Royal British Legion

Falkland Islands Branch

Committee Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom on Monday 4th May 2020

Agenda Item	
Present: Chris Locke, Nancy Locke, Richard Hyslop, Keith Biles, Mark Brook, Abby Poynter, Bob French, Tamsin Harris. **Apologies:** Maeve Daly-Llamosa, John Maskell-Bott and Sarah Maskell-Bott.	
Minutes of the last meeting: Thanks to Nancy for producing the notes in the absence of Tamsin Harris. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.	
Matters arising: It was noted that the plans for a Quiz Night and the VE celebrations are cancelled because of the lock down. It was agreed this was a shame, but understandable.	
Chairman's Report: Chris Locke remarked on how great it was that the Committee could meet via Zoom, allowing members from the Falklands and the UK to take part. He said it was particularly great to see Bob French. He suggested once the lockdown was relaxed that we held a Zoom meeting every two months, with a meeting at the Poppy Inn in between. Chris Locke said he'd had confirmation from the RBL in the UK of a 2 minute silence on Friday 8th May at 11am to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of the war in Europe (VE Day). He had asked the Falkland Government if this could be observed within the islands. This was subsequently given MLA approval. People will be encouraged to take part wherever they are and to think of the 75th anniversary and of the people who have died during the current pandemic.	
Vice-Chairman's Report: The order for wreaths is with the RBL, but because of the current situation they will be sent as soon as is possible. Mark Brook reported there are enough wreaths in the store to get through the season, but people should note that what we've got is all we've got.	

Secretary's Report: Tamsin Harris thanked Nancy Locke for her ongoing support as she has had to return to the UK while the current crisis is managed. She said it was good to see everyone and welcomed the use of Zoom.	
Membership Secretary's Report: With Maeve Daly-Llamosa not available for the meeting there was nothing to report.	
Treasurer's Report: Abby Poynter said only one amount had been banked and that was a payment with regard to overseas membership. A £1,000 donation has come from the Poppy Inn and thanks were offered to the Bar Committee. It was confirmed there is enough money in the Poppy Account to refund Poppy Ball tickets.	
Welfare Fund Report: The committee discussed whether it was too late to go out to the community to say we're here and there's a fund if needed. It was felt this was especially relevant to those who've been told they've got to remain in lock down. Chris Locke will action to pass this information on.	**CL**
Any Other Business: Chris Locke thanked Richard Hyslop for joining the meeting via Zoom. Richard confirmed he had set up a 40th Anniversary Committee in the UK and that he is chairing it. He said the committee had had their first meeting and a paper has already gone to the Falkland Island Government. A series of national and regional events are being organised for the anniversary focussed on commemorating the sacrifices made in 1982 and acknowledging every aspect of the war. The Anniversary Committee will coordinate all events, including those being organised separately by other organisations and individuals. Another aim of 2022 is to give younger people a better appreciation of what happened. Mark Brook reminded people to get in touch if they needed wreaths, while stocks last. Chris Locke said Elsa Heathman had emailed to confirm that this year's Landing Day commemorations were going to be a very scaled down event. A small number of invited guests will attend and the FIDF have offered to lay a wreath on our behalf. Chris is going to question why one representative of the committee can't attend. The Liberation Day events and the May Ball have also	**All** **CL**

been cancelled or limited. Nancy Locke reminded people that early Poppy Ball preparations would have begun by now, and asked whether we should consider it a casualty of the lock down. Keith Biles said it was a long way off so perhaps the committee could consider a smaller event nearer the time. Chris Locke proposed that the RBL pay for the Zoom link at £15 a month and there was general agreement. Nancy Locke mentioned the Tea Party that was going to be hosted at the Poppy Inn on Friday 8th May and suggested the community be invited to run their own tea parties in their own homes instead. The idea was warmly received. *Post meeting note.* *The Chairman attended a short service on Friday 8th May in the Cathedral followed by 2 minutes silence at 1100 and wreath laying at the Cross of Sacrifice to mark VE Day. He took the RBL Standard to both events which were officiated by the Rev. Ian Faulds and attended by a small number of FIG Officials, OC FIDF and Church Council members. The service and wreath lying was televised live by FITV and available on U Tube.* *Nancy's proposal for a community wide tea party and a competition to dress windows was taken up by the FIG Volunteers Leader and a press release sent out Island wide.*	**All** **CL** **NL**
Date and time of the next meeting: Monday 1st June at 5.30pm (Falkland time) and via Zoom. Chris Locke is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: RBL Committee meeting Time: Jun 1, 2020 05:30 PM Atlantic/Stanley	