



The Royal British Legion
Mitcham Branch, BR1005
26 St Marks Road
Mitcham
CR4 2LF

AGM Meeting of Mitcham RBL Branch BR1005
At 12:00pm on 11th December 2022

In attendance:

Committee:

Allan Barley – Chairperson
Ian Munn – Secretary
Christine Kelly – Membership
David Barley – Standard Bearer
Paul Picano – Committee Member
Siobhan McDonagh – President

Members:

Nigel Stone
Malcolm Reeves

Welcome:

The meeting was opened by the RBL Mitcham Chairperson, with duties carried out by the Branch Standard Bearer along with the exhortation by the Chairperson

**They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old, Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the Sun and in the morning, we will remember them.**

Apologies:

Gary Baker – Treasurer
Paul Smith – Committee Member
Peter Andre,
Pam Tylor,
Norma Storer,
Annette Sime,

Report of the AGM 2019:

The report for the AGM 2019 was the last recorded AGM prior to the COVID – 19 Pandemic, RBL Mitcham were instructed by RBL Head Office that there were to be no AGM in 2020 or 2021, this instruction was upheld by RBL Mitcham, therefore no minutes exist for the period of 2020/2021.

The attendance at the meeting was far below than expected due to the current cold spell of weather being experienced, also the other factor was that the AGM invitations were delayed in the post due to the current postal strike. The invitations were dated 16/11/2022, but only arrived week commencing 5/12/2022.

Chairpersons Report:

The Chairperson report was read out by the current Chair, he stated although little had happened throughout the year, the Armed Forces Day, Armistice Day & Remembrance Day still took place as planned.

Armed Forces Day 26/06/2022, this year had no Parade and convened at Haig Homes instead of Morden Park.

Armistice Day 11/11/2022, was well attended formal ceremony, the Service was conducted by Rev. Stone which included the laying of reefs at the Mitcham War Memorial, the attendees included The Deputy Mayor of Merton, all Authorities and 22 Schools from the Borough of Merton.

Remembrance Day 13/11/2022, was well attended formal ceremony, which started at RBL Mitcham, paraded to the Mitcham War Memorial with 300 people in the parade. The Service was conducted by Rev. Stone which included the laying of reefs at the Mitcham War Memorial, the attendees included The Mayor of Merton, Siobhan McDonagh MP, all Merton Authorities, in total the attendance was in excess of 1000 people.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary stated that he had sent out AGM 2022 Invitations by post, email, text to 60 plus members in total, but got a hand full of replies to confirm attendance, other than the AGM invites little had happened, this concluded the Secretary's report.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report had been submitted prior to the meeting, although this post was filled mid-term by the current Treasurer, the Branch accounts are healthy with work still to be done. The Branch Treasurer has asked for meeting to discuss other accounts, banking issues and training to use the RBL format correctly.

President's Report:

The Branch President thanked the RBL Mitcham Committee for organising the Armistice Day and Remembrance Day services held at the Mitcham Memorial, she was pleased with the attendance of all those involved.

As a thank-you, the President awarded the members of RBL Mitcham Committee a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament as a gift of appreciation.

Poppy Appeal:

This year's poppy appeal started off slow but pick up as days went by towards Remembrance Day, the figure raised by RBL Mitcham was £25,000 and still rising, this was formed of various collections from around Mitcham, the three main Poppy Appeal collection points were Sava Centre Colliers Wood, Asda Mitcham, Morrisons Mitcham.

The Chairperson also thanked David Day and Paul Smith for their efforts which had not gone unnoticed. David Day and Paul Smith attended all the Mitcham based schools, dropped off Poppy Appeal boxes with collection pots, then collected them all, followed by going round again to deliver "Thank You" letters from RBL Mitcham.

Standard Bearer's Report:

The Branch Standard Bearer had nothing to report but thanked Paul Picano for stepping in at the last minute to carry the RAFA Standard on both Armistice Day and in the Remembrance Day parade. The Branch Standard Bearer at this point offered the position to Paul Picano as his Deputy Standard Bearer going forward, this was duly accepted.

Other Reports as Appropriate:

The current Secretary announced that he would be stepping down from the Secretary position, and in turn had found a replacement. This replacement is to be Paul Picano, again this role was duly accepted and seconded by the committee. Paul Picano is now the RBL Mitcham Secretary as of 11/12/2022. Out Going Secretary would still be on hand to assist new incoming Secretary until further notice.

Election of Officers and Committee:

Elections of the RBL Mitcham Committee were as follows:

- Chairperson – Allan Barley
- Vice Chairperson – Ian Munn
- Secretary – Paul Picano
- Treasurer – Gary Baker
- Branch Community Support – Ian Munn
- Membership Secretary – Christine Kelly
- Poppy Appeal Organiser – Allan Barley
- Standard Bearer – David Barley
- President – Siobhan McDonagh
- Committee Member – Paul Smith

Any Other Business:

There was no other business to discuss or put forward, therefore the meeting was closed at 13:15pm

Closing of AGM Meeting:

The Chairperson thanked all those that attended and wished them well with their onward journey home,

The meeting was closed by the RBL Mitcham Chairperson, with duties carried out by the Branch Standard Bearer along with the exhortation by the Chairperson

When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today.

There were no refreshments provided as mentioned on the invite.

Date of next RBL Mitcham AGM to be arranged, the above minutes of the RBL Mitcham AGM are a true record of discussions held.

Signed by

Chairperson

Vice Chair

Secretary

Date Signed

Date Signed

Date Signed