



Agenda - Uttoxeter RBL Branch Meeting

Date – 21st January 2025

Start Time - 19.00 for 19.15 hrs

Location - Ye Olde Talbot, Market Place, Uttoxeter.

Those Present -TW, TM, HH, JB, LB, AM, SMd. PH and KH attended prior to the opening of the meeting and after signing the form to change bank signatories left.

Apologies received. -EH, SMn, MB.

Items

1. Chairmans welcome- Tony thanked those who were in attendance and introduced Heather Mason MEO for Staffordshire.
2. Exhortation
3. Apologises for absence. Noted
4. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting,
Proposal to approve S.Md seconded by A.M – all in favour, approved
5. Matters arising.
Nothing to report
6. Chairmans report.
Discussion about the County Conference in Stafford JB and TW to attend.
Discussion about the Annual National Conference in Harrogate TW will attend,
Discussion on where future branch meeting should be held. The committee meeting will remain at Ye Olde Talbot.
7. Treasurers Report.
Uttoxeter Current Account £5571,81. The Uttoxeter Rugby Club donation of £155.00 is still to be banked.
Uttoxeter BFI Account £6869.47 closing Qtr 3. Interest Qtr 4. £34.63. Closing balance Qtr.4. £6904.10
Update on bank mandate. Final signatures to be obtained this week and submitted to the bank.
Proposed budget plan to be discussed.
8. Membership update.
Membership remains at 44 as at 21/Jan/25 no new members had joined the branch.

9. Welcome to Heather Mason, RBL Membership Engagement Officer.
Heather spent some time explaining the need to keep to the regulations as set out in the handbooks and that we should all read them. The subject of respect and tolerance within branches was discussed and it was noted that the RBL has a strict code of expected behaviour and therefore poor behaviour will not be tolerated and should be reported.
We learned that AOB is no longer to be on the agendas, she explained the role of each of the committees' officers and the importance of training which is being monitored across all branches.
The RBL is modernising and will need to accommodate the needs of younger service personnel while still supporting the older veterans therefore it is vital to ensure a feeling of inclusivity. Heather also showed us the new RBL badges. Clarification was sought in relation to what branch funds can be spent on. Heather kindly provided promotional items which the branch can hand out at fund raising events and explained how to obtain information leaflets. We noted that RBL attire for events can be purchased from funds but should be shared, a 15% discount is obtainable.
10. Welcome to Ben Moody for an update on the monthly Armed Forces Breakfast Club.
Ben was not able to attend the meeting this time but we welcome him in the future, it was noted that the Veterans breakfast club is well attended with over 60 members of the armed forces joining in.
11. Discussion about ways to raise funds, community engagement, potential purchase of an RBL gazebo for community events such as Lark in the Park.
A gazebo will be and HM gave guidance on where to purchase it from and the best type. It was suggested that the cost for the purchase of the gazebo be limited to £1500.00 this was proposed by LB and seconded by SMD- all in favour approved.
An event will be held at Makers Market and Lark in the Park to promote the branch and the Poppy Appeal together with various social events to be clarified in the future.
Suggestions for next agenda asked for.
12. Suggestions for V.E. Day celebrations
The Council have been approached to assist in getting this underway and a firm date for a meeting with the event manager is awaited TW, HH will attend
13. Secretary - Poppy Appeal assistance for 2025
HH thanked everyone who helped in 2024 and asked if they would be willing to take part again the answer was a resounding yes. A list will be drawn up to assist in the allocation of resources. TW to make contact with the Cadets to ask them to attend this year.
14. Information for those attending the Annual Conference in Harrogate. HM explained how the day runs and the limited expenses which can be claimed.
15. Asset Register update
Assets- contact has been made with Bradley House and in due course a meeting will be arranged to go and collect the outstanding items.
Asset management. A Tiger account has been set up and all assets will, going forward be recorded on-line
16. Constitution

HM advised that we do not need a constitution as all of the necessary regulations are Setout in the handbooks on line and these are regularly up dated.

17. A.O.B

No longer permitted in the regulations, all agenda items should be set out beforehand for clarity and efficiency. Any items to be included on an agenda should be sent to the Chairman and Secretary at least eight days prior to the next meeting.

18. Date and time of next meeting

Committee Meeting 18th February

Branch meeting 15th April