

Royal British Legion

Falkland Islands Branch

Committee Meeting Minutes. 27th January 2016.

Present: Chris Locke (Chairman)
Mark Brook (Vice Chairman and Poppy Co-ordinator)
Annie Bailey (Treasurer)
John Maskell-Bott (Welfare)
Sarah Maskell-Bott (Welfare)

Apologies for Absence: Keith Biles (Secretary), Rev Kathy Biles (Welfare), Pam Budd and Bob French.

1. The Minutes of the last committee meeting held 11th January 2016 were distributed by email, the minutes were approved by the Committee.
2. Matters arising:
 - Kathy Biles should read Rev Kathy Biles.
3. Chairman's report:
 - Arrangements for the dinner to 'Dine In' CBF as Branch President and 'Dine Out' Liam Shelbourne as the outgoing Chairman were becoming complicated; neither Darren or Liam could attend the proposed date of 5th March. The following week was also not possible due to existing commitments by some of the committee. It was decided that the evening would be rescheduled at a date to be confirmed but it was suggested that a date in the winter would be appropriate.
 - CWO Callum Mackintyre had mentioned to the Chair that he was keen to hold a Branch Quiz Night, Chair to discuss date with CWO and report back. Committee suggested a Friday night would be preferable to a Monday evening.
 - Expired Encroachment Order for use of Poppy Inn: Chair has discussed the matter with Liam during the recent handover who stated that the matter was in hand and no action would be required to chase up the new order. However the Chair noted that the existing document is now well out of date and despite a verbal agreement from COS it was felt that it would be appropriate to mention the matter to COS officially so that progress can be made before he leaves the Islands in August. ACTION: Chair to discuss with COS BFAI.
 - Treasurer confirmed enquiry by Chair that £3k in general funds was raised by local donations and with small monies accumulated from wreath surplus. Quiz night would add to this fund.
 - Social evening: 'Penguin Racing', or 'Horse Racing' evening, has been suggested for October. COS has been approached for

permission but sought further information about format of evening, proposed date and requirement for 'gambling'. Mark Brook agreed to ask HMS CLYDE for the rules and kit, Chair to ask Keith Biles regarding the gambling laws for FIG. Chair to respond to COS BFSAI.

4. Secretary's report:

- None (apologies received from the Secretary).
- Chair noted Membership payment issues. Secretary had sent a reminder that everyone needs to make final arrangements to pay their membership fees if they have not already done so. It was confirmed that if membership has been paid in the UK, no local payments are required.
- Committee noted that funds had been received for two membership applications and were to be passed to the Secretary three other new members had paid subs direct to the UK. Total of 5 new members.

5. Treasurer's report:

- Confirmed available funds are £3,050 in general account, £4,484 in Benevolent account, plus £3,270 in the Poppy Account.
- Chair asked for confirmation that the branch have three 'free of charge' fund transfers per year from Standard Chartered bank. Treasurer confirmed this.
- John Maskell-Bott asked whether the branch had made use of the subventions available from FIG, it was confirmed branch had not but that the option might be available in the future.
- Mark Brooks mentioned potential runners in the Falklands Marathon to raise funds for RBL, it was suggested that buying vests and water bottles at £50 per person for two people would be good publicity for the branch and RBL in general. Committee discussed and agreed that this would go ahead. ACTION: Mark Brook to find out numbers/sizes and order the kit in time to be delivered for 20th March.

6. Welfare.

- Nothing to report.

7. AOB

- Marco Polo cruise ship: two people on Sunday for Mark Brook, one an RNA member bringing down a wreath to lay in Stanley local area only.
- Also from Marco Polo, Mr Barry Rampton, who requested to parade the standard from his local branch is now in touch with John and Sarah Maskell-Bott who will meet him at 9am at the Public Jetty.

- Keith Biles will also be meeting the Gibraltar membership secretary.
- Picture of CWO presenting £3K cheque to Chair available to go into PN although write up yet to be drafted. Chair reported that the picture was now displayed in BFSAI HQ. Last years picture now in the Poppy Inn.
- PR Opportunities: J Maskell-Bott and new member Garry Holden (OC JMSS/STONFI BFSAI), recently discovered they joined the RN on the same day and are members of this branch. Ceramic Poppy from Tower of London could be presented to the Museum by the Branch at the Poppy Ball.
- Conference: John and Sarah Maskell-Bott happy to go on 21st May in Eastbourne but Keith will need to complete delegate and visitor nomination paperwork. Overseas Forum on the Friday is valuable to attend and keeps the Falkland Islands branch profile raised. Mark Brook mentioned that it would be necessary to get confirmation that no other members want to go.
- Discussion on when is best for committee meeting, week before social monthly works best.

8. The next meeting of the Committee to be Thursday 3rd March at 19:30 at the Poppy Inn.

Chris Locke.
Chairman.