



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Of the City of Ely Branch Royal British Legion held on 18th October 2022

Act of Remembrance

Apologies

Apologies were received from the following members:

Ian Lindsay, Stan Geering, Alan Jesson, Les Wilson, Verity Wilson, Lucy Acred, Patrick Abbot, Matt Wright, Richard Bamford

Members Present

The following members were present:

Dave Martin – Chairman, Brian Crabtree – Secretary, David Clarke – Treasurer, Freddie Lawes, Tom Brown, Neil Grimston, Serena Grimston, Sue Reeder, Tony Macfarlane

Previous Minutes

Last year's AGM minutes were read out and accepted as a true record other than the one omission. Tony Macfarlane was recorded as absent, but he was present.

Proposed by: Tom
Seconded by: Freddie

President's Address

In Ian's absence, the Chairman read out the President's address to the branch.

Chairman's address David Martin read out his report and then his 3-year plan. A copy of these will be included as annexes to these minutes.

Proposed by: Freddie
Seconded by: Neil

All members present were in agreement.

Treasurer's address David Clarke read out the Treasurer's report, a copy of which is included as an annex to these minutes.

Proposed by: David Clarke

Seconded by: Verity
All Members present were in agreement.

Membership Secretary's address: Tony reported that there were now 58 members an increase of 5 over last year. ; He would like to stand down and he is aware that there is a nomination to take over from him in the role – he is willing to assist the new incumbent to transition into the role. He pointed out that at every branch fundraising event, it would be beneficial to actively promote membership

Branch Community Support (BCS) Representative's Report:

Freddie Lawes read out his BCS report which is included as an Annex to these minutes. The Chairman thanked him for his efforts in the role as he was standing down. The Chairman will be taking on this role in the meantime and asked all present to consider whether they were able to take on this role permanently. If anyone did feel able to do so, they were asked to contact him for more details.

Secretary's address Brian Crabtree read out the Secretary's address, a copy of which is included as an annex to these minutes.

Election of Committee Members

The annual election of Branch officers was carried out. All current incumbents were happy to carry on in post..

Chairman: Nomination: David Martin

Proposed by: Brian
Seconded by: Tom

All those present were in agreement. The Chairman was thereby elected and sworn in.

Branch Officers

Vice Chairman: Nomination: Neil Grimston

Proposed by: Dave
Seconded by: Freddie

Secretary: Nomination: Brian Crabtree

Proposed by: Neil
Seconded by: Tom

All those present were in agreement

Treasurer: Nomination: David Clarke

Proposed by: Neil
Seconded by: Freddie

All those present were in agreement. –
The Branch Officers were thereby elected and sworn in by the President.

Other Posts

Membership Secretary: Nomination: Fraser Badcock

Proposed by: Dave
Seconded by: Sue

All those present were in agreement

Branch Community Support Representative: - No one put themselves forward, but the Chairman is now as acting BCS

Committee members The following members volunteered to continue to serve on the committee;

Tom Brown
Freddie Lawes

Proposed by : Dave
Seconded by: Freddie

All those present were in agreement

Dave thanked all standing down members for their support over the last years.

The new appointments will take effect from 1 Jan 2023, however all new members must sign a new MS1 form, before 31 Dec 2022.

Matters Arising

Schedule of meetings

The Secretary presented the Schedule of meetings for 2023. All were in agreement that this schedule was appropriate. A copy of this schedule is attached to these minutes

Appointment of delegates to County and National Conference.

Tom was nominated to represent us as the Branch County representative.

Proposed by: Dave
Seconded by: Freddie

County conference

Dave reported that he is happy to represent us at the next County Conference with Tom

National Conference

Tom will be attending the National Conference as standard bearer and Branch Representative.

Proposed by: Dave
Seconded by: Neil

Closure of the meeting

There being no further business, the AGM was closed at 20256 hrs

Brian Crabtree

City of Ely RBL Branch Secretary

Annexes

CHAIRMAN OF THE CITY OF ELY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING– OCTOBER 2022

It has been good to get our processes back to normal after a few years of turmoil. We have continued with fundraising mostly for the Poppy Appeal; events at March Armed Forces Fair, Ely Armed Forces Day and Eel Day. We had one stall this year raising funds for the 3 Year Plan.

