Royal British Legion

Falkland Islands Branch

Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday 14th April 2023

Agenda Item:	Actions:
Present: Chris Locke, Nancy Locke, Keith Biles, John Maskell-Bott, Sarah Maskell-Bott, Bob French, Tamsin Harris, Richard Hyslop. Mark Brooke, Jenny Clarke.	
Apologies: Tim Mean, Becky Rees.	
Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	All
Matters Arising: Chris Locke said he hadn't spoken to Phyl Rendell; it would be obvious why from his Chairman's report which is recorded below.	
With regard to a recce to Polar Sea Fish, there's a further update in the Chairman's Report.	
It was confirmed that unfortunately the Branch has not arrange anything for CBFs leaving period. However CBF did forward a nice letter to the committee, which has been circulated.	
Chairman's Report: Chris Locke reported that he'd had a productive meeting with Colin Summers regarding the Poppy Inn. There may be a way forward but too early to say at the moment. However, Chris said it was clear the MLA's have washed their hands of the matter, which is a great shame. Dave Lewis had written to the MLA's and received a reply from Leona saying they couldn't help.	Chris
CL said the UK National AGM for the RBL is in Torquay this year on the 17/18 of May and as he's	

going to be in the South West then, he's put his name down to go.	Chris Locke
With regard to the 'Standing with Giants' statuettes, Polar Sea Fish have already tidied them up. Mark Brooke meanwhile has sorted a solution to ship them back and it was agreed to use this method, keeping a few of the '82 ones and the Tommy WW1 ones, back for use at future events. CL thanked MB for finding a shipping solution. He said this explained why he didn't contact Phyl Rendell as we didn't need to ask for financial help to get them back to the UK.	Mark Brooke
CL said the letter from CBF was very much appreciated and it was agreed that he would approach the new CBF when he arrives, asking him to continue the tradition of taking on the role of Honorary President.	Chris Locke
Vice-Chairman's report: Mark Brooke confirmed several wreaths had been delivered to Liberty Lodge last week and that he's still waiting for ordered ones to arrive from the UK.	
The bar has been busy with the Police hosting an event and thanking us for use of the Inn. It means it was a good month for the bar, but he warned that this won't continue.	
MB asked what the committee wanted to do about a social and it was agreed to look at hosting a gathering on Friday, 12 th May. Nancy Locke will put a message on Facebook to gauge whether people will come along.	Mark Brooke/Nancy Locke
Treasurer's Report: No report available.	
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Secretary's Report: Nothing to report.	
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Welfare Report: Nothing to report,	
Membership:	
No report presented.	
AOB:	

Nancy Locke updated the committee about the lady visiting to scatter the ashes of her brother. She and Jenny Clarke took the RBL Standard to the beach for the scattering of the ashes and Nancy reported that it was a very moving occasion. The lady sprinkled her brother's ashes on waterline and the waves gently took him out to sea. She said it was a good liaison between the RBL and Liberty Lodge. Chris Locke is going to email the Lodge whenever there's an event at the Poppy Inn to make sure any guests are aware.

Chris Locke

Sarah Maskell-Bott said she's met a man at RAF Brize Norton who she approached because he looked so anxious. He was an '82 veteran. She said they'd seen him since his visit and he's very grateful for the time he spent, including attending the Poppy Ball. The visit has apparently transformed him. He's now content and CL add that it's a good example of why we need a proper solution to the future for the Poppy Inn.

Richard Hyslop said that the weekend before last he attended the South Atlantic Medal Association AGM in Swindon. Membership has increased by over 400 in 40th anniversary year. He said it was a great weekend and very positive. He's now very busy supporting people heading over to the UK for the Coronation.

All

Date and time of the next meeting:

Friday 12th May – 17.30 Falkland time, 21.30 UK time.