

Royal British Legion

Falkland Islands Branch

Committee Meeting Minutes.

23rd June 2014.

Present: Liam Shelbourne (Chairman)
Keith Biles (Secretary)
Annie Bailey (Treasurer)
Bob French
Kathy Biles (Welfare)

Apologies for Absence: John & Sarah Maskell-Bott, Dave & Pam Lewis, Pam Budd.

1. The Committee meeting on 26th May was inquorate. The Minutes of the meeting of 28th April 2014 were reviewed and certified as being correct .
2. No Matters were arising from the April meeting.
3. Chairman's report:
 - The Liberation Day service and parade were well attended. Thanks were recorded to Bob French who acted as Standard Bearer. It was regretted that there was no seating reserved in the Cathedral for elderly members who attended, and suitable arrangements will be requested in future.
 - The Legion Club was opened after the parade on Liberation Day, and thanks are due to the bar staff, especially Mark and Clare Neves, who provided excellent service to those members who attended.
 - A Service of Remembrance was held in the Pinn Inn on 6th June to mark the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings. Rev. Kathy Biles officiated, and the Governor, many members and guests attended.
 - A Committal of Ashes at Sea was held on 16th June of the ashes of Andrew McCulloch, ex of HMS ARROW, by Rev. Kathy Biles. The service was attended by the Branch Chairman and Secretary, representatives of the Royal Navy at MPC and the Royal Navy Association, and an apology for absence was received from the representative of SAMA FI. Thanks were expressed to Lt Cdr Sarah Oakley and the ship's company of HMS CLYDE, Anthony Ballard of BFBS, and Corp. Ashley Keates (MPC photographer) for facilitating this service.
 - The installation of a bench at the Cross of Sacrifice is being progressed by the Chairman.
 - A donation of £380.20 has been received from the MTW Recovery section at MPC as a result of a fund raising event. This sum has been credited to the Poppy Appeal account.

4. Secretary's report:

- Details of the RBL "Lights Out" campaign were briefly discussed, and will be developed by the Chairman for use during the Branch meeting on 4th August.
- We await the official record of the Annual Conference.
- Dave Lewis, currently on holiday in UK, laid a wreath on behalf of the FI Branch at the RBL Portsmouth South annual memorial service last Sunday .

5. Treasurer's report:

- Wreath Order – no further wreaths need to be ordered for this year.
- The Branch accounting year ends on 30th June. An approach will be made to Alison Baker to continue to act as Independent Reviewer for both the branch and the Club accounts.

6. Any Other Business:

- The Affiliation Fee will be raised to £15 from 1st July 2014.
- A social function will be held at the Pinn Inn on Saturday 28th July to mark Armed Forces Day. Invitations will be issued by e-mail for members, guests and serving personnel at MPC. A curry supper and entertainment will be provided
- A new stock of Branch Shields will be sourced by the Chairman.
- The Poppy Appeal order is to be placed by the end of July. The Chairman is to investigate the supply of biodegradable items for use at sea.
- The planning for the Poppy Ball has started, with the Chairman canvassing for corporate sponsors. The Secretary is to make a provisional booking of the Town Hall for Friday 7th November.

7. The next meeting of the Committee has been provisionally fixed for 7.00 p.m. on 28th July 2014. Prior apologies were received from Keith & Kathy Biles, and Annie Bailey.

Keith Biles.
Secretary.