

Royal British Legion

Falkland Islands Branch

Committee Meeting Minutes.

5th March 2012.

Present: Neil Russell (Chairman)
Keith Biles (Secretary)
Liam Shelbourne (Treasurer)

In attendance: John Birmingham
Pam Lewis (Welfare Committee) Dave Lewis
Fred Simpson
Trevor Law

Apologies for Absence: Marvin Clark, John Clifford, Rev. Richard Hines, Rev. Kathy Biles.

1. The minutes of the meeting on 6th February were confirmed as correct.
2. Matters arising:

A revised Form MS1 is to be completed and submitted once the Committee structure is finalized.

Action: Secretary to arrange for the completion and resubmission of Form MS1 in due course.

The Treasurer had contacted the Membership Secretary, and the non-return of non-issued membership Cards has now been resolved.

Action: The Treasurer has confirmed that a dead-line will be established for local payments of membership dues to be received by him by the end of December, in future.

FIDF Status: All letters of appeal had been sent and responses awaited. In addition, the Governor had also sent a letter to HQ in support.

3. Chairman's Report:

The chairman advised that Sarah and John Maskell-Bott had to return to UK a little earlier than expected for medical reasons, and that a card wishing Sarah well had been sent on behalf of the Legion.

An education pack on the work of the Legion is available, and could be used in the local senior school.

Action: Chairman to obtain sample packs and approach the school for permission to use.

A "Poppy Support" handbook had been received, and this was passed to the Secretary for retention. It will be available to any member who wishes to research entitlements or other welfare matters.

The main RBL web site contains a "Publications Catalog" showing availability of a considerable amount of free media orderable "on line". Committee members were commended to review.

To avoid any confusion in future, it was confirmed that Dave Lewis will be responsible for co-ordinating the main order for the supply of Poppies.

Rob Harden, a PTI at Hillside, has confirmed that he will be taking part in the SCB marathon, due to be run this month, and that his sponsored charity will be the RBL. Donations in support can be made through the branch web site.

Post Meeting Note: He not only completed the marathon, he won it !!

In order to bring the Committee up to full strength, it was suggested that CSgt. Trevor Law, the permanent Instructor at FIDF, be invited to join the Committee. The motion (proposed by Liam Shelbourne, seconded by Neil Russell) was passed with unanimous support.

4. Treasurer's Report:

Membership cards currently have a space for a branch identification sticker on the reverse. The Treasurer had produced some samples of designs suitable for this purpose, which were circulated for comment. After some discussion, it was suggested that a full Union Flag overlaying the map of the Islands would be an appropriate design, and that this should be developed further.

The Treasurer reported that more investigation was required into the rates offered by the RBL Central Investment Account in UK, and other alternative investment vehicles.

Action: Treasurer to investigate the nature of the Central fund, and other possible investment opportunities, further.

5. Any other business:

No topics raised.

6. Next Meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Branch will be on Monday, 2nd April 2012. at 7.30 pm. The Committee should attempt to attend at 7 pm for a brief meeting.

Keith Biles.
Secretary.