



131 Locators Association Inc.

Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the 131 Locators Association Inc. held on 3rd July 2010.

Attendees were: Ian Amos; Robert Billiards; Paul Dickson; Grahame Dignam; Allen Morley and Ernest Newbold.

Apologies were received from Victor Danko George Lane and Nick Proskurin.

The minutes record that Victor Danko has vested his proxy vote with Paul Dickson for this meeting where and if required.

The meeting began at 08.30AM AEST chaired by Paul Dickson

<p>Item 1</p>	<p>Welcome from Paul Dickson I'd like to welcome all of us to the first 131 Locators Association meeting. May it be the first of many? We have opened a can of worms within the Locating world, but in doing so we may also realise a number of person's dreams. We initially have a bit of a hard row to hoe, but the results should be worthwhile and eventually will be fun for all concerned. It's great to think that after 40 odd years that we're not only capable of doing this, but to find a group of fairly similar minds and be doing it. Thanks to all of you involved on this journey and making it happen.</p>	
<p>Item 2</p>	<p>Allen Morley will produce minutes of a meeting on 18 March 2010 where discussions ensued around the establishment of a Locators Association with the following objective:</p> <p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ to establish a central forum for former Members of 131 Divisional Locating Battery to establish and maintain ongoing contact ▪ to provide a communication point for former serving 131 Battery soldiers which includes newsletters and a website ▪ to establish a verbal, visual and written history of 131 Battery activities, with particular attention to its role in 1 Army Task Force, South Vietnam ▪ to coordinate activities for specific events including Anzac Day, annual reunions and anniversaries ▪ to provide directed advice and information to 131 Battery soldiers who may need assistance for health and related reasons 	

- to do all such other things as by law permitted that may be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objects or as may be deemed necessary or expedient in the best interests of the Association

Minutes of Initial Planning Meeting follows:

Initial Planning Meeting of 131 Locators Committee

Notes from a Meeting held 18th March 2010

Venue: 8 Darling St Abbotsbury NSW 2176

Present: Paul Dickson, Grahame Dignam, Bob Billiards, Ernie Newbold, Nick Proskurin, Allen Morley, Ian Amos

1. **Welcome:** Paul Dickson took the chair and welcomed everyone. He explained the purpose of the meeting was to look at ways of bringing the 131 blokes together in some way following the success arising from the continuing publication of Eyes and Ears.
2. **Group Name:** Following a lot of discussion there was general agreement that the group name would be something like 131 Battery Veterans Association (not finalised)
3. **Link with LAA:** whether we would link with LAA or go our own way was left open
4. **Funds:** The position was that we would target some fund raising for the paver at North Head plus some contingency \$
Action: El Presidente to write a letter seeking a donation of \$20 from each of the existing contacts
5. **DVD:** A SVN picture DVD had become available from Ian Amos.
Action: Ernie Newbold to review Ian Amos' DVD to identify where the material would be directed
6. **Website:** the need for any style of a website was discussed in detail.
Action: Bob Billiards would follow up re the website before this meeting anniversary
7. **Association:** If we are to have an association the documents would have to be prepared.
Action: Allen Morley would write a constitution for 131 Battery Veterans Association
8. **Membership:** Some information relating to membership had to be sent out to identified contacts
Action: Ernie Newbold to write regarding membership (Paul Dickson to advise details)
9. **Anzac Day:** Anzac day in Sydney will be a significant event and Vic Danko is to organise the post-march venue (via Paul Dickson)

Action: Paul Dickson to coordinate
10. **E&E:** Paul Dickson to look at sharing out some of the E&E writing to help his load

