

ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOCIATION
RUTLAND BRANCH NO. 923

MINUTES OF BRANCH COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLUB, OAKHAM
ON THURSDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2007, 19:30hrs

PRESENT: Rob Toy Chairman
 Jim Tibbott Wings Appeal Organiser / Vice-Chairman
 Gordon Diffey Honorary Treasurer / Public Relations Officer
 Derek Bury Honorary Secretary
 Alf Dewis Assistant Honorary Welfare Officer
 Sheila Hunnisett Associated Member
 Malcolm Sutton Meetings coordinator
 Diana Toy Associated Member
 Jo Tibbott Associated Member
 Val Bury Associated Member

APOLOGIES:

Brian McAvoy Honorary Membership Secretary
 Val Kelly Honorary Welfare Officer

In attendance: Nigel Sudborough – Vice-President Oakham RBL Branch
 Roger Hyde – Christmas Dinner Organiser

ITEM AND DECISION	ACTION
<p>1) CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME</p> <p>1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.30hrs welcoming all those present.</p> <p>1.2 The Chairman invited the Vice President of the RBL Branch to address the meeting with regard to the future of The Royal British Legion club and premises in Oakham In his introduction, the Vice President advised why the uncertain position of the RBL had come about and made the Committee aware of the current state of the Club. Financially. He said the club faced an uncertain future in the next 18 months. And as for the splendid premises although some refurbishment had taken place the current state of the décor and furniture and fittings left much more to be done. This renovation would require a substantial amount of funds which the club did not have.</p> <p>It had therefore been proposed to seek the help of the New Legion Clubs Company. This Company was formed by the RBL in recognition of the running and economical difficulties that all Clubs faced. This Company has been funded by the RBL (on a loan basis) to refurbish selected Clubs to a high standard. The Oakham Branch of the Royal British Legion met the NLC criteria. The Oakham Branch and Club Committees are convinced that the NLC route is the right one to adopt to ensure the survival of the long established club– the alternative would be to close the Club and sell off the premises.</p>	

<p>In view of this the RBL would seek the Branch member's approval at a Special General Meeting on Wednesday 16 January to move to support the motion of enlisting the help of the NCL.</p> <p>The Vice President said he would ask all members to support George Kirk, as President of the Club at the Special General Meeting to secure the future of the club. See attached letter</p> <p>1.3 The Chairman thanked the Vice president before he left the meeting for finding the time to address the Committee in the light of the forthcoming proposals.</p> <p>2) MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>2.1 The Minutes of the last Branch Committee meeting held on the 1st October 2007 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a true record.</p> <p>3) MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>3.1 The famed print "A Tribute to Sir Thomas Sopwith" had been presented to the W0 & Sgt Mess RAF Cottesmore on Wednesday 14th November by Malcolm Sutton. Several Branch Committee members had also attended the presentation.</p> <p>12.2 The Branch now had the sound system mentioned in the minutes which was used at the last the last meeting. To ratify the expenditure of the purchase it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by the Meetings Coordinator that the sum of £95.94 be debited to the Branch accounts</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>4) CHAIRMANS REPORT</p> <p>4.1 The chairman thanked all the Committee and members who provided support and the buffet at the September's social evening.</p> <p>4.2 Future speakers for Branch Meetings for 2008 are:</p> <p>2nd Jan - The Royal British Legion - Nigel Sudborough</p> <p>6th Feb – Vulcan XH 588 - Bob Tacey</p> <p>5th March - AGM</p> <p>2nd April - TBN</p> <p>7th May - Dawn McCafferty - The RAF Families Federation</p>	<p>Treasurer</p> <p>All</p>
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<p>4th June – Dr Chris Morris - RAF Habbaniya</p> <p>2nd Chris Fear – Area Welfare officer</p> <p>6th August - Gordon Diffey</p> <p>3rd Sept - Wings Appeal Meeting</p> <p>1st October – Social Evening</p> <p>5th Nov -TBN</p> <p>3rd Dec – Christmas Dinner</p>	
<p>5) HONORARY TREASURER’S REPORT</p> <p>5.1 Hon Treasurers report stated that the Branch’s Bank Accounts were both in credit. The balances being £2,418.25 in the current account and £859.38 in the deposit account. Included in the current account total was the Branch Annual Dinner receipts to be paid out at a later date Also Included in the total was a cheque for £315.00 donated by Mrs Paula Fyfe, the daughter of the late Ben Hunnisett who ran the Great North Run on Sunday September 30th, 2007 in aid of RAFA.</p> <p>5.2 The HonTreasurer was presented with a cheque for £35. 00 pounds from Jo Tibbott being the sum donated to the Wings Appeal fund by guests at her 70th birthday party.</p> <p>5.3 It was proposed by the WAO and seconded by the Meetings Coordinator that a sum of £25 be donated to the Presidents Band in support of their duties at the next Area conference.</p> <p>Agreed</p>	Treasurer
<p>6. HONORARY SECRETARY</p> <p>6.1 The HS made the committee aware of the next South East & Eastern Area conference to be held at Lakeside Warner’s holiday Resort, Hayling Island from the 4th -6th April 2008.</p> <p>6.2. The HS reminded the Committee that the Branch had received an invitation to the Rutland Air Cadets Presentation evening on Thursday 13th June at 19.15 hrs. At the moment 7 Branch members have said that they would like to attend. The HS would inform the OC Rutland Cadets.</p>	Honorary Secretary
<p>7) WINGS APPEAL ORGANISER</p> <p>7.1 The WAO has already received application forms for the 2008 Wings Appeal at Tesco. He would also be approaching the manager of the new Wilkinsons store in town after Christmas with a view to collecting outside the store this next year</p>	WOA

<p>8) HONORARY MEMBERSHIP OFFICER</p> <p>8.1 In the absence of the HMS the HS said that since the last meeting he had received correspondence that Mr John Prichard would like to join the Branch. Roger Hyde was to pass the details on the HMS.</p>	HMS
<p>9) ASSTANTANT HONORARY WELFARE OFFICER</p> <p>9.1 Nothing to report at this time</p>	
<p>10) MEETINGS COORDINATOR</p> <p>10.1 Nothing to report at this time</p>	
<p>11) INVITED MEMBERS</p> <p>11.1 Roger Hyde attended the meeting giving the outline proposals for the Christmas dinner and presenting the dinner menu to the Committee. It was agreed that Jo Tibbott and Val Bury would organise the raffle for the evening.</p>	Jo Tibbott Val Bury
<p>12) AOB</p> <p>12.1 It was agreed hat the Hon treasure would arrange for the Branch web site to be brought up to date. It was proposed that the sum of £39.00 be paid out for the required web hosting fee. Proposed by Malcolm Sutton seconded by Jo Tibbott</p> <p>Agreed</p>	Treasurer
<p>13) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>10.1 Thursday 7th February 2008 at 7.30p.m</p>	All

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm.
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D Bury
Honorary Secretary
November 2007

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R .TOY
CHAIRMAN
February 2008

DISTRIBUTION:

- Action: All Committee Members
Senior RAFALO – RAF Cottesmore (D Craven)
RAFALO (Rutland Branch), RAF Cottesmore (R Crouch)
- Information: RAFA Rutland Branch President (Gp. Capt. K. McCann)
RAFA Area Director (Mr K Clarke)

Branch Members on email.