



Scottish Police Federation North Area Committee

Minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Scottish Police Federation – North Area Committee held on Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th November 2013 at the Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen.

1. Attendance

Full Time Officials

David Hamilton	Chair
Graham Sloan	Vice Chair
Mike Kennedy	Vice Chair
Graeme Ednie	Secretary
John Ferguson	Deputy Secretary

Constables

Linsey Burns
Brian Dick
John Drysdale
Neil MacDonald
Angus Morrison
Sandy Smart
Davie Smith
Steve Thomson

Sergeants

Derek Baxter
Gary Brown
John Crawford
Gordon Forsyth
Grant Letham
George Murray
David Threadgold

Inspecting Ranks

Neil Cameron
Paul Hogan
Willie MacLennan
Caroline Scobbie
Iain Smith

Observers Present

Mike Purdie

Also in attendance

Peter Watson	Levy McRae (item 7.2 – only)
Alasdair Gillies	Levy McRae (item 7.2 – only)

2. Opening of Meeting

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcomed members present and encouraged them to take an active part in discussions and contribute to debate. He also welcomed Mike Purdie who was observing the meeting.

He intimated Gordon McDonald had tendered his resignation from the Committee and arrangements were now being made to identify his replacement from those eligible.

The Chairman also advised Peter Watson and Alasdair Gillies from Levy McRae Solicitors would be joining the meeting at around 1330 hours to present to the Committee and answer any questions.

3. Apologies for absence

Peter Jones (annual leave)

Stephen Cook
Sandy Smart (day 2 only)
Shaun White

Gary Brown (left meeting at 1030 on day 2)
Steve Raeburn
Stephen Ross

Les Donaldson (annual leave)
Stuart Ednie
Gordon Milne
Ewan Strachan (annual leave)
Bob Thomson

No apologies were received from;

Scott Godfrey

4. Adoption of Rules

The Secretary reminded the Committee work was still underway at a national level to complete, approve and distribute the new Standing Orders and he would circulate copies to members when they became available.

He suggested this item could be removed from the agenda as a standing item if the Committee were to consider the Rules as adopted at the point when the Chairman of the North Area Committee, Separate Rank Committee or Subject Committees formally opened each meeting.

The meeting supported the proposal and agreed to **delete** the item from future agendas.

5. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the previous Meeting which were circulated in advance of the Meeting were formally approved.

Visit of Solicitors from Levy MacRae

The Chairman welcomed and introduced Peter Watson & Alasdair Gillies from Solicitors Levy McRae who joined the meeting at around 1330 hours and he invited them both to address the Committee.

Peter Watson began by summarising ongoing work in meeting the challenges of continuing to represent members of the federated ranks in the Police Service of Scotland and in particular the current uncertainty surrounding the Scottish Police Authority process for appeals.

He explained the provisions of the new legal expenses scheme operated by DAS and provided detail of the facilities available to members through the new automated 24/7 advice line number 08448930786, set up by Levy McRae, to ensure requests for assistance were dealt with timeously.

Peter and Alasdair detailed their concerns regarding the interviewing of police officers who were subject of criminal allegations and, notwithstanding the willingness of many members of the federated ranks to respond to allegations and answer questions, provided explanation from a legal perspective as to why it was seldom in their interests to do so. Peter also confirmed there was no legal basis for an officer, suspected of a criminal allegation, to provide an operational statement and highlighted the importance of identifying the status of the officer at an early stage in any enquiry and this was a position that was understood and accepted by the crown. He also highlighted his concerns regarding the illegality

of the “management interview” process within parts of the Police Service of Scotland.

Peter explained the process for submitting applications through SPF for legal advice and assistance and highlighted the provisions of SHHD Circular 18/1978 in respect of legal costs for on duty related matters and stressed the importance of ensuring legal costs were met by Police Scotland in appropriate circumstances.

The Chairman invited questions from the Committee which prompted some further discussion surrounding data protection issues and the integrity of some investigations into allegations against Police Officers.

At the conclusion, the Chairman thanked Peter and Alasdair for their informative input and wished them a safe journey home.

6. Matters Arising

6.1 Action/Decision Log

The action and decision logs had been circulated in advance of the Meeting and the contents were noted by the Committee.

Action 0005/13

The Secretary advised since the date of the last NAC meeting he had been in contact with MacDonald Hotels & Resorts, Aviemore, the Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry and the Hilton Hotel, Dunkeld in an attempt to identify meeting options for 2014 and having visited each of the premises he was able to confirm they could all adequately meet the NAC requirements.