	<p>11. Aims: Some aims of 131 Battery Veterans Association to be developed – these will be part of the constitution.</p> <p><i>Confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.</i></p> <p>..... Paul Dickson, Interim Chairman It was moved by P Dickson and seconded by G Dignam that the minutes be accepted.</p>	
Item 3	<p>Agenda items – Paul Dickson</p> <p>Firstly I would like to move a motion that the current Interim committee be formally noted in the minutes of this meeting and the members are -</p> <p>President: Paul Dickson Vice President: Allen Morley Treasurer/Secretary: Grahame Dignam Public Officer: Victor Danko Webmaster: Robert Billiards Projects/Research: Ernest Newbold Committee Members: Ian Amos, George Lane, Nick Proskurin</p> <p>Motion seconded by A Morley - agreed by all and committee duly elected.</p>	
Item 4	<p>Association. Allen Morley drafted a constitution for “131 Locators Association INC.” which was forwarded to the committee mentioned above to read comment and suggest changes. The amended constitution was lodged and the name reserved. The Application has now been forwarded for registration of the Business Name and Incorporation of the Association which costs have been covered by Allen Morley. (As an aside the Guidelines for the DVA grant advised that all setup expenses MAY be covered if proper receipts are kept and submitted with the DVA Grant application.)</p> <p>Moved by P Dickson that the name of “the Association” as shown be accepted. Seconded by A. Morley - Accepted by all</p>	<p>AM to fu receipt of Cert. of Incorporation</p>
Item 5	<p>Banking. G Dignam and A Morley investigated suitable banking arrangements for the association as a Non profit entity. Points raised were :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the President will not be required to sign (due to his expat status) ○ Three signatories to be registered on a “2 must sign” basis for any drawing or cheques ○ the account should be able to be operated electronically ○ Statements be issued electronically 	<p>Opening of A/c to be FU by AM & GD</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interest paid on credit funds <p>Item was discussed at length.</p> <p>The Westpac Bank was selected as it could provide all these requirements and its operation was familiar to A Morley.</p> <p>Motion to accept the Westpac Bank was moved by P Dickson seconded by G Dignam - Accepted by all</p>	
<p>Item 6</p>	<p>DVA Grant.</p> <p>The Application information has been circulated as per Grahame's request. The grant for submission to DVA is to set up the proposed website and ancillary costs including laptop computers, printer etc. was discussed generally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Allen advised that the DVA been contacted, and the submission of the application has to be done by 23/08/2010 at the latest. The next round of funding after August is March 2011 ○ The DVA will make payment on receipt of invoice/s from successful tenderers/suppliers for reasonable set up costs provided the grant. ○ Secretary to contact 131 Survey people to share their experience of DVA grant ○ V President to confirm we can lodge DVA grant and lodge more complete documentation at a later date to secure funding in this round ○ Questions of membership numbers appear to be addressed in the Grant guidelines "<i>Para 2.1, 2.2, Aims and Objectives and 5.1 and 5.2: Funding arrangements</i>". ○ The grant is subject to Funding limits within the range of \$2,000 to \$50,000 – (we expect our application to be toward lower end of the range) and will not be provided for recurrent funding. <p>P Dickson moved a motion that we proceed forward with the application seconded by A Morley Agreed by all</p> <p>The President P Dickson is to supply to the Secretary –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A list of current members in receipt of the E&E's 2. A document relating to the results of the questionnaire with regards to the association being formed. 	<p>GD to contact Survey guys re their grant</p> <p>AM to fu order of lodgment of documents to DVA</p> <p>2 docs recd 4/7/10</p>
<p>Item 7</p>	<p>Agenda 5a - LAA Proposal Correspondence recd - Joe Kaplun re LAA "</p> <p>Dicko,</p> <p>Greetings from the Great South Land (Australia) to the men from the south (Mexicans).</p> <p>Hope you got the EJ photos OK. The others will be forthcoming as promised, after the Chief of Army makes the presentation next Thursday.</p> <p>Now to real business. Just want to talk about "The Banner" and 131/LAA/DVA grant.</p> <p><u>The Banner.</u></p> <p>Rather than get mired down over ownership/custody, what do you think</p>	

