Royal British Legion

Falkland Islands Branch

Committee Meeting Minutes

6th May 2019

Agenda Item	Actions
Present: Chris Locke, Nancy Locke, Abby Poynter, Keith Biles, Richard Hyslop, Mark Brook and Tamsin Harris. **Apologies:** Dave Lewis, John and Sarah Maskell-Bott, Bob French.	
Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed as a true and accurate account.	
Matters arising: Chris Locke apologised for there being no meeting in April and confirmed the meetings will now be monthly. Chris Locke said he still hadn't spoken with the new Commander British Forces about the role of President of the Branch and confirmed he would be making contact. Mark Brook confirmed the TV box referred to in previous minutes, is at Hillside where it is registered to. Chris Locke has spoken with Justin at FIDF on an informal basis regarding the parade on Remembrance Sunday and he too is keen to see it happen so will Chris will now make a formal suggestion. Nothing has been done as yet about a leaving event for WO Cliff who goes back to the UK on 15th June. This may now be weaved in to another get together for new members of the Branch.	Chris Locke. Chris Locke. Chris Locke.

Keith Biles has offered to copy the DVD referred to in the previous minutes and Chris will action the forwarding of the content to FITV on his return from the UK. Chris Locke reminded everyone to please use their assigned Office 365 RBL emails. Tamsin Harris said she would speak to the Military Photographer to see if he could take a picture of Chris Locke laying the wreath at Landing Day. It is confirmed that John and Sarah Maskell-Bott are going to the conference.	Keith Biles. Chris Locke. All. Tamsin Harris.
Chairman's Report: No updated news to report, but Chris Locke will be representing the Branch on Landing Day at San Carlos.	Chris Locke.
Vice Chairman's Report: All wreaths have arrived and have been delivered to outside agencies, except Government House. Abby Poynter is handing the invoices. Mark Brook has ordered a further 12 so we have wreaths in hand. They can be held over for next year if necessary. He's received a couple of requests for Liberation Day already. He also received a very short notice request a few weeks ago from a fishing boat, a request that came in late at night. Lewis Clifton subsequently made a donation after the request was fulfilled. All £1 coins were changed while Mark was in the UK, resulting in an added £25.	
Secretary's Report: Tamsin Harris confirmed she has now cleared the Secretary inbox on the email system having managed to access the Office 365 system. She confirmed she can't go to San Carlos on Landing Day so will asked the MOD Photographer to take a picture of Chris Locke laying the wreath. This will be for an item to go in the Overseas Newsletter.	Tamsin Harris.
Membership Secretary's Report:	

Richard Hyslop confirmed he is finally on top of the membership with all money paid over and old members who had lapsed being reinstated. The Branch has 71 members. One person handed in renewal money, but isn't listed as a member anywhere, so he will sign her up and use the money as a membership payment. Around 20 more members have joined in the space of the last year. It was suggested it might be good to host a 'new members' event to welcome them. Some have transferred their memberships from UK. Chris Locke agreed this was a good idea and it was agreed that this should happen on Monday 1st July and be a sandwiches, cake and beer type gathering. Chris Locke said that it had been an ongoing project for a year to try and sort out the membership and offered his wholehearted thanks to Richard and Keith Biles for their efforts. He said it was now important to keep the membership list up to date, not an easy task when the Branch doesn't receive notifications from the RBL about new members. It was then suggested John Maskell-Bott should bring this up at the Overseas Forum and Chris agreed to call him while he is in the UK.	Richard Hyslop. Chris Locke. John Maskell-Bott.
Treasurer's Report: Abby Poynter confirmed the membership money has now been transferred across and thanked Richard Hyslop. Mark had a request from the bank asking for a copy of our financial statement. It was decided Abby needed to send them the short version of the annual accounts.	
Welfare Report: There have been no calls on the welfare team.	
Any Other Business: Chris Locke said he has received an email today from Marvin Clark regarding Jimmy Smith. His Funeral to be on the Wednesday afternoon of this week. Keith Biles agreed to represent the RBL as Mr Smith was a long standing member. Veterans card; it's been agreed that ex serving personnel be entitled to a Veterans Card. Those leaving now will be given one automatically. Those who left before 2018 will need to	Keith Biles.

apply for it, and towards the end of the year. It provides people with an ID card that proves they served in the Armed Forces. This is more applicable to the UK.	
Bar committee: Chris Locke reported that we're in a difficult situation at the moment. Chris has heard from Graham Fairweather (at Chat and Chew) that Neil Russel has resigned, but has received nothing formal confirming this. However, he has seen an email forwarded by Graham, asking Neil Russel to confirm the situation and whether he will stock the bar until end of year and do the end of year accounts. Chris said he was upset as the committee couldn't get in to the bar as they don't have keys. Chris will make an approach to Neil Russel to ask if he is resigning..	Chris Locke.
Chris then proposed the committee invite a member of the bar committee to join this group so there can be clear liaison and dialogue.	Chris Locke.
Neil 'Rus' Russel is the Chair, Graham Fairweather is Bar Manager, Lyn Brownlee is Secretary, Karen Drysdale is Treasurer.	
Richard Hyslop asked for confirmation of the membership status of the above named.	Chris Locke.
Chris Locke said he wished to congratulate Richard Hyslop on his appointment as Suki's replacement and proposed that he remains on the committee, as in his new position he may be able to further help and support the RBL. Richard confirmed he was happy to do this. Nancy Locke said he would do the local work with regard to membership.	Nancy Locke.
Chris Locke said on the subject of Bob French he had no clear idea of what is happening with him, though he understands he has now sold his house. Chris said he would send him an email asking what was happening.	Chris Locke.
Mark Brooke said he hoped to have sorted the 'standard' situation with RNA and this should mean he would be able to carry our standard. It was agreed that there needed to be a second bearer and it was further agreed to ask John Whitby to be reserve to Mark as the number one bearer.	Chris Locke.
Richard Hyslop said he had done some research and our Branch was established in November 1993. We therefore missed our Silver Anniversary. He also referred to Armed Forces Day on Saturday 29th June and suggested we could perhaps have a short service in the Cathedral with a focus on	

those who are currently serving, and maybe with drinks afterwards. They do have a reception at Government House. Richard is happy to take the lead in arranging it and Tamsin Harris said she would provide any secretarial support was that was needed. Richard said he would speak to Government House to see if they could plan together and to check their guest list. Richard will circulate the RBL's order of service to check everyone is happy with it. Nancy Locke said she was happy to run with organising everything that needs doing for the event on 1st July. Abby Poynter said if people are banking money to please make it clear what it is for or it takes some working out.	Richard Hyslop. Nancy Locke. All.
Date of the next meeting: The next meeting will be at 6.30pm on Monday 3rd June when Armed Forces Day will be discussed and there will be preliminary talks about the 2019 Poppy Ball. Tamsin Harris has already offered her apologies. To note: the Poppy Inn will be open on Liberation Day, Friday 14th June, from 1300 to 1700.	
Meeting closed: The meeting closed at 19.53.	