Royal British Legion

Falkland Islands Branch

Committee Meeting Minutes

5th April 2021

Agenda Item:	Actions:
Present: Chris Locke, Nancy Locke, Tamsin Harris, Richard Hyslop, Dave Lewis, Keith Biles, John and Sarah Maskell-Bott.	
Apologies: Becky Rees, Maeve Daly-Llamosa, Bob French (joined at the very end following technical problems), Mark Brook.	
Minutes of the last meeting: Chris Locke said the last meeting in the Poppy Inn was a lovely affair and thanked Nancy for making the pasties. The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate account.	
Matters arising: Poppy Inn; Chris Locke confirmed he had submitted all the paperwork for the Bar License to the Court Clerk. However he said he is still waiting for the handover date from the MoD to FIG. Once this is known the Clerk will annotate the form which can then be submitted to the Summary Court. The notice for a licence also has to be advertised either in Penguin News for 14 days or for 7 days at a place near to where the bar is situated. It was agreed that the latter option, which is free is the one to go for. Mark Brook hasn't heard from Government House but has ordered wreaths for this year's allocation and they will be arriving on the Airbridge sometime in the future. Regarding the concerns about the state of the memorials mentioned at last month's meeting, Chris Locke has undertaken some investigating and it appears the concern is more about the old	**Chris Locke** **Mark Brook**

wreaths that are left after being laid. Chris said he feels if wreath is laid, it should stay so as not to cause upset. John Maskell-Bott and Dave Lewis agreed. It was, however, agreed we should still have a 'clean up' campaign for the 40th anniversary. Keith Biles said there's probably a protocol somewhere and it would be worth checking if the RBL have a policy with regard to the war memorials out of town. Chris Locke said he would check this with the UK. Nancy Locke said we should lobby again for recyclable materials to be used for the wreaths. The Tea Dance plans are in hand and underway.	**Chris Locke** **Tea Dance Committee**
Chairman's Report: Chris Locke said he had spoken with the Director of the Public Works Department, Colin Summers and has been told that once the handover of Hillside has taken place we will be given a key and allowed access. However, Colin said he could only issue the Branch with a license for 6 months after which time it will be reviewed. Chris said the Committee needs to think about options for the future. There may be an opportunity to use the FIDF's Bar although this may be less than straightforward but should be considered. Chris is going to contact RBL HQ to see what options there may be for funding the rent or the purchase of a suitable building. He said he was keen to get on with this but Keith Biles warned the problem would be finding something suitable in town. John Maskell-Bott said a better option might be for the Bar Committee to rent a place and then the RBL Branch to rent an area from the Bar Committee. It was agreed to look into grant making bodies and trusts that might help. It was also agreed that the Trough could be considered as it has everything we need. It would be worth talking to Pete King about it. Chris reported that he had received an email from a 16-year-old Air Cadet from Oxford called Lucy Taylor about a project called Walking with	**ALL** **Chris Locke**

Giants for her Gold DoE Award. Richard Hyslop confirmed he is meeting with her and will report back to Chris after the meeting with further details of what she proposes.	**Richard Hyslop**
Vice-Chairman's Report: There was no report.	
Treasurer's Report: Becky Rees wasn't able to attend the meeting as she was still feeling unwell from the jab. She was unable to forward her report in time.	
Secretary's Report: Tamsin Harris asked if we are kept informed when new members join the Falkland Islands Branch and paid in the UK. Chris Locke said unfortunately we are not updated from UKHQ when a new member joins and is perhaps one of the failings of the online system. He will look into resolving the matter.	**Chris Locke**
Welfare Report: John and Sarah Maskell-Bott said there was nothing to report.	
AOB The Branch Tea Dance is going ahead on the 100th Anniversary of the formation of the RBL on Saturday 15th May. It'll be a 1920s themed event with sandwiches, cake and tea, followed by music and dancing. The start time is 3pm. There'll be a corner for children with drawing and games. Chris Locke said he had contacted CBF and His Excellency and understood both are planning to attend. Richard Hyslop reported that he had had a meeting with Bob Gamble OBE, Deputy Director of Ceremonial for the RBL. He said they're working together on an event of 'National significance' that will take place on the 14th June 2022 with up to 20,000 people attending to mark the 40th Anniversary. He said they also discussed the Remembrance Weekend and the expectation is that Falklands Veterans will take a lead as the commentary will be focusing about the Conflict.	

The Festival of Remembrance will also have a very strong Falkland flavour to it. Richard asked if we had a second Standard that could be used. Chris confirmed we had sent the Standard to the UK before when Bob French paraded it at the Festival of Remembrance a few years ago. At the time we discovered a Branch can't have two standards, but Chris said he would work on finding a way round this with maybe a Branch Standard and a National Standard. Richard said he would also raise this issue with the Director of Ceremonial at their next meeting. The Royal Navy Association are having their conference on 17/18 June 2022 in Portsmouth, then another event on 19th June which they hope will be of national significance in terms of scale. There'll be a huge parade and a service in the Cathedral. In addition on 12th June 2022 there'll be an enhanced version of the annual service at Pangbourne with around 1,000 people. Richard said next year is insane in terms of activities and his diary is already full to overflowing.	**Chris Locke** **Richard Hyslop**
Date and time of next meeting: Friday 7th May, 1700 Falklands Time, 2100 UK time. Via Zoom.	