

HAMPSHIRE BRIGADE COMMITTEE

3rd December 2003

WINCHESTER RUGBY CLUB

Agenda

1. Election of Meeting Chair.
2. Apologies.
3. Members Present.
4. Nomination / Election of Vice Chair.
5. Nomination / Election of Assistant Secretary.
6. Minutes of Previous Meeting.
7. Matters arising.
8. Branch / Section Reports.
9. Presentation By Sacked Basingstoke Firefighters.
10. Retained Section.
11. Visits to Non-Active FBU Branches.
12. Update On Station Cooks Rally.
13. A.O.U.B.
14. Date / Venue of next meeting.

1. Election of Meeting Chair.

Brother Goring, proposed Brother Carpenter, seconded Brother Ramsey, unanimous.

2. Apologies.

Were received from Brothers Christopher (Chair), Burford (Mem. Sec), Williams, Trew (54), Hawkes (32)

3. Members Present.

Were Brothers. Jordan (Sec.), Goring (Comms), Ramsey (B&EMM), Carpenter (A. Div), Moore (B. Div), Bates (54), (32), Harris (24), Evans (54), Sister Miller (06)

4. Nomination / Election of Vice Chair.

Brother Ramsey, proposed Brother Burrows, seconded Sister Miller, unanimous. This election was held due to the recent resignation of Brother Parsons from this position.

5. Nomination / Election of Assistant Secretary.

No Nominations at this time, branches asked to bring forward nominations next month. Brother Jordan is now Brigade Secretary, leaving position vacant.

6. Minutes of previous meeting.

Accuracy, page 6 amend contact details for Brother Moore R/W Copnor.

7. **Matters Arising.**

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Principal Officers Meeting – proposed to cancel due to the changes in the Executive Committee and no time to prepare for meeting.

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Full Time Official Report – more time needed to produce finished report.

Wholetime/Retained – confirm last months clarification that wholetime personnel on day crewing system responding on retained duties are not entitled to lie-in the following day and have to report for duty at 08:00. Failure to report would mean that they are on short leave or absent from duty.

Working time directive is a major concern in that personnel could end up working an unacceptable number of hours affecting theirs and other people's safety.

Pensions – correspondence received from personnel department: "I understand this was agreed in principle at the last HFRA meeting, but the minutes as produced at the next meeting on 10/12 have to be agreed by the HFRA.

However, this time has been usefully spent by our payroll team and they have almost completed the calculations for each person, so that once we have the approval on 10/12 we will be able to send a clear letter to each person with their own calculations, so they can make an informed decision and be advised of the implications of repaying or not. This has been a big work-up for the team as I am sure you will appreciate.

Susan, please would you make sure a note is put out on Routine Notice to advise all that letters being sent and let Harry know too.

They will then have 30 days to respond once the letters go out." Jenny McNeill

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New Working System at Andover – Letter from Executive committee to be sent to all FBU wholetime members not to start working a non negotiated system.

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T-Shirts – concerns over quality and nylon content of new style t-shirts, ongoing.

New BA Sets – DSU in CP suits exceeds permitted sound levels. New DSU can be turned down, concern that it may not be heard then. It is possible to manually reduce noise output if accidentally activated. Health and Safety Representative ongoing investigation.

Radio Earpieces – all front line appliances that have a PPV are meant to be equipped with radio earpieces. Some branches report that they do not have them. Can all branches report back to the next BCM to confirm they have them or not.

8. **Branch / Section Reports.**

Health and Safety – Ground anchor pins removed from appliances, being placed on SEU's. SEU's also is being supplied with Cat Scanners to locate underground cables.

BA Sets revised policy on tests being issued, wholetime continuously crewed, retained, but no guidance on day crewing. At large incidents BA dump for all sets complete with standard test books. Books stay with set and get handed in to BAECO.

Asbestos: dust masks on appliances are not protection against asbestos. Should be in sealed packets. Any cup shaped masks should be removed from appliances.

Fairness and Dignity – Nothing to report.

G&L – Representative hoping to get to conference with G&L section.

St Marys – Nothing to report.

C Division – Nothing to report.

A Division – Day crewed sub committee, spoilt meals, get the same as wholetime continuously crewed, however, flexi officers get 50 % more, why the difference?

Concerns over Sub Officers on stations that have station commanders will get a lower turn out fee than currently. This will obviously be a worsening of their conditions, need an answer from management.

Bank holiday send home for wholetime and not retained. Need this imbalance to be addressed.

On one pump shouts, retained are being allowed to ride if they are on station. Query over legitimacy of this, pay and insurance?

