



**Royal British Legion  
Basingstoke, Overton & District Branch  
Branch Meeting**

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2025, 19.30 pm, Online

**MINUTES**

<b>Committee Present</b>		<b>Members &amp; Guests Present</b>
Dudley Wall (DW)	President	Tom Wall (TW)
John Davies (JD)	Chairman	
Chris Davies (CD)	Secretary	
Malcolm Blunsdon (MB)	Treasurer	
	Standard Bearer	
	Events	
Stuart Humphries (SH)	Committee	
	Committee	

**AGENDA**

- Item 1. Exhortation**
- Item 2 Previous minutes**
- Item 3 Matters Arising (not on the Agenda)**
  - a. Remembrance Wash-Up**
  - b. RBL operatives in town**
- Item 4 Branch Reports**
  - **Chairman**
  - **Treasurer**
  - **Membership**
- Item 5 AOB**
  - a. Future Meetings**
- Item 6 Date of next Meeting**
- Item 7 Closure & Kohima**



## 1 Exhortation

The President (DW) opened the meeting with the exhortation.

## 2 Adoption of Previous Minutes

The draft minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated to all attendees. No comments / amendments had been received. Proposed TW, seconded MB that they be entered as a true record. Carried

## 4 Matters Arising (not on the agenda)

JD briefed:

- 4.1 The remembrance wash-up meeting was on 28<sup>th</sup> Jan. Planners will ensure that the need to respect the silence is emphasised. **Closed**
- 4.2 The new member was welcomed to the Branch by the Chairman. **Closed**
- 4.3 The issue of RBL operators in town without Branch knowledge remains open.

## 5 Branch Reports

The following Branch reports were provided:

### 5.1 Chairman

Chairman's report is attached at Annex A. Key points

#### 5.1.1 Committee.

No longer compliant and not improving.

#### 5.1.2 Attendance

This was scheduled to be a short meeting followed by a quiz but once again, no engagement! Attendance remains low (non-existent) again questioning Branch viability!

#### 5.1.3 Future (taken instead of Item 5a)

DW questioned whether some of the committee could double hat. Realistically, that does not help given level of engagement.

Discussed Options of closure, CSB or amalgamation. Consensus was to hold an SGM in March with a view to move to CSB status.

*Note: SH arrived late and confirmed agreement to proposed CoA. Out of committee decision (JD, CD, MB & SH) to call SGM*

This does not impact Branch decision to send a delegate to the Conference. MB remains delegate.

### 5.2 Treasurer

MB confirmed that accounts remain healthy. Balances are:

- General Account (charitable monies) £2649.33
- Social account £541.28



If we go to CSB, the General Accounts will have to close and go into a restricted fund at County

#### **5.4 Membership Secretary**

Membership has decreased and now stands at 94.

We have one new member – Allan Burrows who is returning after his membership lapsed

### **6 Any Other Business**

Having had the discussion during the Chairman's report, there was no other business

### **7 Next Meeting**

The next meeting, on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March will be an SPG

### **8 Closure**

Business being concluded, the President closed the meeting with the Kohima Epitaph at 1947 hrs.

Annex:

A. Chairman's Report

Signed by:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN DAVIES

Dated:

\_\_\_\_\_  
18 Mar 25

Secs note. Branch moving to CSB status. Confirmation provided that draft minutes were a true record by email by those attending



**Royal British Legion Basingstoke, Overton & District Branch  
Branch Meeting – Chairmans Report – 18 February 2025**

This will be a relatively short report.

**Committee**

I previously reported that we were no longer compliant as a committee. Despite e-mails and requests in the roundup, no-one has come forward to volunteer their services.

To be compliant we need at least one, preferably two committee members and, if we are to maintain our public profile we need a new Standard Bearer.

However, that is only the start. We need engagement from the members too if we are to be a viable Branch that is serious about supporting our beneficiaries.

**Attendance**

With only 4 persons at the January meeting and similar numbers for the December social/quiz night, then we have to think seriously about the future.

**Options**

Really there are only 3 options

1. Carry on regardless and try to work through this
2. Put the Branch into CSB until we have a team willing to take us forward
3. Close the Branch

There is one other option but it is unlikely to find another willing Branch which is to amalgamate.

It is my recommendation that we call an SGM next month to make the decision. As it is unlikely that we will get 63 members calling for an SGM as required by RBL rules, it will be a committee decision. Between now and then, I will circulate a note outlining the options and what they mean so that members can make an informed decision

Happy to take questions

