

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 3rd May 2006

Those present at the meeting were as follows:

Members

Steve Mullis	Chairman
Derek Brown	Welfare
Brian Martin	Wings Appeal
Fred Briggs	Vice Chairman
Reg Haywood	Treasurer
Brian Marsh	Secretary

Associate Members

Julie Mullis	Social Events Coordinator
Alan Gibson	Auditor
Sandra Martin	Social Events Coordinator

1. **Apologies were received from:** Iris Dober – Welfare
2. **The minutes from the last meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman**
3. **Matters arising from the previous meeting: -**

3.1. No Matters Arising

4. Treasurers Report: -

Balance at March 31st 2006	<u>12692.06€</u>	
Money to Bank during April		
	186.95€	Branch Subs
	116.34€	Membership Renewals
	211.00€	Social Income
	1,480.00€	Welfare 06B Grant for EVP
	4,389.22€	Welfare 03P Grant for Residential Care and Flights
	125.93€	Wings Appeal
	155.10€	Transfer from Overseas Account
Total	<u>6,664.54€</u>	
Outgoings during April		
	54.88€	Social Expenses
	84.00€	Membership Renewals to CHQ
	2,327.85€	Welfare 06F Grant for Hearing Aid and General Needs Payment
	70.00€	Welfare 06H Deposit for Wheelchair and Crutches
	28.07€	Welfare Telephone Calls
	112.70€	Welfare Travel Expenses
	11.33€	Bank Commission
	79.72€	Unpaid Returned Cheque
Total	<u>2,768.55€</u>	
Balance at April 30th 2006	<u>16,588.05€</u>	

- 4.1. Nothing further to report at this time

5. Welfare Officer's Report: -

5.1. Cases Handled

Case MC05 - Long term case ferrying cancer patient to hospital for treatment and appointments. Recently had second 3 monthly scan. Results good.

Case 06B - Application granted for funds to supply EPV. EPV supplied initially on short-term hire. Funds received and new EPV ordered but not yet delivered, so still using hire vehicle. Expected imminently

Case 05AA - Loan repaid – cheque forwarded to RAFBF, but lost in process. Eventually found. Case closed.

Case 06C - Provision of Annual Maintenance Grant taken over from RBL to improve speed of delivery of funds. Have delivered first two quarterly payments on 23rd March and 1st May. Special Needs payment delivered 6th April. Next payment due 1st August.

Case 06D - Application submitted for elderly couple to have 2-week respite break in Richard Peck House, Lytham St. Annes. Arrangements have been made for break in July. Home has been in direct contact with couple and they are very happy with the arrangements.

Case 06E - Another call from gentleman requesting meeting in Paloma Park. Before we could meet had a call from Health Centre to say he was there. Visited and arranged to take him home but then son turned up and took him.

Case 06F - Application submitted for assistance to purchase hearing aid. Funds granted and passed on. Hearing Aid has been purchased. Case closed.

Case 06G - Gentleman lives in the campo well outside Cartama. When he applied for Equity Release on his property it was discovered that the land on which is property is built is "illegal", since it was sold off in parcels, of which 4000 sq metres appears on his deeds, and should have been sold in its entirety. He currently has legal bills of 450€, which are likely to rise, and also needs replacement spectacles, because of failing eyesight, and new bottom dentures, of which he currently has none. Completed Application for Financial Assistance and sent off to RAFBF, but asked gentleman to supply supporting documentation, invoices, quotes etc. Request for legal aid refused by RAFBF but have said they will help otherwise when supporting documentation available. Still waiting.

Case 03P - Elderly gentleman is currently in Villa Jacaranda. Application forwarded to RAFBF 03/04/06 for loan to cover cost of Residential Care Home stay and flight/overnight stay plus contingency for sum of £3000+. Application approved and funds transferred to RAFA Benalmadena Account. Gentleman already has a loan of £2000 outstanding from RAFBF, which was to tide him over till he sold the apartment. All outstanding debts will be covered by sale of apartment. Cheque delivered 27/4/06. Gentleman's condition vastly improved and it is hoped he will be returning to South Africa fairly soon. He will be travelling via London so have approached SE Area, via Overseas Welfare Liaison Officer, for assistance during transit and possible overnight stay.

