

# **Royal Air Forces Association - BRANCH 1357 Benalmádena**

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Held at The Galaxy Bar, Avenida de Bonanza, Arroyo de la Miel on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at 1230 hrs.

Those present at the meeting were as follows:

<b>Members</b>		<b>Associate Members</b>	
Fred Briggs	Chairman	Alan Gibson	Auditor
Reg Haywood	Treasurer	Sandra Martin	Social Events Coordinator
Doug Heron	Wings Appeal Coordinator		
Corinne Mudie	Vice-Chairman		
Jack Griggs	Secretary		
Derek Brown	Welfare Officer		

## **ITEM**

- 1. Apologies.** Apologies were received from: - Steve Mullis, Bill Dixon, Gloria Haywood, and Cedric Sayce.
- 2. Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting.** Sandra noticed that the month for the last minutes in Item 2 was incorrect (November instead of January). This is noted and will be corrected. The minutes from the February meeting were then accepted and signed.
- 3. Matters arising from the previous meeting:**
  - Derek will arrange a discussion for all welfare team members, tentatively late February/early March, to develop input on welfare training for the proposed agenda item at the European Area RAFA conference this autumn. Ongoing action. See Welfare Report below.
  - Summer Ball. See Social Report below.
  - Website. Jack has set up a new Secretary e-mail address, [secretary.rafabenalmadena@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:secretary.rafabenalmadena@yahoo.co.uk), which is now in use. Up-dated Wings Appeal info had been sent to Andy for the webpage, and Jack has started on certain revisions. Ongoing Action.
  - Nominations for European Area Council have been completed and sent to HQ.
  - Jack has corresponded with HQ reference the requirement for 2 Area Conferences in the light of the expense and has been assured by them that both meetings are necessary. Still some doubt about this. Action Completed.
  - Calendar 2010. Ongoing action by all. More ideas and costs needed for next month.
  - Social Matters see Social report below.
- 4. Treasurers Report: -**
  - Reg presented the months accounts and balance sheet for the Committee to examine. There were no observations and the report is filed. The accounts can be examined on request.
- 5. Welfare Officers Report:-**
  - Four cases dealt with, one of whom now sadly deceased
  - Grants processed for 3 cases, 1 grant renewal being processed.
  - One outstanding item to be addressed at the end of the April committee meeting, ( the proposal for European Area Welfare Initiative (EAWI))
  - Request by Francisco Camero funeral directors for their representative Jo Winstanley to attend a social meeting to give a follow up presentation denied, suggest Francisco Camero s.l. be added as a welfare resource on branch website, contact via Jo Winstanley 902 200 625. To be considered in the web updating.
- 6. Wings Appeal Report:-**
  - Doug reported that so far we had received €104.56 from collection boxes and the "name the Teddy Bear".
- 7. Social Events Report:-**
  - Boot/Table Sale 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009. This was quite successful with €209 raised. We have some items remaining and so it was decided to have another sale on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at the Galaxy, times 1100 to 1400hrs as before. All to start collecting again please. (Date agreed with Sue of the Galaxy)
  - Easter Social. An Easter Social with Buffet and Entertainer was agreed for Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April at the Galaxy, from 2000 hrs. Sandra will try to book the same entertainer we had for the Wings Social last year. Reg will print tickets, each to cost €7.50. Numbers will need to be limited after the overcrowding of the last event we held at the Galaxy. (Date agreed with Sue of the Galaxy)
  - Summer ball . Costings and logistics were discussed at length covering menu options, location, entertainment and privacy. It was decided that costs and logistics fell in favour of Valparaiso but that Club Caballeros should be kept in mind for future events. The cost was agreed at €30 per head which included arrival drinks and canapès, dinner in a private room with post dinner coffee, and live music for dancing in an adjacent room, but not wine and drinks. Dates were discussed and Derek said he had a provisional booking for Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June but he would go back to see if a Saturday was available. If not then the

Friday date would be confirmed. Full details will be published together with ticket availability as soon as possible after the date is confirmed and sales will then go ahead. (**Post meeting note: No Saturdays are available within a one month bracket and so the Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June is confirmed.**)

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

1. No great activity this month from HQ. The Annual Conference is looming and we need to advise our delegate should there be any specific way we want our voting to go, otherwise voting should be left to his discretion. A Branch report is to be prepared as usual and has to be sent to the Overseas Director in good time.

2. Membership cards have been received for those who have paid their subscriptions. Reminder to all others who have not paid to do so soon or they will become lapsed members. This note to go in Newsletter.(in bold please)

**9. Other Notified Items:-**

1. **Charity Status and follow up actions.** Despite the report last month that this was about to be approved, the lawyers seem to have come up with yet another delaying obstacle to do with translation and a letter which we did not receive. Reg is to keep at the lawyers to resolve this matter as it is now very urgent!.

2. **Website problems.** The list of problems has been sent to Andy and Jack is working on some of the amendments. The revised text for the home page is about to be sent off. Some updating is already in hand (Wings Appeal Page figures sent)

3. **European Council Matters.** There have been some observations raised by the "virtually permanent" Council members about our nominations in that there are "gentlemens agreements" on how elections and council member progressions take place. Jack has taken this up with HQ as it seems very difficult to get a new face on the council. This has been noted and is to be discussed at the Annual Conference in May. Depending on what happens there, further proposals may be made to a future conference.

**10. Any Other Business:-**

1. Fred said that some pictures he forwarded for the Newsletter had not been published and could Steve be asked if there was a problem.

2. Jack asked if we could consider a Branch subscription moratorium for those who were still RAFA members but had slipped the Branch subs for a year or so. This may bring a few members back. (these are 4year members or life members) Jack to review the numbers and report back.

3. Gibraltar Trip. This has been finalised for the 21<sup>st</sup> May at a cost of €25 per person which includes transport, lunch and the Military Tunnel visit. Names and money to Reg as soon as possible as the bus is filling up. Reg will check to see if there are any "status" restrictions on visitors. Pick-up at Bonanza Avenue and La Cañada.

4. Derek said that he had 2 interesting DVD's which we could show at one of our social gatherings.

5. Jack advised that he will not be at the next meeting due to a UK visit.

There being no other business, meeting closed at 1345 hours.

**Date Of Next Meeting:- 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at the Galaxy Bar at 1230 hours. (Followed by the social gathering)**

**Diary Dates**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April.** Easter Social with Entertainer, buffet supper, €7.50 per ticket.

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April** Committee Meeting and Social Gathering, 1230 and 1400 hours resp.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** Boot/Table Sale at The Galaxy Bar, 1100 to 1400 hours.

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May** Committee Meeting and Social Gathering, 1230 and 1400 hours resp.

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May** RAF Gibraltar visit. €25 pp from Reg asap.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June** Committee Meeting and Social Gathering, 1230 and 1400 hours resp.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June** Summer Ball at Valparaiso Mijas Costa. Details to follow.