

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Of the Buckinghamshire Branch of the
National Association of Retired Fire Fighters**

Held at Aylesbury Fire Station Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire & Rescue Authority on the 20th May 2000

Chairman & Secretary: J Cracknell. 141 Cressex Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. HP12 4PZ.
Tel: 01494 441480

The Meeting commenced at 2:40pm and was opened by our Chairman Jack Cracknell.

Apologies For Absence

E Frost	J Tubb	J Brydon	P Young	D Miller	M Ash	P Gomme	J Boylan
G Bowles	R Hearn	H Leslie	R Lenarth	B Howard	D Deepprose	L Pierce	J Maher
J Holt	R Neild	R Potton	W Farmer	M Packer	E Braithwaite	B Morling	I Rogers
B Perry	F Cox	G Bennett	C Sullivan	H Weller	B Grou	D White	J Whithorne
P Girling	N Baker	B Final	M Haycock	P Rolph	J Dawson	P Gallacher	Wilf Ward
B Edwards	B Brazell	J Barnard			N Worrall	J Coombes	D Richards

Members Attending

R Goss	D Bonham	T Crook	R Hedges	T Price	P Robinson2	P Robinson1	P Reynolds
N Razey	F Knowles	J Hudson	B Leybourne	J Langford	R Fearn	S Dixon	D Roots
M Madigan	J Southcot	R Cleere	B Young	T Wright	J Plumbridge	E Shankster	J Cracknell

Chairman's Opening address:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the AGM and the Ladies left for a visit to the County Council Museum and Exhibition. Jack welcomed ACFO Andy Goves to the meeting. Andy said he would deliver his report at the end of the meeting. Jack announced that he had received 42 apologies for absence. Brian Morling had been in hospital as had John Tubb. He also advised that he had actually received apologies this year from members who had never been.

Jack announced that he had received comments from Members about the Autumn Luncheon, everyone saying what a great success they had been. As this was Millennium Year everyone was asked to make sure that as many members as possible were given details and that this year it would be the biggest and best yet. Jack advised that we were hoping to produce a membership list for distribution to the members and it was hoped to list also details of members with Internet capabilities so that info could be passed quickly to members and to let them download reports and other information as this would save on time and postage.

Minutes of the Last Branch Meeting:

The Chairman read through the minutes of the last meeting, which had been circularised, to all members prior to the meeting. There being no matters arising they were proposed as a true record by Ernie Shankster, Seconded by Sid Dixon and voted by all the members

Secretaries Report:

The membership remains fairly steady

Sad to report that since the last meeting 5 members had passed through the fire ground to that great Fire Station in the sky these were:

Bill Pugh on the 11th January.

Bob Woodlands on the 18th January.

Jerry Webb on the 13th February.

Peter Milne on the 13th March and

Keith Penn on the 6th April.

Matters Arising:

present as a true record, they were signed by the chairman and Vice Chairman.

Correspondence:

Jack had received a letter from the NARF National Secretary advising that he was getting applications from Bucks Members (2 new ones). This was due to a clerical error on the application forms.

Treasurers Report:

Jack gave a breakdown of the branch finances and apologised to the meeting that he had not got a copy of the accounts, due to his computer being upgraded but he said that he was nearly up to having enough to pay for his luxury cruise with Win, A copy of the accounts are attached and forms part of these minutes. The meeting accepted the figures that Jack reported and were prepared to accept the accounts as satisfactory. Jack mentioned that at the time of the meeting there were 20 members in arrears some of them for 2 years. In an effort to prick the offenders conscience Ernie had written an "Ode to them wot don't pay their dues on time" a copy is attached and forms part of the Branch Minutes. If you are one of the culprits, please pay up we really do need the cash, but above all we do want you to come to the meetings.

As the minutes were accepted and a full discussion having been made, there were no matters arising raised from the members present

Jack announced that the annual Firemen's parade at the Barbican and the march through the City to St Paul's Cathedral will be on the 12 th September 1999, The Brigade colours will be flying and it is hoped that a large Bucks contingent consisting of both serving and retired members of the brigade will attend.

The Annual Luncheon had proved to be very popular especially by Jack Langford and the date for the next one is September the 18th 1999 at Aylesbury. Put the date in your diary now. **Lets make this the best ever as the first one of the New Millennium**

Following the announcement of the fireman's remembrance parade at the Barbican all the members were asked to stand for a minutes silence in remembrance of our comrades and their loved ones who had passed on over the last year. Everyone present observed the silence. Following the observance it was mentioned that there was a possibility of erecting a memorial bench at Chudleigh in Honour of the work that Bill Pugh had put in for the Benevolent Fund.

District Representatives Report:

Peter Robinson had been rocking the boat at the District, and had attended quite a few meetings on behalf of the Branch A full report is attached and forms part of the branch minutes. Thank you again Peter for your vigorous efforts on our behalf over the past year.

Welfare Report:

Unfortunately Jim Dunbar was not at the meeting and his report was not available at the meeting, Bert Cuthbertson was also absent. The meeting were advised on the plight of Neil Worrall from Marlow who had undergone another Brain operation to relieve his Parkinson's symptoms. A report will be sent to the Benevolent Fund.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Jack Cracknell Vacated the chair and Peter Robinson officiated for the election of branch officers.

Chairman:

Jack Cracknell was proposed for the position of chairman by Frank Knowles and seconded by Brian Morling this proposal was carried by a unanimous vote.

Vice Chairman:

Jack took the chair again and asked for proposals for the Vice Chairman. Jack Cracknell proposed Peter Robinson. seconded by Ernie Shankster this was voted for by all members present,

Secretary:

Jack Cracknell also took the position of Official Branch secretary as members decided that it went with the Chairman's job

Assistant Secretary:

Terry Price was proposed as the assistant secretary by Peter Robinson and seconded by Ted Wright this was carried by the meeting.

District Representative:

Peter Robinson was proposed as the district representative this was proposed and seconded by the whole branch and accepted by all at the meeting.

Benevolent Representative:

Jim Dunbar was proposed by Derek Rootes and seconded by Jack Langford all voted Jim again as Ben rep.

Any Other Business:

It was proposed by Frank Knowles that a vote of thanks is passed for all the work that the committee had put in over the past year on their behalf, the applause of the members present showed that the proposal was well accepted.

CFOs Report:

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 4:20pm.

Hon Secretaries Report

The group membership remains steady at 104 members on the register. Some are now 2 years in arrears and will be taken off the next mailing list; seven of our comrades have gone through the fire ground and have been posted to that Great Fire Station in the Sky. We will remember them.

P.Milne. G.Webb. B.Woodland. V.Baker. Bill Pugh. Mc Hale. K.Penn.

New members to the group are, **J. Coombs, J.Brydon.**

Members on the move :- Jim Boylan. R.Nield. Sid Dixon.

Pension increase 1.1 % for 2000 With effect from **.April 2000**

Among our members, a number are not enjoying the best of health. A short visit or phone call would help raise their spirits, at a time when they may feel alone and forgotten.

Jim Boylan.- Has severe walking difficulty and relies on a walking frame.

John Tubb – Has Prostrate problems.

It is my intention to organise an **Autumn Luncheon** for **September 16th or 23rd**.this year, the format will be as before, Hopefully at Aylesbury.

The '**Remembrance Service**' will again be held at **St.Pauls** in London **Sunday 10th. September 2000.**
This spectacular service and parade is well worth a visit.