



**British Gurkha Veterans Association
Monument Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 21 January 2020**

Meeting Start: 1815 hrs – Meeting Close: 1940 hrs

Attendance:

Mr Om Grg MBE, Mr Dilsing Limbu, Mr John D Rai, Capt Bhim Saru, Capt Bakhat Gurung, Mr Sri Psd Limbu, Mr Hari Ghale, Maj (Retd) Padam Gurung, Mr Tularam Gurung, Mr Balaram Gurung, Mr John Laverick, Mrs Tina Jacktion, Mr Kamal Rai, Mr Indra Joseph Rai, Mr Hangsing Subba, Mr Bhim Maden, Mrs Khina Gurung, Mr Sharmila Saru, Mrs Lalu Gurung, Mr Chau Gurung and Mr Tika Rai

Apologies

- Mr Nanda Gurung, Mrs Sangita Gurung, Mrs Pampha Gurung, Mr Kumar Gurung
- The general secretary began the meeting by welcoming all on the meeting and thanked for their time for making an effort to attend the meeting on short notice. He also stated it was important for all executive members and advisors to get updated on the latest progress of projects and few other important activities.

Ser	Description	Action	Remarks
1	Website	Gen Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gen Secretary gave an update on website, stated that everything to do with BGVA could now be found inside the website. He requested the members to spend some time when they can to read the information that was inside the website and report if they see any mistakes or needed anything changing.- Requested the members to think of writing some good articles so that

			these could be published for everyone to read.
2	Project updates Website	Gen Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Gen Secretary briefed on the progress of forthcoming projects and the summary was as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The planning and permission documents were still at the Warwickshire Council desk. - Showed the design of benches and option 1 (soldier statue either side and head with Gurkha Hat in the middle was chosen. It was decided that the text on top line would be in English as Better To Die Than To Be A Coward”. - Have 2 x crossed khuris on top of the bench. - Informed that he had asked 2 companies for quotes for benches and cheapest was from Northern Ireland which including delivery would be approx. £900.00 - Stated that the cost of each benches including installation would be about £1500, and the BGVA will charge £2000.00 for a bench to all buyers. Buyers then will have to spend another few hundreds to write the message on brass plate they wish. - He requested all buyers to start giving the money so that the benches could be ordered. - Updated on the list of names those are willing to buy the memorial benches. So far the priority list is as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John D Rai 2. Maj Padam Gurung 3. Capt Bakhat Gurung 4. Dilsing Limbu 5. Korby Veterans Association 6. Far East Malaya Borneo Association 7. Capt Bhim Saru 8. Lt (Retd) Ram Rana - He also emphasised that the priority of selling a bench would go to the active members of the BGVA first and, then sister associations and finally it will be option to all on first come first serve.
3	ID Card printer		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He informed that the ID card printer was purchased and also showed two samples to the executive committee and advisors to confirm the information that needs to go on ID. The ID Card would see:

			<p>Photo of a member and BGVA logo either side</p> <p>Text in the middle: British Gurkha Veterans Association Membership Card No: 090 Surname:..... Forename:... NOK:....</p> <p>Text on bottom: This is to certify that the person named above is a member of the British Gurkha Veterans Association, UK and email as bgva2009@gmail.com</p> <p>He also informed that he would start printing the membership card at time between 1600 – 1700 hrs each day for members.</p>
4	Biography of VCs	Gen Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He stated that all biography of VCs were in hand and now looking for companies that could do these in cheaper prices. - He also stated that he had already spoken to the director of the Museum for biography of local VCs.
5	Unveiling of New Projects	Gen Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He stated that unveiling of all completed project will be done during the 5th Anniversary celebration.
6	Formation of New Monument Committee	President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He briefed on the need of new monument committee and highlighted why it would be necessary to have a committee in longer run. He also mentioned that he had included some members from council and other communities to strengthen the committee. - He mentioned the names of advisors from other communities and were as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cllr Barry Langdell b. Cllr Bill Hancox c. Cllr Chris Watkins d. Mr David Leech - He asked the executive committee and advisors to nominate two names for the advisors from the BGVA and majority agreed to nominate the followings: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Maj (Retd) Siri Gurung

			<p>b. Maj (Retd) Padam Gurung</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He stated that he was planning to bring a patron in the committee, and he hinted that it would possibly be the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, however he said is yet to be confirmed. - He read the names of all committee members and welcomed them in the committee. - He briefly touched on the VIP guests that he wants to invite. - He stated that he is planning to have few meetings with the Brough and the Embassy of Nepal, but he will inform the executive committee in due course.
7	Any other business (AOB)	Floor / all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advisor Capt (Retd) Bakhat Gurung suggested that it would be nice to spread the benches all around the Riversly Park. In response Gen Sectary gave a short idea behind having everything within close vicinity of the monument. He further said the monument area will be named as something like “Gurkha Memorial Park” when all projects are complete. - Advisor Maj (Retd) Padam Gurung reflagged up a question that was raised on last meeting in December 2019. His question was, “would it be a right thing to bring two local VCs’ biography with our VCs while all projects were mainly focusing on the name of Gurkhas?” The majority of the members suggested that we include these 2 local VCs as part of integration with the locals and it was passed.
8	Overall summary and conclusion of meeting	President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The President thanked once again and closed the meeting at 1940 hrs.