

## Royal Air Forces Association Branch 1357 Benalmádena

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at The Galaxy Bar, Avda. Bonanza, Arroyo de la Miel, on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

### Those present at the meeting were as follows:

#### Full and Life Members

Fred Briggs Chairman  
Derek Brown Hon Welfare Officer  
Jack Griggs Hon. Secretary

#### Associate Members

Wendy Sweeney Welfare + RBL Liaison  
Georgina Young Public Relations

A two minute silence was held in respect of the passing away today of Alan Gibson, our Branch Member and Auditor.

#### 1. Apologies

Apologies received from: - Bill Dixon, Reg Haywood, Corinne Mudie, Robert Peake, and Sandra Martin.

#### 2. Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes from August 2011 meeting were accepted and signed by Fred.

#### 3. Matters arising from the previous meeting:

None directly, all covered by later items.

#### 4. Treasurers Report:-

The August accounts and balance sheets were presented 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:-

No new cases this month, but there are several ongoing ones.

#### 6. Wings Appeal Report

The Iceland collection was counted and with some still to come in, the figure so far is over 1000€. During the Wings Week we were offered a place at the British Weekend this coming Friday and Saturday, at the Miramar Centre Mijas Costa. It was agreed that we would do this and Georgina will contact the organiser to get details. Jack will prepare a rota and ask for volunteers. There were a few problems concerning the in-store location at Iceland due to other agencies bringing advertising desks in. Hopefully this can be avoided next year. It was also considered that 4 hours was too long and we should look at the timings for next time.

#### 7. Social Events Report

**a. Monthly Social program.** Ongoing.

**b. Summer Ball.** Despite the usual low turnout (48), the event was very successful and no loss was made. Full figures from Reg next month.

**c. Garden Party arrangements. 1<sup>st</sup> October.** All in hand. There will be no direct Guest of Honour from the Consulate. Jack will invite the Gibraltar CO and it was also thought that Len Potts should perhaps be a GoH. The sponsors have let us down and therefore it was agreed that 100€ will be given up front to Georgie to cover the food costs. Ticket sales to be pushed hard and attendance numbers are needed by Georgie by Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. latest.

**d. Other activities.** The Branch Christmas Dinner was discussed and it was agreed that we should have it at Restaurant La Luna, Campo Mijas, on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December. There will be a limit of 60 places. Further details and costs at the next meeting.

#### 8. Secretary's Report:

Most of this month has been taken up with the BoB Dinner and Wings Week arrangements. I had a run in with the new Area Chairman who is trying to railroad a decision on the 2013 Autumn Conference this next conference in Cyprus. He cannot do this and the final agenda just received does not have this vote in. Maybe we should consider putting a bid in. I have a report to produce for conference, but need the membership figures for this. The committee discussed the exchanges between me and Bob Hunt, the Area Chairman, and it was considered that an apology was due from Bob for his attitude and comments. I was instructed to write to Simon to make comment from the Committee.

#### 9. Membership Report.

Robert not present, but these figures are urgently required.

#### 10. Public Relations Officer Report:-

Ongoing. Central Radio are being contacted to keep the adverts and notices going out. Georgie will keep the pressure up. Costa Connexions to be invited to attend the Garden Party together with the CDSN. All English

newspapers are to be reminded.

11. **Other Notified Items:-**

**a. Newsletter items.** It was suggested that the next issue should have a Padron and EHIC reminder, a list of new members, and perhaps a "Members Profile" section. What about a Presidents Corner?

**b. Remembrance 2011 - Progress,** All concerned parties have been e-mailed. Awaiting responses.

**c. Remembrance Garden Stone.** Jack to follow up now that we have funds in our UK account.

12. **Any Other Business:-**

**a.** Derek asked if we could follow up some visits to, say Gibraltar, or Gardens La Concepción.

**b.** Jack to advise the membership and HQ of the passing away of Alan Gibson.

**c.** In view of the comments made by the Area Chairman about where the Autumn Conference 2013 should be held, and the high cost of the suggestion to go to Guernsey without opposition, Jack was asked to prepare an alternative proposal to hold the Conference here and to see if the estimates justified putting a proposal forward. HQ to be advised of our actions.

**Date Of Next Meeting:- 17th October 2011, at 12.30 followed by Social at 1400**

**Diary of Events**

**1st October. Brew For The Few Garden Party at Georgina's. 14.30, cost 5€.**

**17<sup>th</sup> October. Committee Meeting at 12.30 followed by Social at 14.00.**

**19<sup>th</sup> December. Branch Christmas Dinner function at Restaurant La Luna, Campo Mijas. Details shrtly.**