**THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

**Roade and District Branch**

**Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 3rd April**

**Attendance M**ajor P. Flemming (President) - Mr M. McCafferty (Chair) – Mr J. Bretherton (Vice Chair/Standard Bearer) – Mrs A. Freund (Treasurer & Membership Secretary) – Miss S. Kitchen (Secretary) – Mr R. Wooldridge & Miss B. Rainbow (Members)

**Apologies** Mr M. Smith - Mr I. Lloyd **-** Mr & Mrs Davies - Mr J Waddington

*The Chair opened the meeting by saying the act of homage.*

**Minutes** Minutes of the last meeting held on the 6th March, other than a correction to the date, were agreed and signed as a True Record of that meeting. Proposed by Mr Flemming and seconded by Mrs Freund that these be adopted - ***carried***

**Matters** **Arising**

* Date correction to the minutes of the last meeting

**Secretary's Report and Correspondence**

* Nothing to report & no correspondence received

**Chairman’s Correspondence & Report**

* Nothing heard from the MSO and no other correspondence received.
* Contacted the Parish Council with a request to be allowed to resurrect a couple of ‘Tommies’ on the memorial Green. This was not approved because of traffic safety concerns, an alternative proposal was made to erect them in the cemetery which contains war graves. A War Graves Commission plaque is due to be put up at the cemetery and the Tommies could be located nearby. A decision will need to be made as to whether to follow the cemetery suggestion or, alternatively, to keep for occasional use e.g. Remembrance Day, rather than using a permanent location.
* The Chairman has organised the RBL pop-up gazebo for the centenary celebrations and the Village Fete.

**Treasurers Report**

* The Treasurer confirmed that we had £2767.14 in our deposit account in London and £1856.65 in our current account as at 3rd April 2023. A copy of the Accounts was handed to the Committee. Proposed by Miss Kitchen and Seconded by Mr Bretherton. Carried.

**Membership Report**

* Mrs Friend has attended training for Membership Secretaries. It was noted that RBL records appear to be out of date regarding receipt of subscriptions

**Centenary Planning**

* It was confirmed that Sunday 23rd July will be used to mark the branches Centenary
* There will be an Act of Remembrance and a short service at the Memorial Green at 1200. This will be followed by gathering at The Cock for BBQ & live music.
* 2 ‘Tommies’ in silhouette will be purchased but their use & location is to be confirmed.
* Mr McCafferty has contacted the County Chairman for the load of either the pop-up tent for the trailer, this has been confirmed.
* A Bagpipe player & a Bugler will be in attendance & an approach will be made to the village Choir.
* If possible flower boxes will be in place and planted up before these celebrations
* Miss Rainbow will organise the sale of RBL merchandise, at the Cock after the main event

**Any Other Business**

* The committee were requested to collect prizes for the Tombola at the Village Fete, these can be passed to the Secretary
* Miss Rainbow is a Branch Support Officer and has produced a leaflet for us to hand out during the Fete to interested parties.
* Emailing members was not very successful therefore mailouts will continue to be the preferred method of contacting members.
* Discussion of the Branch Website to be carried over to the next meeting

**Next Meeting**

**The next meeting to take place on the 8th May 2023** **at 7.00** at Cripps House, The Ridings.

Meeting terminated at 19.47 pm Signed …………………………. (Chair)