

RAFA GLOBAL BRANCH 1370

Minutes of the Branch Monthly Meeting held remotely on Zoom.
at 7.30pm on Tue 17th Sept 2024

Present: Steve Mullis (Chair), Clive Simpson (Newsletter), Andrew Bellamy (Branch Welfare), Jonathan Percival (Sec.), Graham Croft (Wings Appeal), .

Apologies: Richard Wiltshire (Treasurer), Graham Grice, Gerwyn Thomas (Membership), Kris Mercer (Webmaster).

1 Welcome/Apologies

Jonathan welcomed everyone to the meeting and then received apologies for absences. The Branch Secretary then started the meeting.

2 Minutes of the last meeting

The last minutes had been previously distributed to members and were accepted as an accurate record.

3 Matters Arising from the previous minutes.

None.

4 Chairman's Report

The Chairman informed the Committee that the Wreaths required for both the Visit to the War Graves, during the Spanish Trip, and for laying at The Cenotaph had been obtained, and Steve has them. Following the discussion, regarding the Pins and Ties, and scarves for the ladies, Steve has them in his possession, and it will now be a matter of arranging how to distribute them at minimum costs.

In terms of the two trips during the AGM, an email would be sent to those on the lists, detailing the approximate costs of the trips, one to Ronda and one to Gibraltar, the costs per person would be approximately 30 Euros, and any extra after the trips had been paid, would be donated to Branch Funds.

As the Visit to the War Graves is to be regarded as an Act of Remembrance, a coach has been looked into two suggestions for the cost have been put forward for consideration: these are a) Total Cost of £3-400 paid in full from Branch Funds, and b) 50% to be paid by branch.

5 Treasurer's Report

As Richard was absent, The Secretary reported the accounts stood as listed below.

Community Account £11061.73

Wings Appeal Account £4406.51

Community Account after removal of ring-fenced monies	£6655.22
Welfare Account	£ 339.63
Wreaths (AGM and Cenotaph)	£150
Pins	£274

6 **Welfare Officer's Report**

Andrew reported one case in hand and all paperwork completed.

7 **Secretary's Report**

NTR

8 **Wings Appeal Report.**

Graham Croft reported that numerous events will be taking place including Parachute Drop with the proceeds going towards the branch, The Branch Gazebo will be present at Abingdon, with Clive providing the manpower. Spike Elliott(OC Macclesfield RAFAC) will be holding an event as well. Gerwynn's relatives raised £1043 in sponsorship from taking part in the Great North Run.

9 **Social Report**

As Dave was absent, it was reported that a Social Event had been organised, visiting the RAF Museum at Cosford on the 18th of November, and Accommodation had been arranged in Telford. Details available on the Facebook Page.

10 **Membership Report**

As Gerwyn was absent, The Secretary reported that there were currently 607 members, consisting of:

Ordinary	317
Lifetime	181
Associate	41
GAYE	68 (Give As You Earn, usually serving members)

11 **Newsletter Report**

Clive reported that the next newsletter is due in September. He will be at Abingdon with the Branch Gazebo for the branch, assisted by Steve Coleman.

12 **Items Raised By Members**

Following contact by Mazza, through Facebook, asking about the outcome of discussions regarding The Branch Standard, Jonathan replied stating that the Minutes of all Branch Committee Meetings are published on both The Branch Website, and The Branch Facebook Page.

13 **Any Other Business** Nothing Raised

14 **Date of Next Meeting** is proposed as Tue 8th October 2024 at 7.30pm(via Zoom)

Jonathan Percival,
Hon. Secretary,

