

Minutes of the 26th Annual Conference of West Lancashire County of the Royal British Legion held at 208 Field Hospital, Chavasse House, Liverpool on Saturday 19th January 2019

Officers and Guests in Attendance

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| Lt Col A Hollingsworth | County President |
| Maj Gen D Jolliffe | Legion Trustee |
| Mr W Sergeant | County Vice Chairman |
| Mr W Martin | Membership Support Officer |
| Ms D Harding | Area Manager |
| Mrs D Hooper | Membership Council |
| Mrs E Kenny | Cheshire County WS Chairman |

1. Act of Homage and opening prayers

The Conference stood for the customary Act of Homage given by the County President, remembering all absent friends and in particular Ian Ferguson Secretary of Culcheth Branch, Kath Slater Women's Section County Committee and Malcolm Stewart Speke Branch Poppy Organiser; we also acknowledge all who have passed away since our last conference.

2. Opening Prayers

Opening Prayer was conducted by Ken Ward.

3. Welcome by Host

Maj Mick Jesermino welcomed the Civic Guests, County Committee, Guest Speakers and Delegates to 208 Field Hospital and wished them a successful and enjoyable conference.

The County Vice Chairman thanked him for his kind words of welcome to 208 Field Hospital and for their hospitality.

4. Civic Welcome

The Lord Mayor of Liverpool Cllr Christine Banks had great pleasure in welcoming all members of the Conference to the City of Liverpool and thanked the Committee for inviting her to attend. She then went on to praise the Legion for the work it carries out on behalf of the Serving and ex service community. She also expressed a wish that we would have a successful conference.

The County Vice Chairman thanked The Lord Mayor for her kind words of welcome to Liverpool and asked before she left if she would present some prizes.

5. Awards

The Graeme Bryson Trophy for Branch Efficiency and Progress

Winner Formby Branch

The Chairman's Cup Poppy Appeal Largest % Increase (3 Yrs)

Winner Boro of Crosby Branch

Runner up East Liverpool Branch

Special Awards Poppy Appeal

Largest Collection Southport Branch

Largest Cash Increase Boro of Crosby Branch

The Percy Hey Silk Flag for Increased Membership

Winner Widnes Branch

Runner up Rainhill Branch

The Harry Scarisbrick Trophy for Youth Endeavour

Winners Maritime Cadets Formby

County Certificate of Appreciation

Widnes Branch

Mr R Burgess Netherley Branch

Mrs B Robbins Leigh Branch

Mr J McGreal Netherley Branch

Mr A McDonough Netherley Branch

National Awards

Ron Lewis National Certificate of Appreciation

John Gaffney National Certificate of Appreciation

Ken Ward Gold Badge

6. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from the following:

County Chairman Mr J Ryan
Mr A Miller
Mr D Morgan
Mr H Slater

Mr C Goulbourne
Mr D Quinn
Mr V Cassidy
Mrs I Cassidy

7. Loyal Greetings

The Conference stood whilst the MSO read out the letter of loyal greeting sent to Her Majesty The Queen and the reply which reads:

Please convey my warm thanks to the Committee and Members of the West Lancashire County of the Royal British Legion for their kind message of loyal greetings sent on the occasion of their Annual Conference which is being held today at Chavasse House, Liverpool.

As your patron, I much appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing as you did and, in return, send my best wishes to all concerned for a most enjoyable and successful event.

8. Presidential Address

The President addressed Conference.

At this point The County Vice Chairman thanked the Lord Mayor of Liverpool. She then left the conference.

9. Appointment of Scrutineers

There was no need to appoint Scrutineers.

10. Minutes of the County Annual Conference 2018

The minutes of the County Annual Conference held at Netherley RBL Club on Saturday 20th January 2018 were accepted as a true record of the proceedings.

Proposed by Netherley Branch
Seconded by Ashton In Makerfield Branch

Motion Carried

11. County Chairman's Report

There was no Chairman's Report due to his absence.

12. County Reports

The Membership Support Officer presented the County Annual Report to the Conference which is attached at Annex B. He also gave a report on Branch Community Support.