He also advised he had met with the SPF Chair and General Secretary on 6th November to discuss and progress the action in accordance with the NAC motion carried previously at JCC.

Following these discussions it had been agreed the most straightforward and preferred arrangement would for PSoS to allocate SPF an annual budget in relation to anticipated meeting costs and SPF could create an accounting process to record in detail the expenditure in any given year.

The Chair and General Secretary had agreed to raise the proposal with the Chief Constable at their next meeting with him and provide the NAC Secretary with an update following that meeting.

The Secretary advised the quotations obtained from the three venues were not hugely dissimilar but sought the committee’s views and preferences which would be helpful in informing any future negotiating.

The Committee discussed the three options in detail having regard for business need and cost efficiency and agreed its preferred location was the Atholl Palace, Pitlochry followed by the Hilton Hotel, Dunkeld and the MacDonald Hotel & Resort, Aviemore.

The Secretary agreed to communicate the discussions and preferences of the Committee to the General Secretary and to keep the Committee updated on any developments.

Action 0006/13

The Secretary advised there had been no meetings of the North Area Health & Safety Sub-Committee since the date of the last NAC meeting.

A meeting of the sub-committee was scheduled for 25th November and he had asked the Chairman, John Drysdale to ensure the action was raised on the agenda for discussion and progression as required.

The Secretary advised future updates would be available in the Minutes of the Health & Safety Sub-Committee and the Meeting agreed the action could be **closed**.

Action 0007/13

The Chairman advised he had raised concerns regarding SPF communications at a meeting of the Chairs & Secretaries held on 19th September 2013 but that disappointingly the position of the NAC had not been widely supported and there were no plans nationally to change or alter existing processes.

The meeting agreed to **close** the action.

Action 0008/13

The Secretary advised this matter had been discussed at the LNCC meeting held on 26th September 2013 and the processes for receipt of information in relation to officers absent from all Divisions within the North Area now appeared to be developing.

The responsibility for the management of the absent management process had been passed to the Vice-Chair in his capacity as equality lead and further updates would be provided under agenda item 7.2.

The Secretary advised that senior managers within North Area were supportive of this process and recognised the benefits for the service and importantly absent members.

The Meeting agreed to **close** the action.

Action 0009/13

The Chairman advised that in accordance with the decision taken at the previous NAC meeting the first bulletin had been circulated to Representatives for wider dissemination to members throughout the North Area in October and favourable feedback had already been received.

He advised the bulletin had also been well received by the East Area Committee and they had re-badged and circulated it widely to members throughout their own area. He concluded it was the intention of f/t officials to continue this process and he would be guided by the NAC in respect of bulletin content on an on-going basis.

The Meeting discussed the earlier input by Peter Watson and Alasdair Gillies and agreed there would be value in including information in relation to operational statements, management interviews and data protection in the next publication. It was also agreed efforts should be made to publish a bulletin after each quarterly NAC meeting and additionally as required.

The meeting agreed to **close** the action.

6.2 NAC Meeting Arrangements

The Secretary suggested and the Meeting agreed this item had been widely debated under agenda item 6.1 and there was nothing further to discuss.

6.3 Communication

The Secretary suggested and it was agreed that much of this item had already been covered under agenda item 6.1 but sought the views of the Committee on the wider issues of communication.

The Meeting discussed communication at length and a number of further suggestions were made. It was agreed improvements were needed and Neil Cameron and David Threadgold volunteered to work off table and present a communication strategy paper for discussion at the next NAC meeting.

Action 0010/13

Neil Cameron and David Threadgold to consider communication issues in the North Area and present a paper for discussion at the next NAC meeting.

7. Standing Items

7.1 JCC update

The Minutes of the JCC held on 10th/11th September were circulated in advance of the Meeting and the contents were noted by the Committee.

The Secretary advised of a further meeting of JCC held on 5th/6th November and updates were provided in relation to the following items of business not otherwise covered elsewhere on the agenda;

- **PNB**

Mike Kennedy provided an update of developments at PNB which last met on 24th October and which continued to be dominated by the PAT surrounding the Windsor recommendations. He also advised that future arrangements for PNB (Scotland) and Pensions on a national basis continued to feature heavily on the agenda that an Official Side proposal in respect of an exchange of public holiday entitlement for annual leave was also ongoing but remained unresolved and that there were likely to be issues in relation to mutual aid to Northern Ireland looking forward into 2014.

