

**Branch meeting held Ennis Square Social club,
Wednesday 14th December 2011**

1/10b/11

The chairman opened the meeting at 1930hrs.

Apologies received from s/m's Jack Robinson and Ken Tratthen.

2/12b/11. Minutes

The minutes of the last branch and committee meetings were read.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3/12b/11 Correspondence

- 1. There were numerous Christmas cards sent to the branch from around the branches of the MNA.*
- 2. From national, A new branch is being formed in Tyne & Wear.*
- 3. From national, Reply regarding payments to national funds.*
- 4. From Mrs A. Sullivan, A big thank you for the £30 Christmas Box.*
- 5. From Felicity and Billy Dobson thanking the branch for the contribution towards Welfare.*
- 6. From s/m Taff Jenkins brother in Australia regarding Tower Hill.*

Matters arising

- 2. This new branch was holding its first meeting at noon Wednesday 7th December.*
- 3. This reply was to an e-mail sent by the secretary regarding payments to national from the Ladies Section on monies raised by their collecting boxes in public houses, national have agreed with the branch that payments can be made quarterly so that national can extract their 10% for the Charity Number used.*
- 4. Mrs. Ann Sullivan always telephones to say thank you to the members for their generous Christmas Box each year. Mrs Sullivan stopped sending Christmas cards out since she lost her husband Terry.*
- 5. This thank you letter sent in by s/m's Felicity and Billy Dobson was for the financial contribution made by the branch towards an electronic pill box that is alarmed to remind Felicity to take her tablets. In the letter, Billy wrote how it had helped him in his care for Felicity and hoped he could now attend more meetings and outings.*
- 6. S/m Taff Jenkins brother had wrote in a recent letter to Taff about the MN Tower Hill memorial and how the Mayor of Tower Hamlets had intervned to stop a party taking place there.*

The secretary went on to explain that he received that many one line notifications that he had stopped downloading them as they were a waste, but any that are of importance will be kept and the members notified. Members can go to there local library and ask for the branch website to be brought up on www.mnaredcardormanstown.org.uk to keep in touch with what is going on, those members that are on line will still receive mail from the sec as it comes in from all sources

4/12b/11. Treasurers Report

Branch treasurer s/m Raymond Coaster, gave his usual up-to-date report on branch finance that stands at:- Income to 30th November, £379. Expenditure for the same period stood at

£319.73 giving the branch a balance of £1,711.69 Yorkshire Bank statement £1,710.42. there was £1.27 cash in hand. The branch Welfare and Remembrance Fund stands at £1,612.24. The treasurer went on to say that he had made an order to the Slop Chest and they had sent him a new cap with the Red Ensign on it with the wording British Merchant Navy. These caps sell at £12. The treasurer also went on to say a big thank you for the good sale of Christmas Draw tickets. The Treasurers Report was accepted proposed s/m Tommy Graham and seconded by s/m Taff Jenkins.

5/12b/11. Branch Representative

Branch Representative s/m Billy Dobson had very little to report, but has given the last £300 for calendar sales as they are now all sold, but there are coasters still on sale. Billy had handed plans for the new sea wall being built, to the secretary. The secretary held up the plans for all to see and explained where the 'Birger' anchor is to be situated as well as a Flag Pole. The sec explained that he was glad that Birse, who are constructing the sea wall, are seeing to the anchor as it saves him having to apply for planning permission to have the Flag Pole sited with the anchor; the flag pole is being donated by the council as they have one spare. There were no objections regarding the anchor and Billy will inform the Councils rep. The report was well received.

6/12b/11. Branch Welfare Officer

s/m Jan Harper, Welfare Officer, told the meeting that she was still visiting the branch members who require a visit, and that they were all doing well, but s/m Peter Willis had not been to well of late. Jan's work for the branch is well received and appreciated. Everyone sends their best regards.

7/12b/11. Branch Public Relations

s/m Tony Whatmore spoke of his PR work for the branch telling of all the outlets he was contacting to promote the branch and its activities and that he was now using a new outlet the Redcar Town that is on line. It was also reported on the article he had in this quarters MN Full Ahead magazine.

The secretary said that things were looking up as we had three articles in the magazine this quarter.

The PR report was also well received.

8/12b/11 Any Other Business.

8.1 Football card and 25 club.

A football card was run, with thanks to s/m Tommy Graham, and won by s/m Billy Dobson with Aston Villa. The 25 club draw was also made, first prize No. 8, s/m Cyril Kitchener. The 2nd prize No. 27, was won by s/m Dave Buckworth.

8.2 Branch Constitution.

The chairman told the meeting that, at the last branch meeting everyone received a copy of the amended branch constitution and the members were asked if they had any queries now was the time to bring them to the fore. No one had any remarks to make regarding the constitution so it will be brought before the branch AGM in January 2012 for ratification.

Welfare Officer s/m Jan Harper stood to thank the Ladies Section and said she was looking forward to working with them all in the New Year.

S/m Taff Jenkins stood to say a big thank you for a very good night out at the branch social the previous Saturday, he said that his wife and himself had enjoyed it immensely.

A new member, Steven Rogers attended the meeting, and stood to introduce himself Steven had served in the Royal Navy but qualified for the MNA through fishing and P&O Stenna ferries.

The annual Branch Christmas took place there being 20 prizes and all were claimed.

With no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 2020 hrs. by thanking every one for turning to and wishing every one a Merry Christmas and looked forward to seeing all hands in the New Year.

Secretary Dave Buckworth Chairman Dave Price

Proposed ----- Seconded -----