



Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies New South Wales Inc

Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting

Held in the Anzac Memorial Auditorium, Hyde Park South, Sydney

Tuesday 31 October 2023

The meeting commenced at 14:12 hours

In Attendance

The President, Michael Hough, chaired the meeting. There were 22 other members eligible to vote and participate in the meeting: David Deasey, Jason Fear, Theo Fox, Graham Fox, John Hitchen, Suni Horko, Michael Hough, John Howells, Paul Irving, David Leece, Ron Lyons, Ian Mitchell, Allan Murray, Paul Myers, John Rudd, Paul Simadas, Keith Suter, David Toose, Kim Turner, Geoffrey Usher, Irving Warren, Lyall Wood. There being more than 10 members present a quorum was declared.

Apologies

Apologies were received from: Ben Andronicus, Warren Barnes, Ken Broadhead, David Button, Samuel Colby, Robert Crawford, Andrew Crowshaw, Diana Figgis, Michael Flynn, Mark Hoare, Ian Ingleby, John King, Greg Lane, JF McDonagh, Roland Millbank, Jim Roche, Chris Skinner, Robert Treloar, Ian Watkins, Rod White, Peter York.

Minutes of previous AGM 25 October 2022

The President noted that the minutes of the previous AGM had been circulated to members online.

Motion: That the minutes of the AGM held on 25 October 2022, as presented, be accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Theo Fox. **Seconded:** Kim Turner. **Carried.**

Board Reports

The President noted that the following reports had been circulated to members online.

- a) President's Report;
- b) Programme and Events Sub-Committee Report; and
- c) Social Media and Web Report.

He expanded on key items in the President's Report notably the assistance given and proposed to be given to RUSI-A by RUSI-NSW; the acknowledgement by Defence of our efforts to restore the RUSI in Australia as a worthy professional and staff development agency for the ADF; and our proposed consortium to be established with the Universities of Newcastle and Wollongong to be a conduit between academia, the ADF and defence industry.

The President commended Ron Lyons for his work as Programme and Events Coordinator, Theo Fox for her work on social media and the web, Joe Matthews and David Leece for their work on *United Service*; which he noted is now a national journal.

Motion: That the Board reports, as presented by the President, be received and accepted.

Moved: Michael Hough. **Seconded:** Paul Simadas. **Carried.**

Financial Report

The President noted the financial reports were available on the website. He advised that the Institute had been unsuccessful in finding an Honorary Auditor to replace our Honorary Auditor who had resigned earlier in the year and the accounts, as presented, are not audited. The President further noted that he had been advised that while our Constitution required the annual financial accounts to be audited it was no longer a legal requirement for “small” associations such as RUSI NSW. It was noted that the accounts had been part audited, having been audited at the handover of the Treasurer mid-term.

In the circumstances, the financial accounts, unaudited, would be presented for acceptance at this AGM. The incoming Board would continue to seek to identify an Honorary Auditor, but failing to do so, it was suggested the incoming Board might consider bringing a Constitutional amendment for the consideration of members at next year’s AGM.

Correction to financial statement: the RUSI-A capitation fees for the 2022/23 was \$5.50, not \$5.00, as recorded in Note 3 to the financial statements. The amount of \$5.00 will apply in the 2023/24 financial year.

Motion: That the financial report, as amended with respect to the RUSI-A capitation fee, be received and accepted.

Moved: David Toose. **Seconded:** Theo Fox. **Carried.**

Office Bearers

As notified in the Notice of Annual General Meeting, nominations were called for the following positions for the 2023 – 26 Board Triennium: President, Vice-President; Secretary; Treasurer; and Board Members.

The President advised that the following nomination forms had been received:

- a) Kim Turner for President
- b) Ron Lyons for a Vice President
- c) Theodora Fox for a Vice President
- d) David Toose for Treasurer
- e) John Howells for Secretary
- f) Joe Matthews for Board Member
- g) David Deasey as Board Member

As the number of nominations for board positions did not exceed the number of positions available, as provided for by Clause 23(5) of our Constitution, there is no requirement to conduct an election to fill those positions, and the President declared those persons duly elected.

Accordingly, the composition of the Board for 2023/24 will be :

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| President: | Kim Turner |
| Immediate Past President: | Michael Hough |
| Vice President: | Ron Lyons |
| Vice President: | Theodora Fox |
| Secretary: | John Howells |
| Treasurer: | David Toose |
| Board Members: | Jim Braid |
| | Diana Figgis |
| | Ian Mitchell |
| | Chris Skinner |
| | Joe Matthews |
| | David Deasey |

7. General Business

No items of general business were raised.

8. Meeting Close

The meeting was closed at 14:32 hours.

John Howells
Secretary
2 November 2023