The Chairman provided a brief update regarding the recent meeting of Joint UK JCC held in Dunblane on 12th/13th November where “Plebgate” and Performance & Targets issues featured heavily.

The Chairman also advised at the recent JCC meeting he had been elected to represent the Sergeants Central Committee at future PNB meetings.

- **National Police Memorial Day**

The Secretary intimated the National Police Memorial Day 2014 will be held in Belfast on the 28th September.

Any expressions of interest from representatives wishing to attend were to be submitted to the SPF Chairman.

- **Commonwealth Games**

The Secretary advised that the Deputy General Secretary continued to negotiate on behalf of the SPF regarding arrangements for the 2014 Games. The Workforce Agreement is yet to be signed off as it is tied into the ongoing work on the SOP on Pay & Allowances. Developments will be reported in due course. The Secretary had requested representations be made at an early stage for the annual leave block to be relaxed for Officers throughout the country who were not required to undertake duty at the Games and the Deputy General Secretary agreed to do so and report any relative progress.

- **SPF Standing Orders**

The Secretary advised Standing Orders were currently being reviewed and specific items under consideration for amendment included conduct of meetings, the submission of motions (including timescales; motions seeking similar outcomes; presentation and accepting/rejecting arrangements) and the issue of SPF representatives attending meetings whilst on sick leave.

JCC agreed the previous arrangements in relation to the CAC management of motions be replicated and continued. It was also agreed attendance at meetings was in “duty time” and consequently members who were unfit for work could not attend meetings.

Draft Standing Orders will be circulated prior to formal approval and adoption.

The Secretary agreed to circulate the Minutes of the most recent JCC meeting when they became available.

7.2 Subject Committees

- **Conduct**

John Ferguson advised the North Area Conduct Sub Committee had met on 8th August 2013 and he provided an update on the work of this business area at a local level and advised he now met regularly with Supt Ellie Mitchell, Professional Standards Department, North Area to discuss relevant issues.

John provided a brief summary of the anticipated demands that Operation Formic would have on conduct representatives in the North Area and advised arrangements were in place to ensure all members involved were supported and represented from the national cadre. He intimated as a consequence of resignations by representatives in other areas he required an additional volunteer to assist with this important work. John Drysdale volunteered and was supported by the Committee.

He highlighted that following Gordon McDonald’s resignation from the Committee a vacancy existed on the Conduct Area Subject Committee and he sought a volunteer to fill the vacancy. Derek Baxter volunteered and was supported by the Committee.

John highlighted the practical difficulties of adhering to the meeting schedule and questioned the business need to do so. After discussion it was agreed the statutory provisions would be adhered to and meetings would continue to be diaried in however it was a matter for him as Secretary of the Area Subject Committee to determine the business need to convene the meeting on any given occasion.

Vetting

Gary Brown expressed concern regarding the apparent impact prior warnings for conduct of a minor or trivial nature was having for officers attempting to engage in the promotion process or applying for advertised vacancies.

John referred to the previously circulated Minutes of the JCC - Conduct Subject Committee held on 15th October and in particular item 10 and encouraged members to ensure in accordance with the Minute any issues were directed timeously to the SPF Conduct Secretary and copied to him.

- **Equality**

The Vice Chair confirmed the NAC Equality Sub Committee had met once since the last meeting of the NAC, the meeting being held on 2nd October in Aberdeen.

The Minutes of the October meeting remain in draft until the committee meets again on 27th November. Once approved they will be circulated via the Area Secretary to all representatives.

The Vice Chair then gave a brief update and confirmed the flexible working guidance and increase to police maternity pay have both been progressed to Scotland standing committee of PNB. The national equality lead was working on information leaflets covering maternity and paternity.

With regard to absence review as previously advised under agenda item 6.1 Graham confirmed he would now have oversight of all the absence notifications for the North Area and would continue to allocate representatives responsibility for contacting, supporting and assisting members who appeared on the list. He requested representatives ensure all contacts with absent members required to be provided to him in order members database records could be kept accurate.

The Meeting discussed the impact of prolonged sickness absence on statutory annual leave entitlement and acknowledged work which was currently ongoing at a national level in this regard.

- **Health & Safety**

In the absence of Peter Jones the Secretary provided the following update;

At a national level the H&S Subject Committee recommended to JCC a stress survey be conducted throughout the country however after discussion the JCC agreed to defer a survey meantime but the H&S Secretary should develop the contents of a future survey in the interim.

The Secretary advised of discussions by the Uniform & Procurement Group in relation to CS & Pava albeit there were no formal proposals for consideration and the subject was noted by the Committee.

