

**Branch meeting held at Ennis Square Social club,
Wednesday May 11th 2011.**

1/5b/11. The chairman opened the meeting at 1930 hrs.

The tribute to the fallen was given by Billy Hendrie.

Apologies received from s/m Dennis Devine.

2/5b/11 Minutes.

The minutes of the last branch and committee meetings were read.

The only matter arising (see b./ below)

3/5b/11. Correspondence.

There were 7 items of correspondence as follows:-

- 1. From the RAF cadets regarding Sea Sunday.*
- 2. From national with regard to Seafarers Awareness Week.*
- 3. From the RBL (North Wales) via national, regarding the RBL's 90 anniversary.*
- 4. From national regarding a request for photos of old ships.*
- 5. From Elizabeth Chambers, Friends of Smith's Dock Park War Memorial.*
- 6. From national regarding the Flag Institute Spring meeting.*
- 7. From the RNLI HQ Poole a receipt for a £25 donation by the branch (audio tapes)*

Matters arising:-

- 1. The Air cadets hope to have their Banner and the Standard of the RAFA at the Sea Sunday service*
- 2. This item is to be left with the branch PR officer.*

4/5b/11. Treasurers Report.

The treasurer gave his usual up-to-date report regarding branch finances as follows.

To 30th April, Income £164. Expenditure £214.60, giving a balance of £1,755.62, with £114 cash in hand, Yorkshire Bank state £1,806.22. The branch 'Welfare and Remembrance Fund' stands at £1,259.97, with £30 cash in hand.

The treasurer apologised to the members for having a slight hic-up in banking as he has been in the process of moving home.

The treasurer also had to apologise to the members who were requiring items from the Slop Chest, as he was off line with his computer etc., also due to him moving home.

The treasurers report was accepted, proposed s/m Tommy Graham and seconded by s/m Ted Dobson.

5/5b/11. Any Other Business.

a./ Branch Draws.

A football card was run, with thanks to s/m Tommy Graham, and won by Newcastle United, Ray Goddard.

The branch 25 club was drawn, 1st prize No. 14 s/m Ken Parker, and the 2nd prize No. 36, s/m Dave Buckworth.

b./ Branch Constitution.

The sec. explained that the new branch constitution superseded all other Rules and Standing Orders for the branch. He had written the constitution at the request of the branch committee, as s/m Tony Whatmore (PR officer) had come across a fund that may give us money provided that we had a branch constitution and not just the national one. The new constitution covers 22 items and 8 pages. The sec. in explaining the constitution, thanked s/m Billy Dobson for proof reading the document and giving his opinion on several matters. The sec, invited Billy to give his view. Billy thought the sec. had made a good job of the constitution and also thought that down the line in the future it could lead to our very own branch Charity number.

Each member present at the meeting had been given a copy of the new constitution and had had time to read through it. The chairman asked for a show of hands on whether the members will accept it. The vote was unanimous in favour.

c./ Branch Representative.

Branch Rep. s/m Billy Dobson had nothing to report nationally, but did wish to inform the meeting that he was working on the calendar for 2012, he had a lap-top computer with all the proposed photos on that would go into the calendar. Billy hopes to have the proofs into the printers ASAP and also that next year we will have 200 calendars to sell. As ever, Billy told the members that the coasters are still on sale, and hoped the calendars would be ready in time for the trip to Bridlington 8th June.

d./ Welfare Officer.

There was no report from the Welfare officer, as she is on holiday.

e./ Public Relations.

Public Relations officer, s/m Tony Whatmore was still getting items entered into the press to advertise the branch and what we were doing. Tony also said that he had had a couple of enquiries regarding the branch, plus a request from an 89 year old ex seaman who had sailed in the Russian convoys and was trying to get his medals, Tony has taken this up with Billy McGee, who is maybe going to help. Tony also informed the branch members that he had received a cheque for £50 from haulage company A.V. Dawson towards the 'Birger' anchor memorial as well as the signed football from Middlesbrough football club chairman Steve Gibson, and it was hoped that s/m Christine Hill will be able to have it raffled off. Tony will also see if he can get something into the Media regarding the Seafarers Awareness Week.

f./ Combined Services.

s/m Ian Barnes gave the members a run down on future dates:-

Monday 20th June, raising the Armed Forces Flag on the seafront by the Mayor, and Standards will be present and veterans as well it is hoped.

Saturday 25th June National Armed Forces Week, various items will take place, Ian will repeat the events at the next branch meeting.

Ian also told the meeting that he also had dates for all future events for the coming year that he will announce as the dates get nearer

g./ Collection Morrisons supermarket.

The sec. reminded the members of the need to support this collection as it is a big help to the Welfare and Remembrance Fund.

Treasurer s/m ray Coaster reminded the meeting that the last collection we had in Morrisons 2009, it had realised nearly £700. We had missed out in 2010 because it was felt that we didn't have a Charity number.

Only four persons can collect at any one time, two at each doorway.

h./ Trips Out.

The chairman gave out the pick-up times for those attending Whitby 14th May. He also went back through the names for the members wanting to go to Bridlington for the NE coast get together 8th June. He also said that we could do with an early start on that day. With regards to the branch get together in the Citz club 27th July, he had not been able to talk to the artiste yet due to his moving home. Arrangements are in hand for the buffet.

i./ RBL 90th Anniversary.

s/m Christine Hill has tickets for sale to attend the Dormanstown 90th Anniversary celebrations 12th June at the club, there will be a 100 piece instrument band, pie and peas and the tickets are only £1.50

With no further business to hand the chairman thanked the members for the good turn out for the meeting. He then went on and closed the meeting at 2025 hrs.

Secretary Dave Backworth Chairman Dave Price

Proposed ----- Seconded -----