

Royal British Legion

Falkland Islands Branch

Committee Meeting Minutes

11th December 2020

Agenda Item:	Actions:
Present: Chris Locke, Nancy Locke, Becky Rees, John and Sarah Maskell-Bott, Keith Biles, Tamsin Harris, Bob French, Dave Lewis, Mark Brook.	
Apologies: Richard Hyslop, Maeve Daly-Llamosa,	
Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes were accepted and signed as a true and accurate record.	
Matters arising: John and Sarah Maskell-Bott are going to look in to virtual training, but haven't as yet.	John and Sarah Maskell-Bott
Chairman's Report: Chris Locke reported it was a very successful Poppy Ball and thanked everyone who helped organise and run the event. He said it was one of the best we've staged and that perhaps having a few less guests (10 less than normal) meant the night felt less cramped and he felt, run better – something to consider for next year. He also reported that the AGM was a success and thanked Becky for taking over as Treasurer. The retiring CBF didn't turn up which was a shame, but Chris has spoken to the new CBF, Commodore Jonathan Lett, who has agreed to take over as our Honorary President. Chris says he hopes he will attend the meeting in January. The Poppy Appeal Account stands at just under £5,000. Becky and Chris will organise sending it off to the UK	Chris Locke and Becky Rees

however they're just waiting for the 'Pennies for Poppies' donation from IJS before forwarding.

Chris reported he had received an email from Squadron Leader Jon Pullen regarding a cook book the RBL are producing to mark the RBL's 100th anniversary. We are being asked to help choose a 'local hero' and an associated recipe. At present the RBL have chosen Lieutenant Commander David Morgan, a pilot during the '82 Falklands War. Chris said this was fantastic, but that he wasn't really a hero local to the Falkland Islands. He suggested his story could be used by the Dorset Branch where David Morgan lives. There then followed a discussion about local heroes, including Trudy McFee, the woman with the white gloves, Patrick Watts and Anton Livermore. It was decided to talk about it further at the Curry Night following the meeting. With regard to the recipe, it was agreed to contact Arlette Betts. The copy is needed by Christmas.

All

Vice Chairman's Report:

Mark Brook reported everything is in order for wreaths and that money needed to be sent back to the RBL from the sale of wreaths. He said they had to be accounted for on a form that needs to be returned in December.

Mark Brook

Treasurers Report:

Dave Lewis says we need to consider how much is in the current account and whether there's too much at present? It was suggested we could add the money we would have paid for the curry £300 (food was donated) to the Poppy Appeal money. Chris Locke said that with concerns over the potential move out of Hillside it was probably best to keep the money in the account for the moment.

<p>Mark said he would get back to Becky about how many wreaths he organised this year.</p>	<p>Mark Brook</p>
<p>Secretary's Report: Tamsin said she was delighted to continue in the role, albeit from the UK, and thanked everyone for their support.</p>	
<p>Welfare Report: We need to let the RBL know if we have active caseworkers or not. Chris Locke said he was happy for Sarah Maskell-Bott to liaise with Louise Gentle and for Sarah to do the role.</p>	<p>Sarah Maskell-Bott</p>
<p>Any other business: Chris Locke passed on a Happy Christmas from Fi Hedges the UK RBL Overseas Support Officer.</p> <p>Chris asked if we use the online ordering service and Mark Brook said he normally sent an email with his requirements. Chris then asked about a Poppy Appeal ID which Mark thinks is assigned to each branch for ordering.</p> <p>Next year the RBL is rebranding to mark the centenary. This will launch on 26th January. Chris said it will be interesting to see what they come up with however he understands the font will be the same as is used on the tomb of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abby.</p>	
<p>Date and time of the next meeting: Friday 8th January 2021 at 6pm (9pm UK time) and then following by an event at the Poppy Inn.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Updated information from the Chairman – 17.12.20: I received a call from BFSAI yesterday to inform me officially that the MoD will be moving out of Hillside in the New Year. Provisionally they are looking at</p>	

late January although more likely to be mid-February. We will get official notification when a date is confirmed and given the agreed 14 days' notice period. However, the good news is that FIG are prepared to draft up a new temporary tenancy agreement on taking over the facility. It is not known for how long we will have access to the Poppy Inn but at least we have time to make alternative arrangements if needed. Ultimately, it depends on what FIG want to do with the building and when refurbishment work starts. I have been told to talk with Colin Summers who is running the project hand-over so in the New Year will have a chat with him about both the short and longer-term arrangements.

Also, just to let you know I visited the School earlier today and received a cheque for £446.49 from the money collected from the Pennies for Poppies Donation. We will draft suitable letter for PN to go with the picture which will be a good way of rounding off this year's Poppy Appeal.