At a local level, there had been no meetings of the Area Subject Committee since the date of the last NAC meeting due to complications over venue and difficulties with member's availability.

In the interim progress had been made regarding the handcuff holder issue identified in "D" Division and agreement had been reached to purchase the "clickfast" holders. A member reported this was not the case and notwithstanding any decision taken "clickfast" holders had not been purchased. The Secretary agreed to advise Peter Jones accordingly. An accident investigation also in "D" division continues.

A meeting of the Area Subject Committee is scheduled for 25th November 2013 at Woodhill House, Aberdeen and video conferencing is available for those unable to attend in person. Any person seeking to use the VC equipment to advise John Drysdale (Chair) in advance of the meeting. The papers and agenda have previously been circulated.

The North Area H&S Committee, chaired by ACC Penman has now been established and Peter Jones will provide a full update at the meeting on 25th inst.

Peter had also advised the Divisional Commanders of the details of Committee Representatives and the dates of forthcoming meetings in an effort to secure their availability and attendance.

A vehicle survey was conducted during October by Health & Safety Representatives who were requested to examine and report on 10 vehicles each. The request was sent to 26 Representatives in the North Area however at the conclusion of the survey period only 40 forms had been returned representing about 15% of the anticipated total. These concerns were reported to the JCC H&S Committee where it was established there were similar experiences across the country. As a result the examination period has been extended to the end of November and Peter has re-circulated the forms and instructions. Representatives are requested to ensure this action is completed within this timescale.

The Secretary advised Gordon McDonald's resignation had also created a vacancy on the Area Subject Committee and a replacement was sought from the Committee. Davie Smith volunteered and was supported by the Committee.

George Murray raised concerns regarding custody backfill and in particular the fact that probationary constables were not being provided with custody training at the SPC yet when deployed at a local level were on occasion being required to supervise and manage custodies. After discussion it was agreed the concerns

raised should be raised and progressed at the Health & Safety Area Subject Committee.

Action 0011/13

George Murray to e-mail concerns to John Drysdale for progression by the Health & Safety Area Subject Committee.

7.3 Standing Committees

- **Finance**

The Minutes of the Finance Standing Committee meetings held on 28th May and 21st August 2013 contained within JCC Circulars 35 & 47/2013 were circulated in advance of the Meeting and the contents were noted by the Committee.

The Chairman drew attention to the item on SPF properties and summarised ongoing developments. He also provided an update regarding the Federation Office in Dundee and advised the FSC had agreed he should look at the provision and suitability of alternative accommodation and report back on any developments to the FSC.

He also advised of minor amendments to the SPF Expenditure Policy (FTOB Circular 1/2013) which had been designed to assist with the compliance of HMRC obligations. An amended draft would be circulated when it became available.

Honoraria

Paul Hogan provided the meeting with an update in respect of the Honoraria review. He advised as a result of the NAC Motion presented to the JCC in July 2013 a review Group was established to look at the subject of Honoraria. The group is chaired by Doug Keil and comprises of Sergeant Jennie Shaw from the West Area, Inspector Graham Capes from the East Area and himself. The group is also assisted by Jim McDonald and David Dick who are both retired members of the JCC.

The inaugural meeting took place on 9th October 2013 where the group were presented with documentation which explained how Honoraria had been managed in the past and how we had reached our current position. At this meeting the group requested a scoping exercise amongst elected officials to establish the demand made upon their time and examples of issues they had to deal with.

Subsequent meetings on 23rd & 30th October 2013 allowed the group to consider all the information gathered and it is assessed the group are now at the end of the

exploratory stage of the review. A further meeting is scheduled for 28th November during which time recommendations will be formulated for consideration by JCC.

Paul answered several questions from the Committee and provided assurances regarding the independence and free reign of the review group. The Committee was of the view it would be advantageous for SPF to release a Circular summarising the work undertaken and the decisions reached.

- **Legislation & Regulations**

The Minutes of the Legislation & Regulations Standing Committee meetings held on 28th May and 21st August 2013 contained within JCC Circulars 35 & 47/2013 were circulated in advance of the Meeting and the contents were noted by the Committee.

The Chairman highlighted the items discussed in relation to ongoing development of Standing Orders and issues surrounding direct entry into the service in England & Wales.

Public Holidays

Brian Dick raised the subject of Public Holidays as they applied to officers with a regulatory annual leave entitlement less than the statutory minimum entitlement of 28 days provided by the WTR and expressed concern some officers might not be reaching their statutory minimum entitlement as a consequence of being required to work too many PH's throughout any given year.

