

# Royal Air Forces Association - BRANCH 1357 Benalmádena

## Minutes of Committee Meeting

Held at The Galaxy Bar, Avenida. Bonanza, Arroyo de la Miel at 20:00 on Wednesday 2nd November 2005

Those present at the meeting were as follows:

<u>Members</u>		<u>Associate Members</u>	
Steve Mullis	Vice Chairman	Marlene Elliott	Social Events Coordinator
Reg Haywood	Secretary/Treasurer	Sandra Martin	Social Events Coordinator
Fred Briggs	Wings Appeal Organiser	Julie Mullis	Publicity Officer
Derek Brown	Welfare Officer	Catherine Heritage	Welfare Officer
Iris Dober	Welfare Officer	Mike Beaumont	Welfare Officer

- 1 **Apologies were received from:** - No apologies.
- 2 **The minutes from the last meeting were read, signed and accepted.**
- 3 **Matters arising from the previous meeting:** -

3.1 No matters arising

#### 4 **Treasurers Report:** -

Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2005	<b><u>7337.94€</u></b>	
Money to Bank during Sept/Oct 2005	15.00€	Branch Subscriptions
	128.80€	Membership Subscription
	2358.00€	Band Ticket Sales
	3193.41€	Wings Appeal Airport
	365.13€	Wings Appeal Year Round
	96.01€	Overseas Account
Total Income Sept/Oct 2005	<b><u>6156.35€</u></b>	
Outgoings during Sept/Oct 2005	83.30€	Membership Subs to CHQ
	254.00€	Band Tour Expenses
	13.80€	Social Expenses
	19.89€	Overseas Account
	8.65€	Photocopying
	43.01€	Postage
	149.00€	Conference Expenses
	77.45€	Stationery
	111.30€	Travel Expenses
	546.66€	Welfare Expenses
	5.47€	Wings Cash underpaid?
	7516.41€	Wings to CHQ (£5100)
	37.86€	Commission on Wings Cheque
	7.50€	Bank Charges
Total Outgoings during Sept/Oct 2005	<b><u>8874.30€</u></b>	
<b>Balance at 31st October 2005</b>	<b><u>4619.99€</u></b>	
Wings collection in Sterling = £520.09 (728.13€)		
Less £85.82 Draw Tickets		
£100.00 Remembrance Day Wreaths		

## 5 Welfare Officers Report: -

- 5.1 Mike Beaumont reported that he was currently dealing with one new case of a loan that was to be repaid to RAFA.
- 5.2 Reg Haywood reported on Case MC05, the member in question having finished treatment and being given the all-clear, returning to hospital in January for check-up.
- 5.3 Mike Beaumont reported that he would be leaving Spain at the end of the month to travel to Germany and eventually to settle in New Zealand. On behalf of the Committee the Vice Chairman thanked Mike for his welfare work during the short period he had been with RAFA and wished him well for the future. Mike replied that he had been very happy working for RAFA. All files were passed on to Derek Brown
- 5.4 Reg Haywood reported to the Committee that he wished to get involved in Welfare work but must first find a replacement to take on the role of Honorary Secretary.

## 6 Wings Appeal Report: -

- 6.1 Fred Briggs reported that 288.41€ had been collected from year round boxes during September/October.
- 6.2 Airport collection during Battle of Britain Week realised 6044.86€

## 7 Social Events Report: -

- 7.1 Marlene Elliott reported that Crystals Restaurant in Benalmádena Costa had been booked for the Christmas Dinner Dance at 22€ per person. Menu has been published in the Newsletter. Ian Jacks will provide the entertainment. Tickets will be on sale to members only until 13th November, after which they will be available to all-comers. There will also be a prize draw on the night.
- 7.2 Steve Mullis reported that the Annual Draw would take place on Wednesday 14th December at the Galaxy Bar. The aim is to have 100 prizes so Steve urged Committee and members to donate themselves or seek donations from Bars/Restaurants etc. He also reported that 900 tickets had been issued. A Finger buffet will be provided on the night.

## 8 Any Other Reports: -

- 8.1 Steve Mullis reported that arrangements were in hand for the Remembrance Day Service and Parade to take place in St George's Chapel and English Cemetery in Malaga on Sunday 13th November. Service is scheduled to commence at 11:00 hrs but Steve urged all those involved, wreath layers, standard-bearer etc. to arrive no later than 10:00 hrs for briefings.
- 8.2 Steve Mullis gave a brief report on the recent European Conference held in Germany. During the conference Benalmádena Branch had maintained a high profile with Steve himself being awarded a European Area Presidential Certificate and Reg Haywood being awarded the Dennis Emes Shield, awarded annually by the European Area Council to the full member who is judged to have displayed the best all-round performance during the preceding year. Steve also presented a cheque at Conference for £5100 as Benalmádena Branch contribution to this year's Wings Appeal.  
Steve also reported that the Association is looking to the possibility of having only one class of membership. This would not however change the criteria for grants etc. from the RAFBA  
Steve felt that the Conference reflected a very positive attitude and that the Association had moved back into profit but that costs were still too high and would need to be carefully controlled.  
The European Conference will be held next year in Costa Blanca North (Torrevieja) and anyone wishing to attend is asked to inform Steve.
- 8.3 Steve Mullis advised the Committee that the Branch might receive an invitation to visit the Costa Blanca North Branch some time next year. Full details will be advised later.
- 8.4 Reg Haywood gave the Committee a report on the August 28<sup>th</sup> Band Concert as follows:-

Firstly the concert was an outstanding success, the venue being perfect for both audience and band, and all those he had spoken to who had attended the event thoroughly enjoyed the evening and were asking if it was going to be repeated. Reg had visited RAF Cranwell during his recent trip back to UK and met with Malcolm Goodman (RAF Music Services PR and Marketing Manager) who is certainly anxious that his band (Band of the RAF Regiment) comes out next year. While not a great deal of detail was discussed Malcolm was also keen to extend the tour to include the two Costa Blanca Branches and possibly Madrid, but this would really depend on cost implications. If the tour is extended some funding may be available from RAF Music Services Trust, a charity recently set up for just this sort of eventuality – Malcolm himself is one of the Trustees. But ultimately Reg believed that Branches would have to bear the brunt of the costs.

