



Website: <http://12fieldregiment.com>

**12 FIELD REGIMENT (VIETNAM) ASSOCIATION**  
(A Branch of the Royal Australian Artillery Association NSW Inc)

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at the Ingleburn RSL sub-Branch on 09/11/16**

**MINUTES**

**1. Opening and Welcome:**

The meeting commenced at 1300hrs with President Graham Floyd as Chairman. The Ode was recited.

**2. In Attendance and Apologies:**

Thirteen members entitled to vote were present and the Chairman declared that a quorum had been achieved in accordance with the Rules. **Attendees were:** Graham Floyd, John Beer, Trevor Bryant, Larry D'Arcy, John Ericsson, Don Tait, Chris Coape-Smith, Robert Costello, Stan Carbines, Ross Bland, Barry Williams, Robert Lowry, Robert Noonan.

Jim Jelich and Paul Raft representing the Association's auditors Austax, were in attendance and were welcomed by the Chairman. The Chairman also especially welcomed the Association's former patron, Ross Bland.

Apologies were noted from the following members: Ian Macauley, Ian Ryan, Neil Mangels, Tony Marshall, and Ken Backhouse,

**3. Minutes of AGM on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2015:**

The Chairman advised that copies of the Minutes of the last AGM had previously been circulated to all members. He invited discussion and there being none, a motion to accept the Minutes was moved by Don Tait and seconded by Robert Noonan.

**The motion was carried unanimously on show of hands.**

The Chairman then invited members to discuss any business arising from the Minutes. No matter was raised.

**4. President's Report:**

The Chairman noted that the President's Report 2015-16 had been previously circulated. The Chairman invited discussion and none ensued. A motion to accept the President's Report was put by Graham Floyd and seconded by Don Tait.

**The motion to accept the President's Report was carried unanimously on show of hands.**

## 5. Treasurer's Financial Report:

The Chairman noted that the Treasurer's Report had previously been circulated to members, and invited discussion.

There being no further discussion, John Beer moved that the Financial Report be accepted and this was seconded by John Ericsson.

**The motion to accept the Treasurer's Financial Report was carried unanimously on show of hands.**

## 6. Auditor's Report:

The Treasurer read a summary of the Auditor's opinion which included a statement that, in the opinion of the Auditor, the Association's financial affairs had been conducted in accordance with legal requirements. He noted however, that the auditors had made a suggestion that more governance be placed on larger-sum outgoings as a matter of financial prudence. The Treasurer invited Paul Raft to address the meeting.

Mr Raft confirmed that the Association's finances were well-administered and recorded. He then referred to a lump-sum payment during the year of \$1500 being for an order of Association merchandise, including T-shirts. He recommended that future large payments be approved by the whole committee rather than the current practice which was approval by sub-committee. The Treasurer said that the committee would take this on board and future larger-sum payments would be pre-advised by email for the approval of the whole committee.

Mr Raft then raised the question of insurance and the method and level and coverage of members and committee. Don Tait reminded the meeting that he had been heavily involved in the establishment of this Association as a sub-branch of the Royal Australian Artillery Association (NSW), and that the umbrella coverage offered by that Association was entirely adequate. Jim Jelich then suggested that the Association particularly check the level of Public Liability and Volunteer Worker Insurance provided by the RAAANSW.

## 7. Election of Office Bearers:

7.1 The Chairman addressed the meeting and noted that this is his last official duty as President, having now stood down in accordance with the Rules. The meeting expressed its gratitude for the outstanding job that Graham had done during his terms as President.

John Beer, having previously obtained the committee's approval, then moved that the meeting approve the granting of Life Membership to Graham in recognition of his hard work on behalf of the Association. Seconded by Don Tait.

**The motion to grant Life Membership to Graham Floyd was carried unanimously on show of hands.**

Graham Floyd then vacated the Chair and handed temporary control of the meeting to Bob Lowry.

### 7.2 The Position of President:

Don Tait was nominated by Trevor Bryant, although Don expressed his desire to serve only one year in the position. There being no other nominees, Don was appointed.

### 7.3 The Position of Vice President:

The Secretary advised the meeting that no formal nominations for this position had been received apart from his nomination of Graham Floyd. There being no other nominees, Graham Floyd was appointed.

### 7.4 The Position of Treasurer:

The Secretary advised that Treasurer John Beer had stepped down in accordance with the Rules and had offered himself for re-election, nominated by John Ericsson. There being no other nominees, John Beer was re-appointed.

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**7.5 The Position of Secretary:**

The Secretary advised that he had stepped down in accordance with the Rules and had offered himself for re-election, nominated by Rob Costello. There being no other nominees, Trevor Bryant was re-appointed.

**7.6 Committee Members:**

The Secretary advised that all current committee members had stepped down in accordance with the Rules, and the following members had offered themselves for re-election, nominated by Trevor Bryant: Rob Costello, Stan Carbines, and John Ericsson. All were re-appointed.

Graham Floyd expressed his thanks to members Hugh Ritchie and Tony Marshall who were leaving the committee. He asked for these Minutes to recognise their valued contribution to the smooth running of the Association.

The Secretary advised one additional nomination for the position of Committee member. Peter Geelen was nominated by Trevor Bryant and was appointed.

**8. The new President Don Tait assumed the Chair.**

**9. Other Business:**

**9.1 Review of The Future of the Association:**

Rob Costello raised the point about the limited future of the Association as the membership ages, and estimated that the life of the Association is no more than about 5 more years.  
Larry D’Arcy pointed out that the A Battery Association was currently folding up because of the same issue.  
Bob Lowry noted that any surplus money at the folding up of our Association would go to the RAAA.  
Don Tait offered to check out our obligations to the RAAA in this regard and report back to the committee.  
Discussion ensued and it was agreed that there was wisdom in releasing more of our accumulated funds for the benefit of members,

**9.2 Meetings and Quorums:**

Jim Jelish advised that we are “just an Association” and not necessarily subject to the obligations of the Associations Incorporations (NSW) Act. He suggested that a quorum for AGMs could be as low as three plus proxies and meetings could be conducted by email if necessary. The Secretary advised that this would dis-enfranchise members without computers, and would require a change of Rules via an SGM. The meeting agreed that the committee would explore these options.

**9.3 Perpetual Members:**

Stan carbines queried why Perpetual Members could not still pay 10 years fees in advance. The Treasurer advised that members are still being encouraged to pay multiple years in advance up to 10 years and that the most common terms paid in advance are 3 and 5 years.  
The Secretary advised that members do not have to remember whether their fees are due or not because adequate advance notice is always given to them.

**10. Close:**

The meeting closed at 1322hrs.

Signed as a true and accurate record .....as approved at meeting of ...../...../.....

