

1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

(Fire Brigade)

(Members.)

UTI/FIR/1#3

C.S.

No. 289/21.

Superintendent.

SUBJECT.

192 1

21st March.

Previous Paper.

Recommends the re-organising of the Fire Brigade Movement.

181/21

MINUTES.

Minute from the Superintendent 21st March, 1921. Encl 1.

H.E. the Governor,

Submitted.

2. No previous papers in connection with a Committee meeting of the Fire Brigade, can be traced in the C.S.O.

3. No provision would appear to be made under secs:12 to 15 of the Stanley Fire Brigade Ordinance (No.3) 1898, as regards the auditing of the accounts. Payments can only be made under the authority of the Governor; s;14 of Ordinance.

Await result of general meeting.

A. C. S.31/3/21.

31 March 1921

Harbour Master,

As Superintendent of Volunteer Fire Brigade, will you kindly report result of General Meeting held.

Subsequent Paper.

A. C. S.16/4/21.

Act. Col. Secretary.

I beg to report that the General Meeting was held on 2nd April, in connection with the Fire Brigade.

The meeting was sparsely attended, about 12 being present.

I addressed the meeting pointing out:-

- 1 The necessity of co-operation.
- 2 The Reorganisation of the Brigade was necessary.
- 3 The condition of Fire Engine House & apparatus.

Those present ~~unanimously~~ agreed that the Brigade should be re-organised also that the Fire Engine House & apparatus should be placed in an efficient working order. To obtain the latter a Committee visited the Fire Engine House on the Evening of the 5th April and it was arranged to effect the necessary repairs and overhaul at once.

Four new members were obtained at the General Meeting.

This I venture to suggest is a good start, but I would respectfully draw His Excellency's notice to the attitude of the people of Stanley which is that of not wishing to be hurried, but allowed to take their own time. This though without doubt detrimental to obtaining efficiency in the shortest possible time, may nevertheless lead to that efficiency which once established may not be difficult to maintain.

With reference to para. 2 of the Act. Col. Sec. 31/3/21, I would respectfully draw attention to " Payments can only be made under ~~the~~ ~~the~~ the authority of the Governor " - This the Members of the Fire Brigade seem to resent considering that they should have full control of the funds. It has been considered necessary during my absence from Stanley to obtain stores for the Brigade for use in the Engine House and the Fire Engine.

Further in reference to " No provision would appear to be made under Secs. 12 to 13 of the S.F.B. Ordinance (No 3) 1898, as regards the auditing of the accounts " I would point out that it has been the custom of the Colonial Secretary's Office to call for the accounts for audit.

I would suggest for His Excellency's approval that matters of Finance and the Re-organisation of the Fire Brigade be left to the Members, should His Excellency be advised otherwise I am afraid that the re - organisation of the Brigade will be more than difficult.

Colin Estroff
Superintendent 26/4/21

H.E. the Governor,

Submitted.

2. Par:3 of my minute of 31/3/21, to which the Superintendent has referred, merely explains the position as regards "finance" in so far as the Law is concerned. From the Superintendent's minute, it would appear that certain members of the Fire Brigade resent certain provisions of the law with regard to the control of the funds of the Brigade.

3. I may point out that all disbursements of public monies, in all British Colonies are made under the authority of the Governor, either by Warrant of Financial Requisition.

4. No provision is made in the Estimates in connection with disbursements under the Fire Brigade Ordinance, as is the case of the Savings Bank Accounts and the Currency Commissioners Accounts, which are more or less identical.

A. C. S.
A. C. S. 27/4/21.

H.C.S.

The establishment + management of the Fire Brigade provided for by a special Ordinance No 3 of 1898.

2. (a) All money subscribed by it to a fund for the use of the Brigade

(b) all appliances belonging to a lawfully used by the Brigade, being its own a public property

shall vest in the Superintendent.

Ordinance 3 of 1898.

Section 12.

3. All moneys are to be paid to the Secretary
and credited to the Fire Brigade Fund

Section 14.

4. No expenditure is to be incurred without
the approval of the Governor

Section 14.

5. It shall be lawful for the Governor by
warrant under his hand to authorize the
expenditure of such money as may from
time to time be required in

Section 22.

(a) Maintaining the fire engine.

(b) Replenishing damaged fire stock.

(c) Keeping in proper repair and order all
the appliances

The expression "Appliances" is defined by Section 29 as
meaning.

all engines, hose, carts, rills, axes, ladders,
lamps, branch pipes, buckets and every
article which can be used at a fire
and any article which may be purchased
for use at fires and all reservoirs with
pumps, and other articles which may be constructed
with the object of being available in case of
fire.

(d) Purchase of new articles that may be
found necessary.

(e) Carrying into effect measures for increased
protection against fire.

6. In my view the members of the Fire Brigade must have no reason to resent the Government's control of expenditure. Personally, I have no desire to issue a "warrant" on such an occasion in which expenditure is not included. If annual estimates of income & expenditure are prepared the scheme of expenditure can be approved and authorized by "warrant" under the Government's hand.

If any further ^{inexpedient} disbursements, which could not have been foreseen & cannot be ~~prepared~~ ^{incorporated} without detriment to the service of the Fire Brigade, a supplementary estimate of the expenditure so required should be prepared.

