



Brigade Council 2018 – Summary

196 leaders and guests attended the Council meeting on 1st September. Please note the full wording of all motions can still be found on the website and in the conference calling notice.

The number of votes registered was as follows:

Ordinary	127
Proxy	43
Post	54
Total	224

As the President was unable to be present Alistair Burrow, Vice President chaired the meeting and opened the proceedings with prayer. A particular welcome was extended to all those attending for the first time. It was noted that the Scottish Government had designated 2018 as the Year of Young People and that Young Leaders from across Scotland had taken the lead in the design and delivery of the conference weekend.

A message of greeting from Our Patron HM The Queen was read and council also paid tribute to leaders who had passed away since the last meeting. Members also watched a video message from the President who was in the USA.

A printed copy of the Annual Review for 17/18 was available and members viewed a video presentation highlighting key aspects from the report.

Council then considered other items of business.

1. Annual Accounts

Clifford Bygrave, Brigade Treasurer presented the Annual Accounts to 31st March 2018 and up-dated members on the current financial position which is still very challenging. In response to a question the Treasurer reported that the Executive were being asked to establish two working groups to review staffing matters and the revenue budget. Clifford and the finance team were thanked for all their work in managing the Brigade's Finances.

2. Capitation Fees

Council agreed that the Capitation Fee structure with effect from 1 September 2019 will be:

Category		Fee
Fee per young person		£21.00
Adult fees	Officers / leaders	£21.00
	(Second person at the same address)	£16.50
	Battalion & District Officers not on Company roll	£21.00
	Officers / leaders in receipt of state retirement pension	£16.50
	Officers / leaders in full time education or training.	£16.50
	Helpers	£15.50

The fee in respect of an Associate Member will be £28.00. The maximum fee that a Company may pay in respect of young people is £2,050.00

3. Auditors

Whiting and Partners were re-appointed as the Brigade's auditors.

4. Appointment of Office-Bearers

The Chairman indicated it was hoped we would soon have a nominee for Brigade Chaplain and that the Executive would be asked to fill this position by co-option for the 18/19 Session.

Perry Donaldson, Brigade Hon Vice President took the chair for the remainder of this item and the undernoted were re-elected as Office-Bearers for Session 2018/19.

President: Lord Griffiths of Burry Port

Vice-Presidents: David Aubrey, QC

Alistair Burrow

Treasurer Clifford Bygraves

5. Motion in the name of the Brigade Executive to Amend the Articles of Association.

David Aubrey, QC Brigade Vice President spoke to the need to up-date the Articles of Association to bring them in line with the 2006 Companies Act. Council then agreed the amendments by a large majority.

6. Motion in the name of the Brigade Executive to Amend Brigade Regulations.

Alistair Burrow explained the need to up-date Brigade Regulations. Some of these changes were again to bring us in line with the 2006 Companies Act and also took account of the change to three issues of the Gazette each session.

There were no questions or comments on the motions. A card vote was called on item 2 relating to the use of the term young people instead of boys and girls. The result was 139 For - 75 Against, all the amendments were agreed by a large majority.

7. Feedback on proposals to reduce the size of the Brigade Executive followed by discussion.

Alistair Burrow reported on the background to this item and noted the general acceptance that there was agreement to reduce the size of the Executive. Following the defeat of the "Ayling" motion in 2017 the Executive had given considered this further and had subsequently launched an on-line survey to gauge the views of the membership. Everyone was encouraged to take part in the consultation process and additional comments could also be sent to the Brigade Secretary.

NB: The online survey can be found at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/bbexecsurvey

8. Accountable Autonomy – report from Brigade Executive regarding the Northern Ireland Motion approved in 2017.

David Aubrey, QC up-dated Council that since last year various discussions had been held with representatives from NI District. In doing so he paid tribute to David Blevins, NID President, and the others involved in these talks. As a result, a Heads of Agreement document had been drafted. Both the Brigade Executive and the Executive of the NID had endorsed the document, which would form the basis of future discussions and further work that needed to be carried out. Mr Aubrey asked Council for its continued prayerful support to help resolve this matter.

9. Any Other Business

Alan Privett, 7th Dublin asked for more information about the Battle's Over initiative that HQ had encouraged companies to support. The Brigade Secretary explained the detail of this. More information can be found at <https://boys-brigade.org.uk/battles-nations-tribute/>

Alistair Burrow then took the opportunity to pay tribute and express thanks to the retiring members of the Executive

Leslie Buttimer	Republic of Ireland
Michael Elliot	England
Lee Hiorns	England
Sharon Mackey	Northern Ireland
Colin Smith	Wales
David Sneddon	Scotland
Lindsay Stein	Scotland

and presented each of them with a gift on behalf of the Brigade.

The conference planning team, the Brigade Secretary and all the Brigade Staff were also thanked.

10. Invitation to Swansea 2019

Members were invited to Swansea for Brigade Council 2019. This will take place from the 6th – 8th September in the University of Swansea.

The meeting closed at 4pm with members saying The Grace together.

Bill Stevenson
Brigade Secretary
September 2018