Stand in on nights; question has been raised over the case of injury occurring. Would the stand in be insured, and would the stand in be classed as on duty or off duty?

Next day crewed sub committee meeting 6th January 2004.

B&EMM – National school has taken place. AGM has taken place, 3 resolutions to conference from last year to be taken forward, plus 3 new ones from this year, including issues:

Death in police custody: Roger Sylvester, FBU and T&GWU gave legal assistants

Part time member who is a member of a different union is his full time job as a firefighter wants to become a full time member of the FBU

Fight against BNP campaigning to become EMP's

Women – National childcare policy has to be with registered child minder. FBU will reimburse costs. Can be claimed even if partner is working. It is also possible to take partners and children away on course and meetings, providing there costs are met by the member/official.

Southsea – Nothing to report.

Eastleigh – New Branch Secretary Brother Hawkes

9. **Presentation By Sacked Basingstoke Firefighters**

Basingstoke firefighters were welcomed to the meeting. A presentation was given on the background of the Basingstoke case, including the issues of FBU officials suspended and those threatened with suspension. The charges that were finally used were read out to the committee. Current status is that the ODPM found in favour of the Basingstoke firefighters and recommended their return to work. The CFO has ignored this recommendation and now a judicial review means that the next stage is in the Crown Court.

A question and answer session followed, very informative. A major concern is the cost to the local taxpayer, as the administrative and legal costs for this case so far are estimated at £3 million.

10. **Retained Section.**

Letter to be sent out to all retained members to get section up and running. Meeting to take place approximately end of January. Regional retained representative to be invited to meeting to talk.

11. **Visits to Non Active FBU Branches.**

To re-motivate branches to attend meetings and become involved in FBU matters. Divisional representatives to organise, sections will also be available to help and attend these meetings. PowerPoint presentation to be compiled by Brother Ramsey and Sister Miller.

12. **Update On Station Cooks Rally.**

Meeting at Hightown 10:30 5th December 2003. Protest rally to go ahead as per times on poster. Presentation will then be given in front of the Fire Authority.

13. **A.O.U.B.**

Resolutions for conference to be decided at next BCM, providing it falls before the cut off date, other wise there will be an EBCM on 19th December 2003 at 10:00.

14. **Date / Venue of next meeting.**

Brigade Committee meeting
Wednesday 7th January 2004 at 1000hrs at Winchester Rugby Club

Diary of Events

January

7th Hampshire BCM.

March

3rd Hampshire BCM.

May

5th Hampshire BCM.

11-14th Annual Conference Bridlington.

July

7th Hampshire BCM

September

1st Hampshire BCM

November

3rd Hampshire BCM

February

4th Hampshire BCM.

April

7th Hampshire BCM.

June

2nd Hampshire BCM.

August

4th Hampshire BCM

October

AGM of Branches.

6th Hampshire AGM

6th Nominations for Conference 2004

6th Branch Resolutions for Conference 2004

December

1st Hampshire BCM

1st Delegates to Conference 2004

1st BCM's Resolutions to Conference 2004.

Please note that all the meetings will be on the first Wednesday of every month.

Meetings will begin at 10:00 Tea & Coffee available from 09:30.

Meetings to be held at Winchester Rugby Club, Nuns Road, Winchester.

FBU Brigade Committee Members Contacts

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Hampshire FBU Website

www.hantsfbu.org.uk

email: webmaster@hantsfbu.org.uk

Could all Branch representatives discuss with their branches and come back with a vote on the three resolutions their branch wishes to support. These resolutions will be voted on at the EBCM on the 19th December 2003

Resolution for Conference 2004 –

“In line with the agreement accepted and signed with our employers on 12th June 2003, this branch demands that Annual Conference 2004 debates and changes the rules surrounding wholetime retained and overtime.”

“No FBU Official should be allowed to participate as a member of any joint management/employee working party formed to investigate an incident associated with fire service disciplinary regulations or fairness and dignity cases.”

“The FBU has a tendency to cancel all education schools and other education environments during a national dispute or campaign. This is wrong. We demand that during the next FBU national dispute or campaign, education schools and other education environments are maintained and delivered as normal. In fact, education should be stepped up during any national dispute or campaign to assist that dispute or campaign. Without education our members become ill informed and divided.”

Taken from October 2003 minutes

“This conference demands that Fire Brigade Union members applying for representation under “All different, All Equal” should have the right to appear in front of a regional committee meeting in order to give a full and detailed account of why they should be granted representation.”

Taken from December 2002 minutes