



MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting title: Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Civil & Military Partnership Board

Date and time: 04/06/2020 10:00

Location: Teleconference

Attendance		Apologies
Colonel Tim Richmond (Chair)	TR	Councillor Rebecca Langton
Councillor Bob Collis	BC	Councillor John Smart
Councillor Tony Eaton	TE	Councillor Keith Girling
Derek Hayden	DH	Councillor Andy Gascoyne
Jackie Hogan	JH	Councillor David Walters
Gail Jones	GJ	Carol Hallam
Stephanie Woods	SW	Ann Berry
Neil Bettison	NB	Gillian Welch
Nigel Cooke	NC	Jane Ansell
Anna Lam	AL	Richard Browne
Victoria Coomber	VC	Simon Hale
Terry Tring (notes)	TT	James Scattergood
		Patrick Loy
		Barry Smith
		John Wilson
		Jayne Fletcher
		David Gell
		Robert Christie

1	Welcome & Introductions
See above	
2	Previous Minutes
There were no matters arising	
3	VE Day 75 Online
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NB – the VE Day 75 online had been the best ‘attended’ virtual event that Nottinghamshire County Council had ever arranged. There were over 10,000 participants and the response had been very positive and overwhelming. Lots of photos and stories had been shared and it was felt to be a welcome distraction from Covid-19. NC – Wreaths were laid at the memorial by the Mayor of Nottingham and the Leader DH – Rushcliffe had also provided an online offer and followed the VE 75 national programme. Colouring packs were provided, and videos were made by the Leader and Mayor 	

- TE – Wreaths were laid at Retford Cenotaph. There were celebrations but following social distancing guidelines
- AL – photos were shared of armed services members
- TR – there were valuable contributions from 504 squadron and other units, outlining what they were doing on VE Day. The virtual service at Southwell Minster was very moving especially the ringing of the bells
- TR expressed his thanks to everyone for a successful event

4	Covid-19 Response
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- Community Hub – NB shared details of the online Community Support Hub available on the Nottinghamshire County Council website. There are veterans’ groups in the database. The community response has been fantastic.
- Community Fund - £1million was made available to support groups responding to the Covid-19 crisis, of which £400,000 has been allocated. There are clear criteria available on the Council website. Groups need to be based in Nottinghamshire and working in Nottinghamshire. There is a £10,000 maximum amount and Veterans’ groups are encouraged to apply. NB is willing to help with any bids
- As we enter the recovery or business as usual phase it is important that we understand what the needs are of the armed forces community. This could involve a specific Community Impact Assessment for armed forces
- Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust – details of this were circulated prior to the meeting. The group need to promote the availability of these funds. The veterans’ section has closed but community bids remain open until 30th June 2020. NB is willing to help with bids.

5	Future Events
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- Reservist Day – Nothing big planned due to Covid-19 restrictions (GJ)
- Veterans Day – Nottinghamshire County Council usually raises the flag and has other events, but nothing known as yet.
- Armed Forces Day – Virtual events. Focussing on stories from reservists and veterans. Possibly a virtual flag-raising (NB). Broxtowe will have videos of the mayor raising the flag as well as forces in the community. People will share their salutes at home and be encouraged to bake Union Jack cakes (AL). Rushcliffe will be similar to Broxtowe (DH). Nottingham City will have virtual online events. It would be good for County and City Comms to linkup (NC). Charnwood plan to have films/photos of public doing their salute (VC).
- VJ 75 Day –
 - St Mary’s Church in Nottingham are very keen to host a ceremony for VJ Day 75. They could possibly host 100 people with social distancing restrictions. The impact of the church ceremony could be maximised by being recorded and streamed
 - The event would be a commemoration rather than a celebration. It should reflect the contribution of units such as the Sherwood Foresters and the Indian Army in the Far East campaign. It could also provide a broader perspective to include the whole war and the sacrifice/contribution of all Nottinghamshire
 - There are very few veterans of this campaign so we should encourage the sharing of contacts and stories
 - TR is meeting with the Lord Lieutenant and Anthony May tomorrow and this will be a topic of discussion. Deputy Lord Lieutenants will be keen to be involved in wreath-laying ceremonies and any other events planned
 - There is funding for a photo exhibition on Commonwealth Armed Forces which could be online if not physically possible and Nottingham City are looking at the use of the Bandstands
 - A VJ Day 75 Liaison Group should be established to develop and coordinate the events. NB, NC, TR and Patrick Loy will hold initial discussions

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Beginning a World War Two Roll of Honour could be a legacy of this year's events 	
6	Round Robin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TE – have been supporting veterans during the Covid-19 crisis. He has visited all 4 veterans' groups in the area and has developed 'buddy' links with a number of veterans including a 95-year-old veteran of the Burma campaign • VC – The government are keen on a white paper enshrining the covenant. There will be a need for more focus on housing, education and healthcare provision for armed forces. Hopefully, there will be more research commissioned before the legislation is created • NB – there is no news on the Veterans ID card yet. It will be rolled out, but there is no timetable. 	
7	Actions
Establish a VJ Day 75 Liaison Group	TR, NB, NC
Encourage groups to apply for Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust and Community Fund	ALL
8	Arrangements for next meeting(s):
The next meeting will be in September or October 2020. Date to be confirmed	