The Meeting discussed the issue at length after which it was agreed any local issues identified and raised should be dealt with at a local level.

- **Operational Duties**

The Minutes of the Operational Duties Standing Committee meetings held on 28th May and 21st August 2013 contained within JCC Circulars 35 & 47/2013 were circulated in advance of the Meeting and the contents were noted by the Committee.

Electoral Process

The Chairman advised the Committee as a consequence of a number of changes to the composition of the Committee some consideration was required in relation to the electoral process to ensure in the short term the Committee remained at full strength and in the longer term a rank and geographical balance was maintained across the North Area.

The Meeting discussed a number of issues in relation to the elected representatives across the North Area and the SPF Rules governing the composition of the Committee.

The Chairman thanked the Meeting for their views and agreed to keep them informed of future developments.

Work Force Agreement

The Secretary provided a detailed summary of national developments to date with regards to VSA's and the Work Force Agreement [WFA]. He advised of his concerns regarding the process for the introduction of VSA's which in his view did not fully accord with many of the provisions of PNB Circular 2010/1 in particular the requirements for demand profiling, consultation and forward planning.

The Meeting discussed numerous concerns regarding the VSA process and agreed the importance of ensuring that statutory provisions and associated guidance were adhered to in full.

The Secretary raised the matter of VSA's incorporating seven consecutive working days and asked whether the Committee were supportive of any such pattern. After discussion the Committee agreed unanimously that it was not supportive of shift patterns containing seven consecutive working days and directed the Secretary to represent the Committees views at future working group meetings.

SPC Probationer Training

Gordon Forsyth expressed concerns regarding a lack of policy and guidance covering the arrangements for Probationers attending the SPC and highlighted the difficulties that some Probationers were experiencing in terms of travel arrangements.

The Chairman advised of the ongoing development of a national SOP and in the absence of any new policy legacy arrangements were to continue to apply. The Secretary reminded the meeting that he and Mike Kennedy had discussed these concerns with Chief Superintendent Watson and Superintendent Sharon Milton at a meeting in Aberdeen on 30 August 2013 and agreement had been reached in respect of the continuation of legacy arrangements until the subsequent adoption of any new policy.

It was agreed the Chair and Secretary would establish the progress of the development of new policy at the next SPF Legs & Regs Standing Committee.

Action 0012/13

Chair and Secretary to raise at the next SPF Legs & Regs Standing Committee.

7.4 Members Services

The Secretary advised he had included this agenda item to provide for any important issues through transition to be raised for discussion.

As development of the schemes and administrative processes continued related matters were for the Joint Central Committee and the Finance Standing Committee to consider. Both were standing items on the agenda offering the committee to discuss and debate relevant issues. The NAC had representatives on both forums providing the opportunity to raise and progress Committee business.

The Secretary therefore proposed and the meeting agreed to **delete** this item from the agenda.

7.5 Conditions of Service

- **Pensions**

The Secretary advised that since the date of the last NAC meeting the following JCC Circulars had been received and circulated for wider dissemination;

61/2013 Pensions in an Independent Scotland

62/2013 Precautionary Advice Pensions

66/2013 Police Pensions in an Independent Scotland - Information

The production and circulation of a Home Office Circular had been delayed due to complexities over part time working and careers breaks. It was anticipated the Circular would not be released before mid-November at the earliest.

The Secretary advised he had included this agenda item to provide an opportunity for any important issues to be raised for discussion. He submitted standing agenda item 7.1 - JCC Update provided the facility for business development updates and equally the opportunity for the Committee to further discuss and debate ongoing issues. Additionally standing agenda item 7.6 - Force/Area Meetings Update included JNCC and LNCC business discussions and finally the New Business offered members the opportunity to raise for discussion any items not falling within any of the above.

Consequently he proposed and the meeting agreed to **delete** this item from future agendas.

7.6 Force/Area Meetings update

- **JNCC**

The Secretary advised JNCC had established four working groups; Parliamentary, Terms & Conditions, Working Practices and Policy in an effort to try and reach agreement on relevant issues in advance of JNCC meetings. Two full time officials would attend each of the working groups and JNCC. Unresolved issues at LNCC would be progressed through these working groups or through JNCC dependent upon the nature of business.

He advised the Minutes of the latest meeting of JNCC held on 17th October 2013 had not yet been published but that he would circulate them widely on receipt.

