



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Patron H.M the Queen

Registered Charity Number 219279

Amesbury Branch (BR2562)

MINUTES OF AMESBURY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 19th October 2011

PRESENT

Chairman	Mr. N de Foubert	(NdF)
Secretary \ Standard Bearer	Mr. PR Smith	(PS)
Treasurer\ Membership Secretary	Mr. G Southwell	(GS)
Welfare Officer	Mr. J Swindlehurst	(JoS)
Assistant Welfare Officer	Mr. C Burden	(CB)
Area Poppy Organizer	Ms. P Gamble	(PG)
Deputy Area Poppy Organizer	Mrs. J Swindlehurst	(JaS)
Area Poppy Treasurer	Mrs. M Hughes	(MH)
Fundraising Coordinator	Mr. T Pryor-Jones	(TPJ)
Branch Member	Mr. R Ellis	(RE)
Branch Member	Mr. I Hurrell	(IH)
Branch Member	Mr. N Estlick	(NE)
Branch Member	Mr. M Browning	(MB)
Branch Member	Mr. J Neate	(JN)
Branch Member	Mr. M Pattenden	(MP)
Branch Member	Mr. J Keenan	(JK)
Branch Member	Mr. R Hughes	(RH)

1. Exhortation

The Exhortation was read by the Chairman and a respectful silence was observed.

2. Apologies

President	Brig AJM Durcan
Branch Member	Mr. M Kingaby
Branch Member	Mrs. A Bowerman
Branch Member	Mrs. C Hillier
Branch Member	Ms. L Gamble
Branch Member	Mr. P Tuston
Branch Member	

3. Chairman's Welcoming Comments

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19:35hrs and welcomed all present.

4. Minutes of Previous AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM were read by the Secretary & were proposed as true and accurate by **Mr. R Gamble** this was seconded by **Mr. T Pryor-Jones**

Vote "For" was unanimous.

Decision –**Carried**

5. President's Address / Chairman's Report

The Chairman advised it had been a very active year & good progress had been made.

General We have had an active year setting in place several milestones; we have further challenges ahead; the trial Remembrance Day Service and parade, Curry Lunch and BBQ in 2012. I'm optimistic that these events that will raise the Branch's profile will attract further ex-servicemen/women to join.

Welfare Committee This relatively newly formed subcommittee has proved to be enormously successful; I extend my gratitude to this proactive committee for their robust support.

Poppy Appeal Committee This subcommittee works diligently throughout the year preparing and concluding their activities without a murmur! This year they have proposed additional fund raising activities which can only benefit overall the RBL and particularly raise the Branches profile further. Their achievements have not gone unnoticed.

Secretarial Our Secretarial 'department' has proved increasingly efficient and proactive in setting sound foundations for the future. Our Branch web site is proving hugely beneficial in both advertising our presence and providing excellent feedback to enquiries. Our policy documents, meeting dates and committee personalities all appear within the site. E-mail is proving to be an essential tool; we strive to enable Members to seek this means of support thus reducing our overheads.

Fundraising Another area, which with enthusiasm, energy and good humor has embedded 'itself' within the Branch. Whilst a 'one-man' subcommittee (at present) this initiative is proving itself most worthwhile.

Membership Our Membership remains somewhat static, in spite of an increase this year, we intend to make a major drive to improve on our 'steady state'. I have referred to the means above, however it is the Branch Membership that can do most to improve this situation. We must also encourage cash paying subscribers to change to Direct Debit; again reducing general administrative overheads.

Your support The past 12 months have witnessed several major changes in our administrative and operational procedures; there are just a few more to come, but I wish to extend my appreciation to all Members for providing me and your committee/sub committee's with your full continued support and dedication. In certain instances I know this has been difficult; but please continue to bear with me and I'm confident we can return our Branch to its previous high prestige.

