevin Tunstall paid tribute to the outgoing officers and, in particular, to Dave Alder. His tireless service will never be fully appreciated or known to many but will forever be remembered by the association.

With thanks to all attendees from Peter, the meeting was closed at 16:20.

End.