7. Audit is fully provided for by section 22. I should think that this would be found a desirable safeguard.

8. I have written that, fully in view that the provision may be made clear that if there is any point which is not clear I should be glad to meet the members of the Fire Brigade and to discuss it with them.

Dr.

21 May 1921.

Harbour Master,

Papers sent to you as Superintendent of the V.F. Brigade, for your information & guidance.

W. W. Thompson
A. C. S. 23/5/21.

Hon. Col. Secretary.

I beg to report that a General Meeting of the S.V.F.B. was held in the Church Hall on the evening of the 25th, instant.

It was unanimously agreed that the control of the finances of the Brigade should be submitted to His Excellency the Governor as in para 6 of his minutes of the 21/5/21.

I am pleased to be able to report that there is every prospect of the Brigade being quickly reformed and raised to a standard of efficiency.

A Committee meeting is to be held on the 30th, May and a Special General Meeting on the 7th, June.

After which I shall beg to submit annual estimate of revenue and expenditure with a scheme of *Expenditure* for the current year, together with names of officers elected by the Members (Ordinance No3, section 2) and a list of rules (Section 6) for His Excellency's consideration and approval.

I have been asked by the Members to submit to The Governor the desirability for the Audit of the accounts of the Brigade (Section 21) as soon as is convenient.

Colin E. Hoedly

Superintendent,

S.V.F.B.

26/5/21

H.E. the Governor,

Submitted.

W. W. Thompson
A. C. S. 26/5/21.

H.C.S.

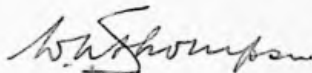
If a Local Auditor you can spare time
to audit then accounts this would be much
the more satisfactory arrangement & I should
be grateful if you would undertake the audit



26 May 1921.

Harbour Master,

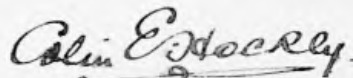
I shall be very please to do what
I can to assist the S.V.F.B.



A. C. S. 26/5/21.

Hon. Col. Secretary

I have instructed the Secretary of
the S.V.F.B. to forward the accounts of the Brigade
for Audit as soon as is convenient to him.

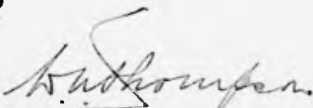


Superintendent

Harbour Master,

26/5/21

So far, no books have been received for
audit ?




A. C. S. 15/6/21.

Hon. Col. Secretary

I regret that there has been the delay
in forwarding the Accounts of the Brigade for Audit

I have communicated with the Hon. Sec.
and he states that he has been very busy indeed
but will forward the books immediately.



Superintendent

S.V.F.B.

17/6/21

Harbour Master,

I return to you as Superintendent the Stanley Volunteer Fire Brigade Cash Book together with supporting Vouchers for the period May 1919 to April 1920; with Savings Bank Pass Book No. 2597, and Counterfoil Receipt Book Nos. 6601-6700. Will you kindly return these to the Honry: Secretary, and send this paper back to the C.S.O.

A. C. S.
A. C. S. 7/7/21.

Hon. Col. Secretary.

Books etc, as above, returned to the Honry. Secretary of the Stanley Volunteer Fire Brigade :-

Colin E. Stoddley.
Harbour Master.
7/7/21

H.E. the Governor,

Submitted for information.

A. C. S.
A. C. S. 11/7/21.

H.E.S.

Slip.

2. I observe that the paper is marked B.F. 3/5/22 for audit of accounts. I hope audit is not dependent on this minute paper being brought up at some future date & that there is some greater better security for audit being carried out.

AM.
11 July 1921

H.E. the Governor,

The enclosed slip is merely for the information of the Colonial Secretary, so that he may be in a position to know at a glance why a certain C.S. Minute Paper has been marked "Brought Forward".

2. The auditors notes are separate and apart from the papers.

A. C. S.
A. C. S. 18/7/21
AM. 19/7/21

Stanley Volunteer Fire Brigade.

Stanley.

21st March, 1921.

The Hon. Col. Secretary.

Sir,

I beg to report that through the Hon. Secretary of the Stanley Volunteer Fire Brigade I called for a Committee Meeting of the Brigade for the evening of the 18th March, but was informed that of those who formed the working committee only three members were at present in Stanley. In consequence thereof & the necessity of re-organising the Fire Brigade movement, I have asked the Hon. Secretary to call a General Meeting, to be held as soon as possible, with a view to the election of a Committee.

I regret to report that there appears to be a feeling of antipathy in Stanley against the Fire Brigade movement but I trust that by a General Meeting to be able to bring forward to those attending the necessity of co-operation to bring the Brigade to a state of efficiency.

- (i) The last Committee meeting was held ^{10th Aug. 1917.} ~~in~~ 1918.
- (ii) There has been no regular drills or attendance for some years passed,
- (iii) The accounts of the Brigade were last audited on the 22nd May, 1918.
- (iv) The condition of the Fire Engine, House and apparatus leaves much to be desired but I trust that as soon as the Committee is reformed the Brigade will be placed on a sound working basis.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Colin E. Aschley
Superintendent.