Royal British Legion

Falkland Islands Branch

Committee Meeting Minutes.

31st March 2014

Present: Liam Shelbourne (Chairman)
Pam Budd (Vice Chairman)
Keith Biles (Secretary)
Annie Bailey (Treasurer)
Dave Lewis (Poppy Co-ordinator)
Kathy Biles (Welfare)
Pam Lewis (Welfare)
Bob French (Media Co-ordinator)

Apologies for Absence: John & Sarah Maskell-Bott.

1. The Minutes of the meeting of 25th February 2014 were reviewed and certified as being correct.

2. Matters arising from February meeting:

   - The arrangements for the scattering of ashes on 4th May from HMS CLYDE have been progressed and the ashes are en route.

   - Dave Lewis has not been able to obtain any further information regarding the history of the Branch from Bob Fiddes. The original certificate establishing the Branch has been found and forwarded by Ken Greenland. The certificate will be copied and displayed in the Pinn Inn.

   - Dave Lewis will continue the research for details of the various Chairmen, and report back to the committee.

   - Air Commodore Russell La Forte, CBE MA BA RAF has agreed to act as the Branch Honorary President.

   - As all prospective wreath purchasers have responded to e-mails, the proposed advert. Canvassing orders has not been placed. The bulk wreath order has now been placed with UK.

   - The “Pie & Peas” evening was deemed a great success with some 40 persons attending, and raising £100 for Branch funds. It is understood that the bar takings for the evening were approximately £350. The Committee wished to record their thanks to the MPC Music Club, the Hillside Chefs, Mark Brook and Branch members who served behind the bar on the night.

3. Chairman's report:

    - The bench which is being donated by Morrisons is currently being shipped. Thanks are recorded to Phoenix Solutions for providing the detailed plans for submission to the Lands Committee, and the Planning Committee.

    - In accordance with the wishes of the Branch, as determined at the last informal meeting, the Ballot paper for an elected Trustee of the Legion was completed in favor of Mr. John Underhill, and submitted to UK by the Chairman.

    - The £200 being held to purchase a new TV will no longer be required and will be applied to Branch general funds. Thanks were recorded to the Sea Cadet Unit, now being disbanded, for the donation of a large format TV and also wall plaques for the Pinn Inn bar.

    - The MTW Recovery Section at MPC was responsible for raising £220 for the Poppy Appeal, and this will be applied to that account.

    - A letter of thanks has been received from Charlie Carty MBE for the hospitality shown to him and other visiting Welsh Guard veterans during their recent return to the Islands, by the Branch members, and specifically Frank and Vera Leyland. .

4. Secretary's report:

    - The application form for accreditation of our delegate to the Annual Conference (John Maskell-Bott) has been sent to UK by e-mail, as well as the details required for attendance at the Members' Forum.

    - The Queen's Birthday Parade was briefly discussed. None of the ex-service organisations have been invited to take part, and it is not anticipated that this position should change.

5. Treasurer's report:

    - The Poppy Appeal funds have been remitted back to H.O., and receipt has been acknowledged with thanks.

    - Membership affiliation fees as invoiced have been remitted to H.O., although the statement received does not balance. The Treasurer will investigate further.

    - A cheque for £170.59 has been received from FIC as proceeds of their "Green Token" scheme. This sum will be placed to general funds.

6. Any Other Business:

    - We have been offered the opportunity to utilize the visiting Military Bands during the weekend of the Queen's Birthday Parade. Because the Easter weekend coincides with the Queen's Birthday, it was thought appropriate that a low key concert on Thursday 17th April could be held, possibly in the Town Hall, however, the bands and the Town Hall are not available on that date.
    - The new Poppy Appeal information pack has been received, and will be actioned by the Chairman.

7. The next meeting of the Committee has been provisionally fixed for 6.30 p.m. on 28th April 2014.

Keith Biles.
Secretary.