6. Secretary's Report

- Bob Gamble held the post until August, with Paul Smith in supporting role, from August Paul took the lead with Bob mentoring as required.
- There have been "Five" Branch Meetings since last AGM held on 29th Dec 2010
- Minutes have been distributed via e-mail where possible, made available on the Branch Website & also via post to members known not to have e-mail / Web access.
- A Branch website has been created <http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/amesbury>
- Next Branch meeting will be on 4th January

7. Area Poppy Organizer's Report

- Poppies boxed & ready to be distributed
- RBL "Memorabilia" will be on sale in the town Centre only.
- Planning for "collectors" complete
- Counting will take place Tue 15th Nov at 1800hrs in "The George Hotel"

9. Electing the “Officers” of the Branch

Election of Chairman

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
N de Foubert	Mr. M Browning	Ms. P Gamble	17	Elected

Election of Vice – Chairman

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
R Gamble	Mr. M Browning	Mr. M Pattenden	17	Elected

Election of Secretary

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
P Smith	Mrs. J Swindlehurst	Mrs. M Hughes	17	Elected

Election of Treasurer

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
G Southwell	Mr. M Browning	Mr. B Gamble	17	Elected

10. Electing the Branch Committee for the ensuing year

Election of Welfare Officer

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
J Swindlehurst	Mr. N Estlick	Ms. P Gamble	17	Elected

Election of “Assistant” Welfare Officer

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
R Ellis	Mrs. J Swindlehurst	Mr. T Pryor-Jones	17	Elected

Election of Membership Secretary

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
G Southwell	Mr. N de Foubert	Mr. N Estlick	17	Elected

Election of “Assistant” Membership Secretary

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
B Hughes	Mr. M Browning	Mr. M Pattenden	17	Elected

Election of Area Poppy Organizer

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
P Gamble	Mr. T Pryor-Jones	Mrs. J Swindlehurst	17	Elected

Election of “Deputy” Area Poppy Organizer

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
Jan Swindlehurst	Mr. M Browning	Mr. C Burden	17	Elected

Election of Area Poppy Treasurer

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
M Hughes	Mr. R Gamble	Mr. M Browning	17	Elected

Election of Branch Fund Raising Coordinator

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
T Pryor-Jones	Mr. C Burden	Ms. P Gamble	17	Elected

Election of Property Member

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
R Gamble	Mr. R Ellis	Mr. T Pryor-Jones	17	Elected

11. Appointment of the Branch Standard Bearer.

Nominees	Proposed by	Seconded by	Votes received	Decision
P Smith	Mr. N de Foubert	Mrs. M Hughes	17	Elected

12. AOB

Annual Report

The Chairman advised he would be producing an annual report & a copy would be sent to County so they would be fully aware of the achievements of the Branch.

Property Book

Bob Gamble agreed to take on the responsibilities of "Property Member", the Chairman issued a pre-prepared "Property Book" to Bob, Bob issued property to branch members in exchange for a signature.

Curry Lunch

Tickets are £10 each for Curry or there is an Alternative (chicken) and Vegetarian Option

Cash tonight please.

Purchase of 2.5m x 2.5m Gazebo

The purchase of quantity 2 Gazebo's was authorized.

RBL Annual Conference

The Branch Members were asked if they would like to attend the RBL annual conference, no one felt the need to attend.

Membership Council Election

The Branch Members were asked if they would to put themselves forward to be a member of the RBL Membership council, no one volunteered.

13. Remembrance Parade

Parade

Nigel Estlick advised that the Parade order would be as follows:-

- RBL (All branch member who wish to March)
- RN
- RAF
- ARMY
- Air Cadets
- St John's Ambulance
- Girls Brigade
- Scouts
- Fire Brigade

There will be a Base & 2 x side drum's.

Standard Escorts

The Standard escorts were confirmed as :-

- Ms. G Gamble
- Mr. M Pattenden

Working Party

Meet at 09:00hrs

- Mr. N Estlick
- Mr. T Pryor-Jones
- Mr. J Swindlehurst
- Mr. R Ellis

14. Date of Next AGM

The next AGM will take place on 31st October 2011 at 1930hrs.

15. Chairman's objectives & closing remark's

The Chairman advised that as a Branch we had made great progress & for 2012 we should aim to increase membership & improve on the progress made in 2011.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at **21:30.hrs.**

Proposed:- Secoded:-

Voting:-

- For
- Against
- Abstentions

Approved:- Date:-