

Old Basing and District Royal British Legion (BR1890)

Charity number 219279

Minutes of the Branch Meeting 6th August 2026 at 7:30pm

Present: George Mars (GM) President, Ian Greenway (IG) Chair, Ian Preston (IP) Vice Chair, Joe Karmazyn (JK) Treasurer, Avril Mitchell (AM) Secretary, Tim Russell (TR), Tracey Merritt (TM), Sue Chewter (SC), Diane Matthews (DM) + 6 branch members

Apologies: Crissy Ryan, Pat Brace, John Davey, Julie Karmazyn

The Act of Remembrance was carried out by George Mars

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were circulated prior to the meeting and adopted as a true copy. Prop: TR, 2nd: DM.
2. Matters Arising:
 - 2.1. AM emailed Debbie Filer to invite the new vicar to our AGM and potentially become our Padre, and to extend an invitation to him to attend our Poppy Launch Dinner. Both invitations accepted.
 - 2.2. AM emailed Danielle Chappell re the Cadet Affiliation Presentation event, no reply has been received as yet. Andy Dawes volunteered to take this forward.
 - 2.3. AM contacted the Band secretary re the Charity Nr issue and the Minutes request but has not received a reply as yet. Andy D - There are some mitigating circumstances for this and we will get a reply soon.
3. Chairman's opening comments:

IG and IP attended the Duke of Edinburgh awards presentation in OB. They had an enjoyable time and made some networking contacts within the youth group. We should consider affiliating with them – Andy Dawes will take this forward.

The children told of their experience of visiting War graves and were quite taken aback by the drabness of the Axis graves compared to the Allies ones.
4. Treasurer's Report: for the period ending 6th Aug 2026

O/Bal	£3606.80 Cr
Receipts	£ 596.00 (BTD £320.00, Subs £226.00, NAC Delegate refund £50)
Payments	£ 0.00
C/Bal	£4202.80 Cr

BFI 30/06/26

O/Bal £42.30 Cr, .21p interest received, C/Bal £42.51 Cr

BPT - Still awaiting a statement from Haig House

The Annual Return has been completed.

JK will ring-fence the BTD receipts in our accounts, as we may go over our £5k allowance.

JK asked that wherever possible, if paying money to the Branch, bank transfers are preferred as cash and cheque deposits incur a bank charge.
5. Poppy Appeal Report:
 - 5.1. Since our last meeting TR attended the AFD event at Milestones and Hook Village Show. Neither of these events reached their full potential for fundraising but we made the best of it.
 - 5.2. Thanks given to IG + JK for Hook Show and AM + Malcolm B for Milestones attendances.
 - 5.3. Rick B gave £60 for AFD Pins donations received.
 - 5.4. TR expecting a cheque from Land of Coins for old currency sent to them.
 - 5.5. Current totals: Old Basing £27119.66, Hook £24637.30 = £51756.96.
 - 5.6. TR attending the PAO seminar on 8th Aug.

6. Membership Report:
Current membership figure is 453 with only a handful of overdue memberships
7. Club Report:
 - 7.1. The back toilets should be reopened shortly; this has been an expensive repair.
 - 7.2. The Garden is looking excellent now and is proving a great asset at little cost to the club: thanks to Fiona, Neil and team.
 - 7.3. The Food Truck is currently in the car park Weds and Sats from 6:30pm and is trying to build a regular clientele, unfortunately although the food is excellent and not expensive, service is still quite slow. Please do try to support him; we may, in time receive rental income from him.
 - 7.4. TM asked if we can ascertain who owns the wall cabinets that used to be in the hall.
 - 7.5. Upcoming events: Quiz 19th Sept – the Beer Keg raffle carried over this night, Race night 5th Sept. Meat Raffle last Friday every month.
 - 7.6. TR asked TM whether we could try and book a Race Night for VE Weekend 8th May 2027. TM can ask him. (Note, this is NAC weekend)
8. Correspondence:
 - 8.1. The Link, Membership ENews and Central News for August, copies on the noticeboard.
 - 8.2. County AGM Notice with Cup Forms. We agreed that AM will submit any we are eligible for. We voted that IG and IP will attend as delegates, Prop AM, 2nd JK. All agreed.
 - 8.3. AM read an email from the DoE organisers thanking IG and IP for attending their presentation evening and making some great speeches. It was very much appreciated that you made time to go.
 - 8.4. An email from Russ Timpson asking whether we can host him for a charity night. The Branch cannot, but the Club are going to respond positively and hope to arrange something.
9. Events and fund raising:
 - 9.1. Our Poppy Launch Dinner in Oct, ticket sales have started, with nearly a third sold/reserved.
10. A.O.B:
 - 10.1 The Women's Section are holding a Tea Dance 19th Sept 2pm to 4pm. Online booking only.
 - 10.2. Malcolm B asked Andy D whether he would be available for a Funeral 3rd Sept.
 - 10.3. A new Veteran's Club has started in Hook. IG and JK will try to get to a meeting, TR will try to get there if works allows.
 - 10.4. Our AGM is on 1st October at 7.30pm, Committee Nominations can now be submitted.

The next meeting is a Social with Guest Speaker Joe Karmazyn and will be on 3rd Sept at 7.30pm.
There will be a Committee Meeting after.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Ian Greenway, Chairman