

Royal Air Forces Association - BRANCH 1357 Benalmádena

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Held at The Galaxy Bar, Avenida de Bonanza, Arroyo de la Miel on 13th October 2008 at 14.00 hrs.

Those present at the meeting were as follows:

Members

Fred Briggs	Chairman
Corinne Mudie	Vice Chairman
Reg Haywood	Treasurer
Cedric Sayce	Public Relations
Derek Brown	Welfare Officer
Doug Heron	Wings Appeal Coordinator
Jack Griggs	Secretary

Associate Members

Gloria Haywood	Social Events Coordinator
Sandra Martin	Social Events Coordinator

1. Apologies

1.1. Apologies were received from: Steve Mullis and Alan Gibson.

2. Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting.

2.1. The minutes from the last meeting were signed and accepted.

3. Matters arising from the previous meeting: -

3.1. Item 9.1. Letter to RAF Gibraltar for RAFALO. **Action completed**, awaiting reply, copy sent to RAFA Gibraltar.

3.2. Item 7.1. Fred's invitations to Guests of Honour for Christmas Dinner Dance. Fred is awaiting a reply from the Consulate, and it was agreed that Cedric will invite a couple from the Costa del Sol news.

3.3. Item 7.4. Reg to arrange Annual Draw tickets. **Action completed**, Tickets on order.

3.4. Item 9.1. Remembrance Sunday refreshments. **Actioned**. Jack has spoken to Steve and agreed that we will make the necessary arrangements and that we should not rely on contributions from the RBL or RNAS. **See Item 9.1 below for follow-up actions.**

4. Treasurer's Report to Committee Meeting Monday 13th October 2008

Balance at 31st August 2008 31,302.65€

Money to Bank to 30th September 2008

Welfare Payments	5,324.43€
Social	37.50€
Wings Appeal Airport	689.64€
Wings Appeal Year Round	25.55€
Branch Subscriptions	15.00€
Membership Renewal	22.40€

Total 6,114.52€

Outgoings to 30th September 2008

Welfare Payments	5,174.37€
Bank Commission	2.67€

Total 5,177.04€

Balance at 30th September 2008 32,240.13€

5. Welfare Officer's Report: -

5.1. It has been a quiet month with no new cases. Derek attended a Welfare Officers course in UK in September and found it very useful.

6. **Wings Appeal Report: -**

6.1. Doug presented the collection figures to date. The Airport collection which suffered several problems this year as well as reduced flights and different schedules, some outside our collection times, totalled €1666.78 and the year running total is €2137.93, with more still to be counted. He said that we will need to re-think the collection next year to try to be more selective on collections and the times which could be the most profitable.

7. **Social Events Report: -**

7.1. The Wings Week Social was very good with 42 tickets sold but there were a few gate crashers (something we need to address). Overall, after expenses, the evening had a profit of €328.50 (including the raffle) which is good. All agreed that it was a very good evening and should be repeated in a similar format perhaps more often.

7.2. The Christmas Dinner Dance tickets have been printed and are available from Sandra.

7.3. The Christmas Draw on 17th December will also be a Social Evening.

7.4. We briefly discussed the possibility of running a Boot type sale at the Galaxy Bar. After the meeting we agreed a date of Saturday 28th February 2009 with the Galaxy, the format etc to be decided next month. We will also discuss the possibility of a Valentines event.

8. **Secretary's Report: -**

8.1. A number of documents have been received from UKHQ. Those of special interest have been forwarded to the appropriate Committee members for attention. A reply is awaited from Gibraltar to our invite to the RAFALO.

9. **Other Notified Items: -**

9.1. **Remembrance Sunday.** Arrangements are in hand. Steve will send the final contacts list before the event. After much discussion about the cost and quantities of food and drink required on the day it was decided to approach the RBL to discretely ask for some contribution by way of food and/or wine. The stock of plates and cups etc need to be checked as soon as possible, Reg, Fred and Sandra will check this week. After the meeting Sandra contacted Mary of the RBL who agreed to provide for some 50 people with us doing the rest. Next meeting we will discuss the final arrangements.

10. **Any Other Business: -**

10.1. Jack has produced a poster advertising the Christmas Dinner Dance. The entertainer is different to last year and so a revised version will be sent to all.

10.2. Fred, Reg and Derek are attending the lawyers on 14th October to follow up our charitable status.

10.3. A visit to RAF Gibraltar will be arranged in the New Year.

10.4. The situation regarding Julies RAFA Award was explained as there was confusion over the one being considered for her by the European Area Committee.

10.5. Fred reported that the interview with Mijas.240tv went well.

10.6. Doug reported that he has been in discussion with a friend who works on a new Oil rig with a view to us becoming their named charity for next year... watch this space.

10.7. The new RAFA Benalmádena Website layout was discussed and it was considered and unanimously agreed that if at all possible it should be reverted to the previous style or similar. It is important that the site should be as user friendly as possible. It was considered that The Home Page should be just that and that links should be provided to important news items. Jack has e-mailed Andy about this but awaits a reply.

10.8. A problem of Committee identity at Social events was brought up. Reg will reinstate our ID Badges.

10.9. Derek advised that a study is being conducted by the RBL in to providing a retirement/respite home in Spain.

11. There being no other business, the meeting closed at 1400 hours

12. Following the meeting, Dr. Lindy Jordan addressed the Committee and members on the current Spanish Social Security regulations and facilities. This was very informative and it was comforting to hear what is available to resident ex-pats. Anyone with queries can make contact through our Welfare Officers.
13. **Date of Next Meeting:** - 3rd November 2008 at the Galaxy Bar at 12:30. (Followed by the social gathering)