

Royal Air Forces Association  
1357 Benalmádena Branch  
Minutes of Annual General Meeting Held at  
The Galaxy Bar, Avda Bonanza, Arroyo de la Miel At 13.00hrs on Monday 24th January 2011

Those present at the meeting were as follows:

Members

Reg Haywood  
Enid Bamber  
Doug Heron  
Jack Griggs  
Fred Briggs  
Derek Brown  
Joan Burton  
Peter Griggs  
Kath Dalley  
Corinne Mudie  
Raymond Heritage  
Bill Dixon  
Rowland Norfolk  
Mike Slater  
Ken Senior

Associate Members

Keith Bamber  
Sandra Martin  
Barbara Briggs  
Catherine Heritage  
Pamela Cheek  
Alan Gibson  
Georgina Young  
Nadiene Radford-Fisher  
Marie Morgan  
Wendy Sweeney  
Mrs LM Norfolk (visitor)  
Mrs Diana Brown

1. The meeting was declared open and chaired by the Chairman, Mr Fred Briggs. He proposed the Loyal Toast and all stood for this and the RAFA Dedication. After the reading of the RAFA Dedication by Bill Dixon, a minute's silence was held.
2. Apologies have been received from: Andy Blyth, Paul March and Helen Buchan.
3. The minutes of the 2010 AGM were offered and accepted with no observations. It was proposed by Derek Brown and seconded by Corinne Mudie that the minutes be accepted. Carried unanimously.

4. Chairmans Address

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, Nice to see so many Members at this year's AGM and also a very special welcome to our new members we look forward to seeing you at our future events.

I would like to thank our President Mr Bill Dixon who has represented our branch on numerous occasions for RAFA in the UK. We are also very pleased to announce that Steve Jones, the Malaga British Consul, has accepted our offer of becoming an Honorary Vice President.

Our Treasurer Mr Reg Haywood is trying very hard to arrange a RAF Band Concert for 2011.

The Wings Appeal airport collection was cancelled but we managed to arrange the collection week at Iceland . Stores at Mijas Costa which was well supported. I would like to thank Georgina Young for all the time and hard work for arranging the collections at Iceland.

I would like to thank Mr Derek Brown and all his Welfare Team for all the work and commitment they

have done in the past, will still carry on in the future.

We have had three more very successful events in 2010, the first being the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain, the next event was the Garden Party held at Georgina's house ,the next event was the Christmas Dinner held at the Tamisa Hotel, Mijas Golf, all these events were well attended.

I would like to thank all the Committee Members for all their hard work and time they have given over the past year and hope that they will continue to offer their services through 2011.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr Steve Mullis and his wife Julie for all the work they have done for the branch over the past years, before transferring to the Costa Blanca Branch.

And now we will proceed with the main body of this AGM.

#### 5. Hon. Treasurer's Annual Report:

Firstly I would like to express my gratitude to Alan Gibson for once again auditing the Branch accounts

I would now like to take you through some of the highlights of the Balance Sheets.

In the General Account the income from new members and renewals both showed an increase on the previous year. Branch subscriptions also saw an increase and, because of the healthy state of the General account the Committee made the decision to reduce Branch subscription from 15€ to 10€ for 2011. Not often these days that something costs less. This was ratified unanimously by the members.

Because of significant changes at Malaga airport the Committee decided that we would not make a collection there during Wings week, as we have done for the last 8 years. Instead we were allowed to collect at the Iceland store in Mijas Costa. This proved to be a good decision as Wings returns were up on 2009 by 500€.

Receipts for Social events showed an increase as did Social expenses, but generally we stayed in the black by over 1000€. Well done to Sandra and Helen and all of you who supported these events throughout the year.

Now to the Welfare account. Welfare expenses remained about the same but the payments made to our Welfare clients showed a modest increase. In 2010 we disbursed over 65,000€ to ex-RAF and their dependants, in this area alone. To put this figure into perspective, last year the RBL spent 60,000€ in all of Spain, and Age Concern España posted a figure of 120,000€ against a budget of 133,000€. So you can see what a worthwhile job our Welfare team are doing.

Your Branch Committee have decided to maintain the GBP/€ exchange at 1.10 euros to the pound sterling for 2011.

Finally I would ask for your continued support of the Committee during 2011.

That ends my report for 2010

.Acceptance of Audited Accounts for 2010 was proposed by Jack Griggs, seconded by Derek Brown and Carried Unanimously.

It was proposed by Derek Brown and Seconded by Reg Haywood that Alan Gibson be ratified as Auditor for 2011/12. Carried Unanimously.

## 6. Election of Officers and Members of the Committee

**President..... Flt.Lt.Bill Dixon QGM** Elected AGM 2009 for a 3 Year period.

**Vice President ..... Derek Brown**

Proposed JackGriggs, Seconded Reg Haywood, Carried Unanimously

**Chairman..... Fred Briggs**

Proposed Jack Griggs, Seconded Reg Haywood, Carried Unanimously

**Vice Chairperson..... Corrine Mudie**

Proposed Fred Briggs, Seconded Derek Brown, Carried Unanimously

**Hon.Secretary.....Jack Griggs**

Proposed Reg Haywood, Seconded Fred Briggs, Carried Unanimously.

**Hon.Treasurer..... Reg Haywood**

Proposed Fred Briggs, Seconded Jack Griggs, Carried Unanimously.

**Hon.Welfare Officer..... Derek Brown**

Proposed Diana Brown, Seconded Reg Haywood, Carried Unanimously.

**Welfare Team ..... Reg Haywood , Corrine Mudie & Wendy Sweeney**

Not required to be elected but offered to vote for reasons of confidence. Carried Unanimously.

**Public Relations Officer ..... Georgina Young**

Proposed Reg Haywood, Seconded Derek Brown, Carried Unanimously.

**Membership Secretary.....Robert Peake**

Proposed Fred Briggs, Seconded Jack Griggs, Carried Unanimously.

**Social Events Coordinator .... Sandra Martin**

Proposed Fred Briggs, Seconded Derek Brown, Carried Unanimously.

**Wings Appeal Organiser ..... No volunteer yet, the committee will cover this while searching for a new organiser.**

## 7. Resolutions for discussion

None received.

8. Presidents Address. The President, Flt.Lt.Bill Dixon QGM, addressed the meeting and thanked all concerned for the considerable amount of work done this year, especially on the Welfare front. The Branch were to be commended for the Wings Collections which exceeded last years figure despite not collecting at the Airport. The Iceland collection had been a great success. He outlined his many visits here including Remembrance Sunday and our major Social events. He called for more support to the Social organisers for the regular and major events. Bill outlined his experiences at Conferences and the work being done behind the scenes by this Branch in an effort to make the conferences more cost effective. He spoke of the several UK events he attended for the Branch including the opening of the RAF memorial at The National Arboretum. His best wishes are with the Branch for 2011.

## 9. Any Other Business

1. Peter Griggs asked for a note of thanks to be recorded for the Welfare team for all the help they have been to him and his wife, Pauline, during their stay this winter. Without the loaned aids, it would have been very difficult to get around both in and out of the house. Very many thanks.

2. Jack Griggs, Hon. Secretary, outlined the work being done on Conferences and their expense, and also the background to changes happening in Spain concerning expats. He will report progress and important changes both on the website and in Newsletters.

9. The date for next years AGM would be decided by the Branch Committee and notified in the committee minutes and in accordance with Standing Instructions. Provisionally the date should be Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> 2012.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 14.10 hrs

**GOD SAVE THE QUEEN & JUAN CARLOS**