- **LNCC**

The Chair advised the LNCC met in Dundee on 26th September and he, the Chair and Vice-Chair had attended to represent the Committee and provided a summary of the development of the forum and previous discussions.

The Secretary provided an update on the following item of business;

Operation Jersey - Held in reserve

The Secretary advised he was assisting officers deployed to Castle of Mey 2013 with a claim in respect of held in reserve which disappointingly had been rejected at a local level. Having raised the claim at LNCC he had been requested to submit a further report to ACC Penman for his consideration.

The Secretary agreed to circulate the Minutes of this meeting when they became available.

- **SPA**

The Secretary advised he, the Chair and Vice-Chair (T) had attended a public meeting of the SPA in Aberdeen on 30th October.

In advance of the public meeting the full time officials were afforded an opportunity to meet personally with other elected representatives, officials and Board members for an open discussion on policing matters which had been very worthwhile. Whilst the public meeting had been interesting and informative the levels of scrutiny by Board members was very reassuring and encouraging.

He advised it was the intention of full time officials to attend future SPA meetings having cognisance for abstractions and costs.

- **Divisional Management Meetings**

The Chairman sought updates from members of the Committee in relation to local meeting arrangements and ongoing issues of note.

The Meeting discussed the development of divisional arrangements in A, B, D & N and agreed the importance of continued engagement at divisional level. There were no ongoing issues that had not previously been highlighted during the meeting.

The Meeting acknowledged the practical difficulties of engaging at a senior management level with the national service units and in particular OSD, SCD, CCC and agreed the importance of finding a workable and practical solution.

8. New Business

There were no items of new business for discussion.

9. AOCB

No other items of competent business had been notified.

10. Correspondence

The Secretary advised the Meeting of the following items of correspondence;

- E-mail notification of resignation from Alistair Black - Tayside transitional representative.
- E-mail notification of resignation from Gordon McDonald.
- Letter to Chairman from Paul Menzies.

The Chairman advised he had received correspondence from Inspector Paul Menzies and circulated copies of the communication to members of the Committee. After providing an opportunity to consider the contents the Chairman sought the views of the Committee. A proposal was made for the suspension of standing orders which was unanimously supported.

On the resumption of standing orders the following action was agreed;

Action - 0013/13

Chairman to respond in general terms that many issues raised were already being addressed and to advise the communication would be forwarded to Professional Standards due to the nature of the allegations contained therein. Chairman to forward correspondence to Professional Standards.

- E-mail request for financial assistance from RPOAS - Highlands & Islands Branch.

The Secretary advised of correspondence he had received from the Secretary of the RPOAS - Highlands & Islands Branch in relation to a request for financial assistance to repair and mount an Inverness Burgh war memorial stone tablet at Divisional Headquarters, Inverness. He provided a summary of the circumstances and sought the meetings support for representations to be made to the FSC for an appropriate amount of financial assistance to be provided to support the work being undertaken.

The Meeting supported the request.

Action - 0014/13

Secretary to arrange for matter to be considered at next FSC on 11/12/13.

- E-mail from David O'Connor obo MacMillan Cancer Support

The Secretary advised he had received an e-mail request from David O'Connor (President of ASPS) in his capacity as Chair of the organising committee of a MacMillan Cancer Support fund raising Charity Auction to be held in Dingwall on 7th December 2013 and sought the Committee support in respect of a request for a charitable donation.

The Meeting agreed to support the request.

Action - 0015/13

Secretary to write to the General Secretary requesting Trustees consider request for a charitable donation in accordance with previous decision of JCC in March 2013.

- E-mail notification of retirement from Mike Kennedy – Vice-Chair

The Secretary advised of notification from the Vice-Chair of his impending retirement after which and on behalf of the NAC the Chairman thanked Mike for his years of dedication and commitment to the SPF at both local and national levels and for the support, advice and guidance provided to members of the federated ranks for over many years.

11. Time and Date of Next Meeting

The Secretary advised the next Meeting of the North Area Committee would be held on Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th March 2014 commencing at 1300 hours on day 1 and 0900 hours on day 2. The venue would be confirmed following the outcome of the action at item 6.2.

Dates of future meetings

2nd/3rd June 2014

1st/2nd September 2014

1st/2nd December 2014

12. Closure of Meeting

The Chairman thanked the Committee for their active and constructive participation and closed the Meeting by wishing everyone present a safe journey home.

He was thanked by the Meeting in the customary manner.

David Hamilton
Chair

Graeme Ednie
Secretary