I am still hoping to be able to hang up my boots as Chair in 2023, which will be my 7th year, and, am still in hope that a replacement will come forward in due course. However, should one not be forthcoming I will continue to ensure the Branch continues the good work we continue to do in support of our local beneficiaries

As ever, I would like to thank my whole committee for their continued support and work. As we look forward to Remembrance and the Poppy Appeal we continue to work hard to ensure we are able to raise funds for those we support and ensure we continue to promote Remembrance within our area. That said, we have been looking for a replacement for our PAO who hung up his boots in the last Poppy Appeal Year but, thankfully, is supporting this year's effort to help our Community Fund Raiser to identify a suitable replacement; a big thank you to Les and Verity Wilson for this and the effort they have put into the appeal over the last few years during which we have raised more than £120,000. If you know anyone who is interested please let me or Lucy know.

Lastly, I present the next 3 year plan as we look to continue to provide opportunities to our members and beneficiaries alike. The main aim for 2023 is to continue to raise funds to support around 20-30 beneficiaries on an overseas battlefield tour in September 2023.

David Martin

Chairman

City of Ely Branch

Royal British Legion

CHAIRMAN OF THE CITY OF ELY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 3-YEAR PLAN – for AGM OCT 2022

As your Chairman, I would like to task the Branch and its committee to prepare and execute the following 3-year plan. The intent (or need) of the 3-year plan is to promote the Branch and RBL to the local community with the aim of recruiting new members and supporting the community in line with the RBL's Royal Charter.

Each year we will need to plan certain fund raising activities to ensure we can commit to subsidising these projects for the benefit of our beneficiaries. I also aim to include other branches in our area including RBL, RAFA, RNA and any other military organisations (i.e. Armed Forces Breakfast Clubs) where our beneficiaries may attend.

2022.

1. 3 x Visit to National Arboretum/other museum – **Not Achieved**
2. Newmarket Race Day - **Cancelled**
3. Overseas battlefield tour subject to funding - **Postponed to Sept 2023.**
4. Armed Forces Day event with VisitEly - **Achieved**
5. Annual Dinner. – **Ongoing**

2023.

1. 2 x Visit to National Arboretum/other museum.
2. Overseas battlefield tour subject to funding.
3. Armed Forces Day event with VisitEly
4. Annual Dinner.

2024.

1. 3 x Visit to National Arboretum/other museum.
2. Armed Forces Day event with VisitEly
3. Annual Dinner.

2025.

1. 3 x Visit to National Arboretum/other museum.
2. Armed Forces Day event with VisitEly
3. Annual Dinner.

In the event of Branch closure/Non-Use of Funds in a set period

Any funds not used during the fundraising year will be automatically transferred over to the next fundraising year. In the event that the branch should cease to operate any funds that are raised should be passed to the County Royal British Legion treasurer for the welfare of its beneficiaries **AFTER** contacting any organisation that may have donated to a specific event for advice (e.g. Redrow donation to Overseas Tour).

D W Martin

Chairman of the City Of Ely Branch of the Royal British Legion

SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF ELY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION'S
REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 18 OCTOBER 2022

It has been encouraging that this last year has seen a return to a more normal schedule of events for the Branch and that we have been able to meet in person and raise awareness about the Legion in the local community.

As a committee, we have tried to maintain a program of events and meetings and for me a notable honour was being able to parade the Branch Standard at the recent March Armed Forces Fair where as is quite usual we lowered the Standard to salute Her Majesty the Queen. An event made most poignant by her passing only a matter of days later.

Hopefully 2023 should see us able to carry on with a more usual program of meetings and events, however we must be mindful of our more vulnerable members in planning these – COVID has not gone away still.

As a committee we continue to support our Chairman, our membership our beneficiaries and our community.

2023 will be my 6th year in post, and I am happy to continue, however should there be anyone else who wishes to step into the role either this year or next, I would be happy to stand down as they transition into the role.

Thank You for all your ongoing support.

Brian Crabtree

City of Ely RBL Branch Secretary

Treasurer's Annual Report AGM 18th October 2022

In the circumstances which have been prevailing, activities by the Branch have been limited. In particular, it has been difficult to mount events for fundraising purposes, but despite that, funds have been raised. The Branch has been fortunate in being donated funds for specific use, such as the purchase of a new standard for ceremonial use, and these have limited the drain on the bank balance. However, the net reduction of funds as at 1st July 2022 was approximately £1600. The remaining £3400 should be quite adequate for running the Branch. The agreed accounts put forward for scrutiny by the Examiner showed the total Branch funds as £5511.90, which included interest of £10.33 accrued on the Branch Funds Initiative deposit account. With bank rates now rising at some pace, it might be expected that the interest rate of 0.5% on the BFI account might increase substantially.