Case 06H - Ex RAF – fell off his scooter and suffered broken leg. Currently staying with friend who rang me saying he was worried about his mobility once he had recovered. Hired wheelchair and crutches from RBL and delivered. 15/04/06.

Case 06I - Gentleman living in Turre, near Mojacar, in need of financial assistance to return to UK and to tide him over till he gets established. Visited 1st May and completed application, but held off submitting it while I sought advice on how to proceed from Overseas Welfare Liaison Officer. Matter further complicated when I received a message from the gentleman to say he had booked to return on June 8th.

In view of the considerable distance travelled for Case 06I I would like to recommend that we establish some boundaries of operation with the other RAFA branches. This was discussed by the committee and it was decided that Steve Mullis would discuss this issue with the other branches concerned and find an agreeable solution.

- 5.2. It was reported that Iris Dober is unwell and will not be able to help with any welfare work for the foreseeable future.
- 5.3. It was noted that when visiting welfare cases for interviews, 2 representatives should attend as per RAFA regulations.

6. Wings Appeal Report: -

- 6.1. No further funds have been reported as being collected from our boxes.
- 6.2. Brian Martin has confirmation from IBEX Insurance Gibraltar of their willingness to sponsor our balloon race on Mijas International Day, to the tune of €1500.
- 6.3. All survey forms are now printed and ready for mailing out with the next newsletter.
- 6.4. Brian Martin is organising the design and procurement of a plaque to be presented to Malaga Airport as a thank you for their continued support of our wings week collection.

7. Social Events Report: -

- 7.1. The details of the Mijas International day were discussed in detail. Sponsorship has been secured from Euro Weekly to cover our costs up to a total of €1000, this is being used for improved stand design in order that we stand a chance of winning one of the cash prizes for best stand. Brian Martin reported that he has contacted an artist friend who is to provide an airfield scene backdrop for the stand. There are problems obtaining permission for the balloon race to take place at Mijas, Brian Martin and Brian Marsh are to approach the airport authorities to seek permission, the fall back plan is to take the balloons to Gibraltar and release them there, this was thought to be the least attractive of our options.
- 7.2. It was again stressed that Mijas International Day is scheduled for June 10th and a request is made to all members and associate members to put their names forward as volunteers for helping both on and before the day
- 7.3. Sandra Martin is visiting locations for a future quiz nights etc and the Bonanza Bar and Buzbys are both offering themselves as an event venue with subsidized entertainment.
- 7.4. The Branch anniversary dinner is booked for Saturday June 3rd, full details in the newsletter
- 7.5. Venues for the Christmas Dinner Dance will be suggested at the next meeting and voted on by the committee once we know what is being offered.
- 7.6. The football cards have now been ordered and will be supplied during May for use at future social events.

8. Any Other Reports: -

- 8.1. The plans for the Band Concert are progressing well, Reg Haywood met with Malcolm Goodman of Music Services and confirmed that we have a grant of 2,000 pounds towards the cost of this event. Posters and tickets are about to be printed and publicity for the event starts in June.
- 8.2. Reg Haywood produced a quantity of old aeroplane photos that have been donated to the branch, Steve Mullis took them away for scanning and inclusion on the web site, they will be sold to raise funds.

9. Other Notified Items:-

- 9.1. No notified items.

10. Any Other Business: -

- 10.1. Brian Marsh has had a meeting with the Junta de Andalucia about the registration of the RAFA as a Spanish registered Charity. Steve Mullis is to check with other branches in Spain to see if they have already done this.

11. Date of Next Meeting:- Wednesday 31st May 2006, at 20.00, Royal British Legion Headquarters, Benalmádena

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22.05 hrs