

Committee meeting held Redcar RAFA club,

Wednesday 26th October 2011

1/10c/11

The chairman, s/m David Price opened the meeting at 1930 hrs.

Apologies received from s/ms Noreen Sowden and Taff Jenkins.

2/10c/11 Treasurer

The treasurer, s/m Raymond Coaster, said he had very little to report apart from the Christmas Social event in the RAFA club has now been finalised, even the artiste was booked.

S/m Ted Dobson asked who was going to provide the buffet, and he was replied to by the treasurer who said that the RAFA club were going to provide it.

3/10c/11 Secretary

The secretary had very little to say regarding correspondence, apart from the branch now has written permission if required to use the MN badge logo if required. He also showed to the committee a pendant that had been presented to the branch on our recent visit to Hull. The secretary said he had been to Quick Stitch in Redcar and priced the cost of having our own pendant made for distribution as and when required. That was why he had obtained written permission to use the logo from the MNA.

4/10c/11 Branch Representative

S/m Billy Dobson queried himself as still being Branch Representative, due to the fact that he will not be able to travel to Birmingham for meetings due to health problems.

The chairman told Billy that he had to get on with it as far as the branch is concerned he is still our rep. Billy told the committee that he had received an e-mail from national secretary s/m Tim Brandt stating that if Billy had any good ideas would he please pass them on to national. Billy also informed the meeting that on request from the branch secretary he had ordered 8 new collecting boxes, but they were out of stock at the moment but would be sent off as soon as they came in. Another report from Billy was on the subject of calendars stating that he only has 28 left. It was also reported that Col. Stewart was wondering if we had given any thought to a visit to HMS Trincomalee at Hartlepool. It was generally felt that the spring of next year would be a better time as the weather may be more kind then. Billy said he has a lot of work on at the moment and the branch web-site needed up-dating, and the Memorial Book was to be added.

5/10c/11 Welfare Officer

Welfare officer s/m Jan Harper reported to the meeting that she had been away on holiday for 5 weeks but since returning home she had been round to see all our shipmates who are some what under the weather but all are doing fine and send there best regards to everyone. The secretary commented upon the remarkable job Jan was doing, and we should all be pleased that we have her in the branch. All Agreed

6/10c/11 Branch Public Relations Officer

PR Officer s/m Tony Whatmore had nothing out of the ordinary to report as everything that was coming up within the branch had been reported in the press. Tony went on to say that, as we all know, he is taking on the running of the branch 25 club, and before every draw is made he would like a member to check that all the numbers are correct and in the bag. This was agreed by all.

Any Other Business

7.1

S/m Jimmy Sturdy turned up at the meeting, and he had not been to meetings for about a year; but, he stood up to thank the branch for sending a sympathy card to him and his family regarding the very sad loss of his wife recently. Jimmy also said that he would be attending all meetings in the coming future. Good news.

7.2 Birger Anchor

The secretary had made it known in the past that a meeting was to be held between the branch and the councils representative for the work being carried out on the seafront and the removal of the Birger anchor to another site.

The secretary left it to s/m Billy Dobson to fill in the details. Billy reported that the anchor is to be moved along the seafront to a position about opposite Peel Cottage (No 71 The Esplanade) and also apart from where the fishing boats parking ended. Another two sites had also been put to us, one was on the island at the east end of the High Street, this was refused as it was not a suitable place to hold a service of Remembrance as we would all get mowed down by a bus. The third option was that the anchor would be placed on the western end of the Stray, this was also rejected as being out of the way. The good news about the anchor, is that our request for a flag pole to be placed with the anchor so that the Red Ensign can be flown at all times has been granted and we may not have to apply for planning permission as it would come under civil contractors Birse who are carrying out the regeneration work.

7.3 NE Coast Agreement

The secretary read an agreement that had been sent out to all those branches who attend the Bridlington MN reunion in June each year, there were 8 points within the agreement relating to the running of the reunion and the surplus monies that would be held by the Hull branch. The secretary went on to say that he had read the agreement very carefully and signed it on behalf of the branch and returned it back to the Hull secretary

7.4 Changes to Branch Constitution

The secretary handed out to each committee member a copy of the branch constitution that he had updated. He went on to say that if he handed out to every member sheets of paper with amendments written on them, they would probably not get included with the existing copies already handed out so, he had enclosed the updates into the constitution and printed off copies. The committee were asked to go through the new entries as follows:-

Item 16 Finance. Added are four new items from 16.1-16.4 inclusive. These four items are regarding the branches accounts and what they are for i.e. General account and Welfare & Remembrance Fund account, and the uses of.

Item 11. Ladies Section. There are 6 new entries from 11.1 – 11.6. These items are in relation to the setting up of a Ladies section within and under the umbrella of the branch.

7.5 Ladies Section

The Ladies section is purely for raising funds for the branch Welfare & Remembrance Fund. S/m Jan Harper was asked to reply to the secretary on this section, and she told the committee that a meeting was to take place the following day (27th) to get the section started. Jan said that even now there were some good ideas floating round for raising money. Boxes will be placed with permission around the pubs and clubs in Redcar. These boxes will be emptied on a regular basis and all monies raised by the Ladies will be handed over to the branch treasurer, a form of minutes will be kept and a copy handed to the branch secretary for inclusion within the branch minute book as well as a record of the monies raised. The Ladies section will not have any overheads as the branch secretary will provide for what ever the ladies want from writing paper to postage.

7.6 November Dates

S/m Ian Barnes again reported on the dates that cover November and the Act of Remembrance and where all the events are taking place, i.e parades, concerts and the Poppy Appeal.

Secretary *David Buckworth*

Chairman *David Price*

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