A provisional date of 2/3 September 2006 has been set for the Band's visit to Gibraltar so any concert organised next year will be around those dates.

On the cost side it was difficult to estimate initially what the cost for August 28th was going to be but now we have the experience we may be able next year to minimise some of those costs, and maybe even look at the possibility of additional sponsors.

The only disappointment was that the attendance was lower than we would have liked or even anticipated and to this end we may need to look at maximising the publicity opportunities without increasing the cost. A lot of the posters and programmes were not utilised but we had to go for a minimum print run. What was not known at the time was that the concert fell in the middle of the Benalmádena Music Festival, with events being held in the Auditorium both before and after, although it was not advertised in the publicity for that event. If this occurs next year we should look to be included.

Another disappointment was the lack of attendance from representatives of the ayuntamiento, though this could be considered their loss. A possibility for this was maybe wrong assumptions made on our part, in that we were given a list of councillors and assumed they would be attending. Maybe we should send out individual invitations and request a response.

WHAT WENT WRONG - Not a lot but it was extremely difficult getting information from the ayuntamiento, hope for a better response for next year.

There were problems at the border with Gibraltar, which delayed the Band's instrument truck getting through, but fortunately these were fairly quickly resolved and the band had left early to allow for any problems.

The problem with the drummer's cymbals left in a hangar in Gibraltar was an issue out of our control, but we did manage to effect a resolution, which greatly impressed the band.

There were also some issues with the collection and sale of tickets at the entrance, which at times seemed somewhat chaotic, so the process will need to be improved for next year.

WHAT WENT RIGHT - Just about everything else, subject to earlier comments in this report.

Reg also said that while he thoroughly enjoyed organising the concert and was certainly reluctant to relinquish any aspect of it, he felt that maybe next year we would be better served by the appointment of a sub-committee to organise the event.

Finally, what did we make? Unfortunately not as much as was initially forecast, but a respectable sum nonetheless. Total inflows amounted to 5,098.00€, total outflows 2,447.65€, leaving a balance of 2,650.35€

There is still money to come from sale of tickets by the ayuntamiento totalling 260€ but we still do not know how much, if anything, we will be charged for use of the auditorium. True to form, still trying to get a meeting to finalise this issue.

## 9 Other Notified Items: -

9.1 No notified items.

## 10 Any Other Business: -

10.1 Reg Haywood advised the Committee on conduct, nominations and voting for the AGM as follows:-

10.1.1 An AGM shall take place between January 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>, date to be decided by Committee.

10.1.2 At least 14 days notice of AGM shall be given to members in writing or, if so authorised by the Committee, by advertisement in local press.

10.1.3 The notice of an Annual General Meeting shall include notification of any Officer and Additional Member elections to take place at the meeting and shall invite nominations to fill the vacancies. Nomination forms, on which acceptances of nomination by the members concerned shall be certified, must be signed by two Ordinary or Life Members of the Branch and forwarded to the Secretary at least seven days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

Provided that if there be no nomination for these positions, then the Ordinary or Life Members present shall be entitled to nominate any eligible member who is willing to accept the position.

10.1.4 If the election of an Associate Member of the Committee is to take place at an Annual General Meeting this shall be indicated in the notice of the meeting and nominations from the Associate Members of the Branch to fill the vacancies shall be invited. Nomination forms, on which acceptances of nomination by the members concerned shall be certified, must be signed by two Associate Members of the Branch and forwarded to the Secretary at least seven days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

Provided that if there be no nomination for these positions, then the Associate Members present shall be entitled to nominate any eligible Associate Member who is willing to accept the position.

If the election of a Life Vice-President or Vice-President is to take place at an Annual General Meeting this shall also be indicated in the notice of the meeting.

10.1.5 The business to be transacted at an Annual General Meeting:

(a) shall comprise:

- (i) consideration of the Report from the Committee for the past year;
- (ii) consideration of the Statement of Accounts for the preceding financial year and the Report of the Auditor or Independent Examiner;
- (iii) election of the Auditor or Independent Examiner;
- (iv) election of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer;
- (v) consideration of any resolutions forwarded by Ordinary or Life Members of the Branch to the Secretary at least seven days before the date of the meeting;

(b) may comprise:

- (i) election of the President, Life Vice-Presidents and Vice-Presidents;
- (ii) election of the Additional and Associate Members of the Committee;
- (iii) election of a delegate or delegates to represent the Branch at the Association Annual Conference;
- (iv) election of a delegate to represent the Branch at the Area Annual Conference
- (v) election of a delegate to a Regional Committee;

Nomination Forms, including a summary of the above, will be issued with the latest Newsletter

**11 Date of Next Meeting: - Wednesday 30th November 2005 at 20:00 in the Galaxy Bar.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:35 hrs.