After the "books" examination in 2021, Mr Ron Moore, who had carried out this work for many years, asked to be stood down on account of his age, and his one-time bank colleague Mr Bruce Frost was approached and agreed to accept the task. Mr. Frost examined the books of the Littleport Branch for many years and has a good track record.

It is no secret that prices are rising in alarming bounds due to international pressures, making it very difficult to predict what the future holds for everyone generally, but it is likely that the value of donations made and bequests to the Branch may suffer limitation. Fortunately the Branch seems to have been able to operate on a very modest budget in recent times, but the situation could change.

If it is the wish of those gathered here I am prepared to continue as Branch Treasurer

David Clarke,

Hon. Treasurer , City of Ely Branch.

RBL - CITY OF ELY BRANCH

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30th June 2022

RECEIPTS:

	21/22	Prev year
Opening balance 1 July 2021	£ 5,027.93	£ 3,111.61
Donations	£ 800.00	£ 71.20
Donations for Poppy Appeal only	£ 100.00	£ 1,155.00
Three Year Plan	£ 256.50	
Branch raffles		
Event funding	£ 950.00	£ 1,000.00
Misc funding	£ 518.12	£ 1,958.80
<i>Cheque unrepresented as at 30th June 2021</i>		£ 25.00
TOTALS	£ 7,652.55	£ 7,321.61
Opening Balance b/d 1st July 2022	£ 3,415.68	£ 5,027.93

BRANCH DEPOSIT ACCOUNT FOR PERIOD ENDING 30th June 2022

BFI

	Interest	R/Balance
Opening balance July 2021		£ 2,085.89
30-Sep-21 Interest	£ 2.60	£ 2,088.49
31-Dec-21 Interest	£ 2.60	£ 2,091.09
31-Mar-22 Interest	£ 2.55	£ 2,093.64
30-Jun-22 Interest	£ 2.58	£ 2,096.22
Total Interest BFI	£ 10.33	

Closing balance 30 June 2022

Total interest (all accounts) to 30/06/2022 £ 10.33

(Hard copy statements are not provided for BFI)

Final a/c Bank reconciliation

PAYMENTS:

	21/22	Prev year
Flowers and regalia	£ 40.00	
Stationery and office		
Travel expenses	£ 292.88	
Poppy Appeal		£ 1,155.00
Ceremonial	£ 1,181.99	£ 114.95
Donations		
Events	£ 2,722.00	
Other		£ 1,023.73
Closing balance 6/22 c/d	£ 3,415.68	£ 5,027.93
	£ 7,652.55	£ 7,321.61

Control Ledger - EVENTS TRANSACTIONS:				
<u>Narrative</u>	fo	dr		cr
Balance	<i>b/d 20/21</i>	£ 1,724.00		
Dinner	24 Nov	£ 300.00		
Dinner	30 Nov	£ 350.00		
Catering	30 Nov			£ 722.00
2022				
Battlefields	7 Mar			£ 2,000.00
Donation	13 June	£ 300.00		
	bal	£ 48.00		
		£ 2,722.00		£ 2,722.00
Balance c/d	01/07/2022			£ 48.00

Final account (August) 2022

Branch Community Support Officer report for the Branch AGM on 18th October 2022 at 7.00pm at The Town House

There is not much to say as there has been no change in the Branch Community Support over the last few Months. The telephone Bubby system is still working well, with only one person to support, as sadly our other buddy passed away.

The above means we have two trained supporters currently, and one person being supported. I am not aware we are supporting any other persons from within the Branch from within the BCS or indeed outside the role.

Should any of the Ely Branch members have someone they support and wish to talk to me about what resources are available please let the new BCSO know. It is in complete confidence

I have not found a volunteer to take over the Branch CSO role in October, as I am unable to continue in the role.as continuing ill health and an increased workload in my main hobby is taking a toll on my energies. Hopefully when fully recovered I will, yet again, be able to take a more active role in Branch activities, but I fear it will not be for some time.

Freddie Lawes

Branch Community Support Officer



City of Ely Branch Royal British Legion Schedule of Meetings 2023

Tuesday 7th February	-	Committee
Tuesday 21 st March	-	Branch
Tuesday 19 th April	-	Committee
Tuesday 18 th July	-	Branch
Tuesday 8 th August	-	Committee
Tuesday 19 st September	-	Branch
Tuesday 17 th October	-	AGM & Branch
Tuesday 21 st November	-	Committee
Tuesday 12 th December	-	Branch