Royal British Legion

Falkland Islands Branch

Committee Meeting Minutes

8th January 2021

Agenda Item:	Actions:
Present: Chris Locke, Nancy Locke, Becky Rees, Keith Biles, Tamsin Harris, Bob French, Mark Brook, Richard Hyslop and John and Sarah Maskell-Bott.	
Apologies: Dave Lewis, Maeve Daly-Llamosa	
Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes were accepted and signed as a true and accurate record.	
Matters arising: The new CBF, Commodore Jonathan Lett is planning to the quiz night with a team from BFSAI. Chris Locke said this was a perfect occasion for his first visit and was very much looking forward to showing him the Poppy Inn. Becky and Mark have resolved the issues regarding wreath money. Sarah Maskell-Bott is contacting the RBL regarding virtual training.	**Chris Locke** **Sarah Maskell-Bott**
Chairman's report: There's no further update on the future for Hillside Camp, but Chris Locke said he has been told we will have use of the Poppy Inn until FIG decide what they're doing with the site. Mark Brook asked when the military are moving out and Chris confirmed we will be given two weeks' notice before they go. FIG will then give us a short tenancy agreement until they decide what they're going to do with the buildings. Chris thanked Mark for reminding him that we will need to apply for a license at the point of handover.	**Chris Locke**

Becky Rees is due to meet with the Chief Executive and though there was a conversation about waiting until the new CE is in post, it was agreed that as we are already based at Hillside we are within our rights to ask what's happening. With regard to the RBL Centenary Cook Book, Chris confirmed it was finally agreed to pick the 'Falklands Islanders' as the heroes to go with the recipe. He said what's been written is lovely and references both Trudy and Patrick (see last month's minutes). The author says the Falkland entry is the jewel in the crown of the cook book. John Maskell-Bott said he was disappointed that Anton hasn't featured, referring to him as 'probably the bravest man in the Islands'. Chris confirmed it wasn't what the author wanted, and Nancy Locke added that it confirms that the Islander's as a group, were amazing, robust and stoic. It was agreed it will be a great promotion for the Islands. The chosen recipe is one for Toothfish. Chris said he had received a personal email from Fiona Hedges, Overseas Co-ordinator, asking if we had any old RBL documents from the post Conflict era. It was agreed that Dave Lewis may be aware of old records. Richard Hyslop reminded the Committee that he had done a lot of research about the founding of the Branch which was in 1996 so a lot later than 1982. The RBL has asked us to nominate a Poppy Appeal Co-ordinating Officer. Mark Brook said he would be happy to be nominated but he wanted Dave Lewis to be approached, as he is also involved every year. There was a discussion about what postal address we use and it was agreed to ask CBF if it is possible to continue using the BFPO 655 address, even though we'll then have to collect items from MPA.	**Becky Rees** **Chris Locke/Mark Brook/Dave Lewis**

Nancy Locke said she had been to the Post Office and collected a lot of RBL post, most of which has been dealt with. The Committee were asked if anybody knew Mr Ian Shickle who has sent his yearly membership subscriptions. It was confirmed he's a member of the HMS HERMES Association and carries their standard. Keith Biles confirmed there's an address for him in the membership records. *Post meeting note. Chairman has Ian's contact details.*	**Chris Locke**
Vice Chairman's report: Mark Brook said he had nothing to report.	
Treasurer: Becky confirmed she would bring paperwork for bank signatories to the Poppy Inn tonight. The form confirming what we intended to transfer back to the UK from the Poppy Appeal had been sent back.	**Becky Rees**
Secretary's report Tamsin confirmed she had nothing to report.	
Welfare report: Sarah Maskell-Bott said she has written to Fiona at RBL Headquarters.	
Any Other Business: Mark Brook will catch up regarding bar and stocks tonight. Chris Locke confirmed the membership newsletter had been received and that the new branding for the RBL is to be launched on 26th January. He also thanked everyone for their work last year. Chris will now send it to Bob French for uploading and will consider sharing a hyperlink to the website so members can see it.	**Chris Locke/Bob French**

Date of next meeting: Friday 5th February – 1800 FI time, 2100 UK time and via Zoom.	**All**