<p>about the following proposal:</p> <p>The best place for Storage when not in use is undoubtedly as part of the display at the museum, where it is in its own glass fronted display case, above and behind an AN/KPQ1.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It is in a secure environment. It is on public display as part of a larger 'LOCATING' presentation. It is not folded, rolled or otherwise stored in a crease/mould producing situation. <p>It would be available for loan to any person/entity for use under the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They are a member/s of LAA/131 or other entity that has a genuine/appropriate requirement for a short term loan (eg. STA Regiment, military oriented function/gathering/reunion/dinner/march etc where it would be appropriate to display the banner). Full responsibility is accepted for its safe custody. It is returned in the same condition it was in when collected. The loan is recorded in a 'short term loan' book. <p><u>DVA grant/website</u></p> <p>From what I can gather, the main purpose of resurrecting the 131 Association is to be able to apply for a DVA grant for you to set up an independent website. Rather than going through the efforts of raising another association with all the administrative and incorporation (\$\$) issues etc, and to put to bed all the other crap that seems to be breeding, what do you think about the following proposal.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> You and your team prepare a submission to DVA for a grant to set up the proposed website. The submission goes to DVA from the Locating Artillery Association inc. If approved, the funds are passed onto the Vietnam Veteran's Branch <i>in full</i>, and are administered by the VVB, who also administer the website. The only proviso would be that all E&E personnel involved in the administration of the funds and the website are members of the Locating Artillery Association Inc. (to ensure no comeback from DVA) <p>The foregoing would be formally minuted as a special executive committee meeting decision, binding on the Locating Artillery Association inc.</p> <p>Let me know your feelings re all the above.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>Joe Kaplun</p> <p>(P Dickson- The LAA proposal is crucial to our progress, so needs to be fully consumed and questions raised about any point/s, because our response will have a direct bearing on our future as to who we are and what we do.)</p> <p>The items contained were fully discussed by all and contents noted.</p>	<p>All agreed to LAA proposal for storage and custody of the banner.</p> <p>DVA grant - we will proceed as in point a. where we set up and control the Website</p> <p><u>WHEN</u> the grant is approved the funds are to be passed to the VVB which will be renamed on LAA site as "131 Locators Association Inc. where we maintain control.</p>
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	<p>Resolved that- We apply for the DVA grant as 131 Locators Assn Inc. to set up the Website and to allow us to handle funds for other projects as required. Also that we advise the LAA that we will maintain the link now known on their site as "VVB" but change its name to "131 Locators Association Inc." and invite LAA members to join if they wish to have full access.</p> <p>This would also save time in double handling due to short lead time we have available.</p> <p>We note that 69 members of 131 are already members of the LAA.</p>	<p>AM RB & GD to FU</p>
<p>Item 8</p>	<p>Web design A proposed website design was provided by P Dickson which will be further developed. Rob Billiard advises that the projected cost is approx. \$300 per page and we envisage 9 pages. It is estimated that \$5000 be the target amount. Moved by P Dickson and seconded by A Morley that we pursue quotes for the web design</p> <p>Rob will arrange for 2 quotes for the DVA grant application</p>	<p>RB to FU</p>
<p>Item 9</p>	<p>Membership P Dickson began discussion re levels of membership and fee structure.</p> <p>Fees.</p> <p>The following Fee structure was proposed – Application fee \$10, plus an annual fee of \$10.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">This proposal was agreed by ALL</p> <p>should we consider giving LAA members a 50% discount to \$5 to placate and encourage membership of possibly both Assoc?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">This suggestion was not agreed by all</p> <p>Types of membership –</p> <p>a) Members (Full membership) – pays annual fee gets an email reminder to access the E&E's on the web and FULL access to the website Could include LAA members if they take up the offer? Known as Members LAA NOT Agreed by ALL</p> <p>a.1) Members of Deceased Locator's Family – NO fees, gets an email reminder to access the E&E's on the web and FULL access to the website. One member of the family must have internet access. . Yes agreed by all</p> <p>b) Associates (these could be blokes on our current email address or new enquirers that just want the E&E's) – No fee applies and receives a reminder to access the E&E's on the web – this access would be via the bottom button on the home page. They can access the website with limitations.</p>	

	<p style="text-align: right;">Yes Agreed by ALL</p> <p>I want to encourage everyone to use the website, who knows what the frustration for “Associates” and non group members will lead to.</p> <p>For Members and a.1)</p> <p>Member’s access to the website Member’s section could be by Regt No and possibly last name – ok I realise that’s not foolproof, but it’ll be an “honesty” thing. However, could we tell if “Joe Blogs” has been on the web 14 times in one day with a counter mechanism or whatever - Bob? Yes</p> <p>Can we stop “cutting and pasting” from the website Yes</p> <p>Can we put that “The material, both written a photographs belong to the association and may not be copied without the express approval from the 131 Locators Association Inc”. (what do you call the ”material” – there’s a word that goes before it? Something or other material – Sec suggested <i>Intellectual property</i> Yes</p> <p>c) Members with no internet – I believe that we should make every effort to keep in contact with them. There are possibly only 4 of them at the moment (Greg Green, Roger McDonnell, Ken McNamara and Gary Smith – all at ANZAC Day this year too). I don’t want to encourage “snail mail”, so we will need a street address. It would seem appropriate that the Secretary would be the most logical. Accepted by the Secretary G Dignam who noted more members have been identified as Snail Mailers. Yes</p> <p>Can we have one simple motion to have point 7 accepted . Moved by P Dickson seconded by G Dignam Agreed by ALL</p>	
	<p style="color: red;">Due to time constraints further discussion on other matters was adjourned to the next meeting AT A TIME TO BE ADVISED</p>	
	<p>Meeting closed at 11.10AM AEST</p> <p>Signed P Dickson President elect</p>	