

**IBM RETIRED EMPLOYEES CLUB (SOUTH HANTS)  
MINUTES OF THE AGM – 14th March 2019**

**Meeting Opened at 3:15pm**

Richard Munday welcomed everyone and introduced the guest speaker, Paul Stickler

Paul, an ex-Hampshire CID Officer specialises in Historical Murder Presentations. He gave a very interesting presentation on the Murder of Sir Harry Oakes.

At the height of the Second World War in 1943 the wealthiest man in the British Empire was found murdered in his Bahamian home. He had been bludgeoned to death and his body set alight as he lay in bed. What followed was a catalogue of catastrophic errors, or perhaps worse, a conspiracy to ensure that the killer would never be caught. Central to this was the former King Edward V111, now The Duke of Windsor and The Governor of The Bahamas whose actions were at best incompetent or at worst an attempt to frame an innocent man and mask his own Nazi sympathies.

Paul presented all the evidence found to date and left us to decide for ourselves who was guilty of the murder. The case was never solved.

Richard thanked Paul on behalf of the members.

There was a short interval for tea and coffee

**Matters arising from previous AGM –** no matters arising and the minutes were accepted  
Proposed by Richard Swaine  
Seconded by Shirley Cail

**Chairman's report –**

Dave apologised for changing the date of the meeting.

**Events -** Dave spoke about the 2018 events.

26 events were organised and there was 1 cancellation – Kempton Park  
The highlights were The Edinburgh Tattoo and Longleat Festival of Light

**Applying for Trips and Events –** Dave reminded everyone to use self seal envelopes and to make sure that the application form and cheque were completed properly.

He also mentioned that on the odd occasion where a trip is advertised on a first come first served basis then it's not a good idea to use a second class stamp. This usually applies to events when we have a short period between making reservations and having to make payment. Recent examples include the overnight trips and the occasional theatre trip.

**2019 Programme**

We had over 300 suggestions, resulting in around 25 trips/events.

The Highlights are Shuttleworth

Hever Castle

Tower of London

Goodwood House with Afternoon Tea

So Far in 2019 we have had 2 cancellations – Calendar Girls and Shepherd Neame Brewery.

**IBM Subsidy** – IBM has increased the subsidy by 7.3%. The increase is due to less spent by IBM on National Tournament events and a less onerous cut in the total grant for all clubs. IBM has now introduced a Common Annual Grant per member for all retiree clubs.

**Car Parking at North Harbour** – We now use Car Park A. Any member leaving a car for trips over 12 hours will need to supply their car registration number.

Dave thanked The Committee for all their hard work, especially Ron, the Treasurer and Ann, The Secretary. He also informed the members that Shirley Cail retired from the Committee last year and thanked her for all her hard work during her years as a Committee Member.

Dave reminded the members that The Committee Members are all volunteers and pay the same full price for trips as other members.

### **Q and A session**

Q – Do we get notified in advance that a trip is about to be advertised?

A – Yes, Ann sends out notifications that the website is due to be updated. The website is usually updated at the weekend following the monthly Committee meeting.

The information is also on the Calendar in the right hand column.

Dave reminded that they must regularly refresh the pages of their computer.

### **Financial Report -**

Ron presented the accounts for 2018

The subsidy has been increased by 7.3%

IBM may reduce this subsidy if the year-end balance is too large. We are ok at the moment, but we are waiting for IBM to announce the percentage balance allowed.

The first chart represents receipts and payments for the year 2018.

#### **Income and Expenditure**

Ron explained that the figures were fairly consistent with the previous 3 years.

#### **Committee Expenses**

These were down on last year, mainly because we have 1 less Committee Member

#### **Audit**

IBM are now asking the Clubs to complete a different sort of form. The form was completed and submitted to The IBM Financial Steering Committee and accepted. We no longer have to have the accounts audited.

#### **Acceptance of Accounts**

Proposed by Stephen Quigley

Seconded by Shirley Cail

### **Q & A Session**

Q – On the chart showing numbers of attendees, are the 54 people lost all due to deaths?

A – No, just a small percentage. This shows that 54 people did not apply for trips where they had last year.

Q – If we don't have the accounts audited what controls are in place to stop the figures from

being 'massaged'?

A – The new form supplied to IBM is fully supported by the relevant paperwork and bank statements

Q – Is the subsidy now applied to the full membership?

A – Yes, the subsidy is applied to the full membership. Not all members use the club

Q – Is it possible to bring an extra guest on Trips?

A – No, a member may only bring 1 guest

Richard thanked Ron

**Election of the Committee** – the current committee members are happy to stand for another Year. Their names are:

Dave Whitbourne (chairman), Ron Bunce (treasurer), Ann Reid (secretary), Sue Clark, Richard Munday, Keith Wright, Julie Mills, Dave Smith

Proposed by – Barbara Clark

Seconded by – Steve Quigley

**AOB**

None

Meeting closed at 16:05 and was minuted by Sue Clark