

Royal British Legion
 Falkland Islands Branch
Committee Meeting Minutes
 6th December 2024

Agenda Item:	Actions:
<p>Present: Chris Locke, Nancy Locke, Keith Biles, Bob French, Mark Brook, John & Sarah Maskell Bott, Richard Hyslop</p>	
<p>Apologies: Jenny Clarke, Tamsin Harris</p>	
<p>Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.</p>	
<p>Matters Arising:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. South Georgia still to chase Poppy Tin idea 2. James Bates letter of complaint resolved, he's now very positive and supportive. 3. AGM date set 12th December but will be at Chamber of Commerce. Zoom link to be distributed. 	Chris Locke
<p>Chairman's Report:</p> <p>Chair reported that for Battle Day Bob French would carry the RBL Standard and CL to lay a wreath. The committee wished JC a speedy recovery from her operation today.</p> <p>Discussion followed about the PR campaign on the closure of the Poppy Inn, noting Lisa Watson's editorial in the Penguin News and veteran Brian Thompson MBE's letter in the letters page. CL had shared a further draft letter to the MLAs as final plea for support. JMB felt the MLAs were missing the point, the Poppy Inn is not just a pub but a storage space for wreaths etc.</p> <p>MB pointed out that the RBL had never actually had a lease for the Poppy Inn, although was corrected that a lease had been in place under the MoD.</p> <p>CL had spoken to MLAs Barkman and Pollard who were surprised/supportive. KB felt there was milage to</p>	Nancy to cancel booking at TH

get the letter to the new ExCo with MLAs Pollard, Roberts and Ford. MLA Spink not being a supporter. RH asked if the visiting Minister Luke Pollard, who is very pro-Falklands, had been spoken to, CL said that he had had a fifteen minute conversation where Mr Pollard had sought him out. RH also said that the local branch nearest to him meet in a pub and it really doesn't work especially for the official part, the Epitaph and minutes silence. CL explained that the Malvina Bar, a public space, is not suitable for that reason and the FIDF bar don't want the RBL. KB advised to send the letter to Cherie Clifford. RH suggested approaching SAMA (Tom Herring or Chris Howe) to ask them to write supporting the Branch, also the FVF. He will message CL with the contact details for Tom Herring.

Vice-Chairman's report:

MB gave an update from the Poppy Ball and the Poppy Appeal. The ticket sales raised £2786, the bar profit was £1,000 and the raffle raised £1,000. Totalling £4786. There may be a little more as Government House and Gilbert House require an invoice.

MB also updated the Poppy Appeal collection:
Cathedral Collection was £620

Tins £1070 (£800 in tins and £260 from the school's pennies in the shape of a poppy and their tin). There is a bit more coinage to go. Thanks to Marion for counting.

He noted that the Print Shop invoice for £51.80 had been paid twice, by himself in cash and on the invoice sent to the Treasurer.

MB asked that thanks be minuted to Stanley Services, FIC, Lifestyles and Lynda Buckland for supplies for the Ball.

MB reported that during Remembrance he had laid a wreath for an overseas person, he will take a photo. RBL HQ had let him know someone coming down in January needs an RBL contact.

MB had organised a Music Night with local artists last Saturday night at the Poppy Inn, it was a good night and very well attended. The bar made approximately

<p>£500. CL said the Music Night was wonderful, he thanked MB for organising it. CL was reinvigorated by it however similar future nights would need a sign in sheet to cover Licencing restrictions.</p>	
<p>Treasurer's Report:</p> <p>Hegs reported that the Annual Accounts had all be sorted and signed off, the committee had all been sent a copy and it has gone to RBL HQ. He said that the next set of accounts will be on time as he will know what's required.</p> <p>Regarding sending the Poppy Appeal money back, this amount has to be sent 29th June. The current amount to go is £11,255.</p>	
<p>Secretary's Report:</p> <p>TH had sent apologies, they are battening down the hatches against Storm Darragh.</p> <p>NL updated on the forthcoming AGM. One nomination paper had been received from Mark Brook standing for both Chairman and Vice-Chair. A further nomination paper is expected on Monday from Lee Martin. He wishes to stand as he is against committee members being in the UK.</p>	
<p>Welfare Report:</p> <p>Nothing to report on welfare, both J & S are still in the UK waiting on medical treatment.</p>	
<p>Membership:</p> <p>MB reported that he has a list of members, numbering 40 as at October 2024..</p>	
<p>AOB:</p> <p>MB said that before New Year he wanted to put the Poppy Inn stuff in the container, and move the container. Discussion followed.</p> <p>CL confirmed that the Chairman email account is being sorted out by RBL HQ</p> <p>KB agreed to provide Zoom link for the AGM</p>	
<p>Date and time of the next meeting:</p> <p>AGM 12th December 6pm Chamber of Commerce</p>	

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£– General Account

£– Poppy Account

£– Welfare Fund