The County Parade Marshall presented the Ceremonial Report and presented the most improved Standard Bearer Ken Ward Formby Branch with an award.

The County Treasurer presented the Financial Report to the Conference.

The Vice Chairman asked that all reports be adopted.

Proposed by Huyton Branch
Seconded by Leigh Branch

Motion Carried

13. Adoption of County Accounts

The County Accounts were distributed with the agenda there was no questions from the floor. It was proposed they be accepted subject to Audit.

Proposed by Netherley Branch
Seconded by Southport Branch

Motion Carried

14. Appointment of Auditors

It was proposed that a local Independent Examiner be appointed auditor for the County Accounts.

Proposed by County Committee
Seconded by Huyton Branch

Motion Carried

15. Adoption of County Plan

Copies of the County Plan have been distributed with the agenda there were no comments from the floor.

Proposed by Netherley Branch
Seconded by Boro of Crosby Branch

Motion Carried

16. Appointment of County Delegate for National Conference

It was proposed that the County Chairman should represent the County at National Conference.

Proposed by County Committee
Seconded by Ashton in Makerfield Branch

Motion Carried

17. Area Managers Report

Ms Debbie Harding the interim Area Manager addressed Conference

a. Membership Council Report

Mrs Dylis Hooper Membership Council Representative for Cheshire & Merseyside addressed Conference.

b. Community Fundraiser Report

Ms Alison Mowlem Community Fundraiser Merseyside addressed Conference.

18. Venue for Conference 2019

The Conference Committee decided the 2020 County Conference would be held on Saturday 18th January 2020 at a Lathom & Burscough Royal British Legion Club.

19. Elections County Committee

The Vice Chairman informed delegates that the County Committee has 7 vacancies due to retirements, 6 members have been nominated for election by Branches. All are elected unopposed.

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| Mr P Doyle | Huyton with Roby |
| Mr E Flaherty | East Liverpool |
| Mrs M Miller | Formby |
| Ms L Taggart | East Liverpool |

20. County Conference Committee

The Vice Chairman informed the delegates that the County Conference Committee has 3 vacancies, 2 members have been nominated for election by Branches. All are elected unopposed.

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| Mr P Doyle | Huyton with Roby |
| Mr H Slater | Maghull |
| Ms L Taggart | East Liverpool |

21. National Conference Committee

There were no nominations for this committee.

22. Address to Conference by Guest Speakers

Maj Gen David Jolliffe RBL Trustee addressed Conference.

Mr W Sergeant the Chairman of the County Conference Committee proposed a vote of thanks for all our Guest Speakers, for their excellent addresses to the Conference and on behalf of the County wished them all a safe journey home.

23. Raffle & Donations to Byng House

A raffle was held in which £190 was raised for Byng House.

24. Motions

The following motion was debated.

This Conference requests the BoT to change the format for ticket allocation for the Festival of Remembrance to the same as agreed by Resolution 94 at National Conference in 1963 & Resolution 17/18 at National Conference in 1986 and the cost of the Ticket as agreed by Resolution 1 at National Conference in 2003 as these previous resolutions have never been rescinded.

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| Proposed by | Ashton in Makerfield Branch |
| Seconded by | Widnes Branch |

Motion Carried

25. Destruction of Ballot Papers

There were no Ballot Papers to destroy.

26. Ceremonial Handover of the County Standard

The County President conducted the handover of the County Standard to the winner of the County Competition, Mr E Flaherty East Liverpool Branch

27. Vote of Thanks

The County Vice Chairman Mr W Sergeant, moved a vote of thanks for our guest speakers and to 208 Field Hospital for their assistance in the organisation of this years County Conference, he also thanked all the delegates, Parade Marshall and Standard Bearers and guests who attended.

28. Close of Conference

In closing the conference, the Vice Chairman thanked the County Committee and all Branches within the County for their support during the year and wished everybody a safe journey home. He then asked the Conference to stand for the National Anthem.

Conference Closed at 16.05hrs