

Royal British Legion

Falkland Islands Branch

Committee Meeting Minutes. 8th January 2018.

Present: Chris Locke (Chairman)
Mark Brook (Vice Chairman and Poppy Co-ordinator)
Annie Bailey (Treasurer)
Lee Martin
Lisa Martin (Social Secretary)
Dave Lewis
Nancy Locke (Secretary)

Apologies for Absence: Keith Biles, John & Sarah Maskell-Bott, Bob French

1. The draft Minutes of the last committee meeting held on 9th October 2017 were approved.
2. Matters arising:
 - CBF has accepted the position as Branch President.
 - Encroachment order still pending
 - Old £1 coins were exchanged in the UK by Mr & Mrs Bob Harris and reimbursed to Poppy Appeal, funds to the value of £60.00.
 - Receipt noted of Ceremonial Union Flag donated by the Chairman, approval was agreed for payment of £300 for remaining ceremonial items.
3. Chairman's report:
 - Happy New Year and welcome to the new Committee members Mr. David Lewis (Committee Member), Mr. Lee Martin (Treasurer Desig), Mrs. Lisa Martin (Social Sec) and Mrs Nancy Locke (Secretary).
 - Liam Shelbourne, who is on the air bridge this Friday, sends his best wishes to the Committee and Branch as he will be away from the Islands for some time. The Committee wanted to officially record their thanks for all his work and wish him well during his time in the UK. Liam said he intends to contact his local branch in Liverpool with hopefully opening an affiliation with the FI Branch.
 - RAF100 Baton relay may come to the Falkland Islands during 2018. The Branch have offered their support through the Chairman.
 - Potentially a number of VIPs will be visiting in March, Mark will be arranging wreaths as per request. Chairman has also been asked to lay a wreath for RFA personnel in March and in addition there may be requirement to lay an RBL wreath.
 - Christmas cards were received from John & Sarah Maskell-Bott and RBL Headquarters.
 - National Banners for Falkland Islands Branch – Chairman showed an example and the Committee agreed to go ahead with a Falkland Islands version.

4. Vice Chairman's Report

- Remembrance/Battle Day all successful for wreath laying.
- £13,000 receipt from Poppy Appeal and thanks received from Headquarters.
- Supply of wreaths to BFSAI and to Darwin House.
- Mark Brook will get a new order for wreaths in good time with a stock request from sources needing them.
- Poppy Tin recently received from a cruise ship, still to account plus Fox Bay, Hill Cove and the year round tins.
- Children's School Poppy boxes arrived after Remembrance Day so will be used for this year's Appeal. Camp children will be included next season.

5. Secretary's report:

- Nothing to report although new Secretary now has access to the webmail. A full hand over will be undertaken during the month.

6. Treasurer's report:

- £13,162.45 sent for Poppy Appeal, higher than official receipt for 2017 (£10k) because MPA receipt covered previous year. Thank you has been received from Headquarters.
- No outstanding payments for wreaths.
- No payments to make as no bills received.
- Written to JK Marine, Dragon Fishing for sponsorship and Jo Turner who raised funds through their shops. FIC green tokens still to be received.
- Lifestyles/RBC still to remit their Poppy Appeal donation, Secretary will send a reminder.
- Treasurer reported healthy account balances.
Chairman thanked Annie Bailey for all her hard work as Treasurer and for her contribution to the branch and the Committee. It will be necessary to have an EGM (statutory notice of three weeks prior to meeting) to elect and hand over to Lee Martin. Next meeting will be 5th February, handover to mutual convenience thereafter.

7. Social Secretary's Report:

- Lisa has a number of ideas regarding social events although will be focusing this year on Armed Forces Day which falls 30th June. Afternoon session could be for all ages say 2 – 5pm with activities that children could do with buy in from MPC, SAMA etc. Hot dogs/ice cream etc. Evening element maybe fundraising event i.e. quiz night bring your own or bar at FIDF or curry night. Maybe hosted at FIDF, need to find out if they will help. Need to liaise with BFSAI to see whether they are doing something on that day. Lee is trying to register on the Armed Forces website.
- Chicken in the bucket or Fish & Chips night or formal dining in night could be a later date in the calendar.

8. Welfare report.

- Nothing to report.

9. AOB

- Chairman Thanked Mark Brook for stepping in at the last minute for laying wreath on 8th December in Chairman's absence.
- GP90: Branch will not be able to attend unless either a donation for costs is received from the UK or alternative arrangements can be made through the MoD regarding flights etc. However it has been confirmed that a number of overseas branches have committed. More details to follow when known.
- PN contact details will be changed on appointment of the new Treasurer.
- Greater coverage for publicity of branch meetings can be through FITV and BFBS bulletin boards.
- Veterans cards: Lee Martin reported that approval has been given in the UK for a new scheme where companies will be able to offer discounts to veterans. 'V' will be marked on driving license for 2.5m people in the UK, otherwise a stand alone ID card will be issued. Lee Martin will run keep the Committee updated.

10. The next meeting of the Committee to be 5th February at 6.30pm.

Chris Locke
Chairman