

BRANCH 1357 Benalmádena Costa

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Held at The Galaxy Bar, Avda. Bonanza, Arroyo de la Miel at 20:00 on Wednesday 2nd June 2004

Those present at the meeting were as follows:

Members

Bill Dixon Vice President
Steve Mullis Vice Chairman
Reg Haywood Secretary
Tony Hansford Treasurer
Derek Brown Welfare Officer
Iris Dober Welfare Officer

Associate Members

Marlene Elliott Social Events Coordinator
Sandra Martin Publicity Officer
Julie Mullis

1. **Apologies were received from:** - Doug Heron, Alice Crowe, Catherine Heritage, Dorothy Allen, Mike Durrant
2. **The minutes from the last meeting were read, but were referred back to the Secretary for amendment of minor errors before being signed and accepted.**
3. **Matters arising from the previous meeting:** -
 - 3.1 Steve Mullis reported that RAFA pennants were not available from RAFATrad. He would continue investigating.
 - 3.2 The Galaxy Bar owners would be pleased to have a trophy cabinet installed. Committee members were asked to source possible cabinetmakers.

4. Treasurers Report: -

Balance at 5 th May 2004		5285.40€
Money to bank 06/05/04	Social Income	67.62€
Outgoings 06/05/04	Social Expenses	300.00€
	Photocopying	31.22€
	Postage	26.66€
	Stationery	16.40€
	Welfare Expenses	35.33€
	Welfare Payments	560.00€
Total Outgoings		969.61€
Balance at 2 nd June 2004		4383.41€

5. Welfare Officers Report: -

Derek Brown reported on the flowing cases: -

- 5.1 Case L. (elderly couple at Calahonda). RAFBF has made a grant to cover additional expenses for house cleaning and gardening.
- 5.2 Case N (widow in Fuengirola). Initial assessment made in preparation for request to RAFBF for assistance with living expenses.
- 5.3 Case O (widower in Nueva Andalucia). Son and daughter returning to UK. Father wishes to stay in Spain and enter a residential home. Requesting RAFBF assistance to meet shortfall between pension income and cost of home. Initial assessment visit to be arranged next week.

Derek Brown also said it was intended, with the permission of the Committee, to invite David Carlton to attend future Committee Meetings to report on his welfare cases, on a rotating basis with other Welfare Officers.

6. Wings Appeal Report: -

- 6.1 The Secretary reported that he had received a letter of resignation from the Committee of the Wings Appeal Coordinator, Mike Durrant. Steve Mullis would be taking over the role temporarily.
- 6.2 Steve Mullis reported that there is currently a new leader for the Povey Trophy, for most Wings Appeal money collected by any one establishment. There are currently 32 bars in the competition.

7. Social Events Report: -

The Social Events Coordinator, Marlene Elliott reported that regrettably Alice Crowe has resigned from the Social Events team as she is returning permanently to the UK.

8. Any Other Reports: -

8.1 Report on Blackpool Conference

Steve Mullis, the branch conference delegate, gave just a minor report as he stated a fuller report would appear in the next newsletter and on the web page. He reported that the branch standard was not paraded at the Sunday church parade but it was in place at the European Area Conference the day before. The major point to come from the annual conference was concerning the resolutions on the issue of membership and membership rates. Prior to the conference there had been major disquiet concerning the proposals on both of these issues, in fact the branch committee had instructed the delegate to vote against all the major resolutions on these issues. This he confirmed had been the case and stated that he had in fact spoken at conference against the resolutions. This had assisted in the resolutions being either defeated or as was the final case being withdrawn to be reviewed by the Central Council. The only resolution to be passed concerning the membership issue was an emergency resolution presented by one of the branches as a compromise resolution concerning the amount of increase in the annual membership rate charged against full members. It was agreed that the full membership rate would be increased by £2.50 this year and the next.

8.2 Advance Notice on European Area Autumn Conference in Gibraltar

Steve Mullis stated that the October Conference being held in Gibraltar was now fully organised. The only item that still needed filling in was the special price for the branch members of the Benalmádena Branch who wished to attend the conference on Saturday 15th October and attend the Gala Dinner and ball being held that night at the Gibraltar Casino. The accommodation price of £75 per twin room on a bed and breakfast basis has already been agreed. Due to the fact that this year is Gibraltar's 300year anniversary, early reservation is required and to that end Steve requested that those members wishing to attend contact him a.s.a.p. to place their names on the list. In any case all reservations have to be made by 31st July 2004. Please remember that RAFA will be charged for all rooms reserved whether they are used or not, so please do not reserve if you feel that you will not in the end attend the event.

Steve further stated that this conference gave all members an excellent chance to attend an event that in most cases they would be unable to normally attend. Since the Benalmádena Branch is contemplating bidding for the 2007 Conference it would be advantageous for as many members to attend this function as possible to see at first hand how the event needs to be run.

8.3 Report on Mijas International Day

The 29th May saw the 16th International Day held in the Plaza de la Pena in Mijas Pueblo. The branch had its stand there for the second year running, following in the shoes of the Costa del Sol branch. The event was great success for the branch with a profit of over 700€ being

made. The branch standard was paraded through the town by Associate Member Simon Mattin (ex Army), accompanied by David Carlton, who paraded the Costa del Sol branch standard. Steve & Julie Mullis who organised the branches participation expressed their profound thanks to all those members who made the effort to help out on the stand during the day. They expressed their further thanks to Anita & Fred Barnes, Fred & Barbara Briggs and David Carlton who either assisted in the setting up or the dismantling of the stall. Those who assisted at the end did not finally reach their beds until gone 2am. For Steve & Julie this was after having only 5 hours rest the previous night after setting up the stand. It was pointed out that had more members been prepared to go that extra mile with their help, the stand could have prepared and returned to its place of storage much, much sooner.

It was hoped that next year the members who were conspicuous by their absence would make an effort to attend this international event, which is attended by nearly 100,000 visitors, without being asked time and time again before finally not attending. There are always good reasons why people cannot attend and this year we have heard them all. Steve & Julie hope that early notice of the event next year will result in people putting themselves forward now. You may not know what you are doing next May but if you volunteer now you will.

9. Other Notified Items: -

None.

10. Any Other Business: -

10.1 Bill Dixon, Vice President, informed the Committee that he would be returning to the UK shortly, but would continue to be a member of the Benalmádena Branch and hoped to return on a monthly basis to attend Committee meetings.

11. Date of Next Meeting: - Wednesday 14th July at 20:00 in the Galaxy Bar

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:20 hrs.