

**Committee meeting, held Redcar RAFA club,  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2011.**

*1/4c/11. The chairman opened the meeting at 1930 hrs.*

*Apologies from s/m's Jan Harper and Taff Jenkins.*

**2/4c/11. Treasurer.**

*The treasurer told the meeting that he had nothing to report as he is in the process of moving home. He also stated that due to this move he had not ordered any items from the national slop chest.*

**3/4c/11 Correspondence.**

*There were 7 items of correspondence as follows:-*

- 1. A lovely card and letter from Mr & Mrs Willis.*
- 2. An e-mail from s/m Tony Whatmore (Branch PR) .*
- 3. From national forwarded from Kent branch regarding doorstep scams.*
- 4. From national on Holiday Inns.*
- 5. From national on closure of the HQ office and items for the 'Full Ahead.'*
- 6. From National a tariff for 2011/12 for Springbok accommodation.*
- 7. From Redcar & Cleveland College regarding the 'Birger' anchor.*

**Matters arising .**

- 1. This card and letter from Iris and s/m Peter Willis is a big Thank You to the branch for the loan of the CD player and audio books for Peter. The letter also states that the appointment of s/m Jan Harper as Welfare Officer was a good move as she is a 'Gem'*
- 2. S/m Tony Whatmore as PR Officer thinks it could help the branch if we had our own constitution. This has arisen during his attempts to raise funds through different units and the national constitution will not suffice. (See also AOB)*
- 7. Redcar & Cleveland College would welcome the chance to compete for doing the work on the Plaque for the 'Birger' anchor.*

**4/4c/11. Branch Representative.**

*s/m Billy Dobson had nothing to report nationally, but he did inform the members that he was working on the branch calendar for 2012. He had been in touch with the company who produced last year's calendar, and they would be pleased to do the same for 2012, but, the cost has risen from £378.81 to £408.90. The committee agreed that this is only to be expected in this day and age. Billy had also found out that we could get 200 calendars done for £500, so we will go down that road as Billy thought that if we really pushed it, we should clear the lot as he only has 1 left over for this year. Billy hopes to get the photos in by the end of May. As ever the coasters are still selling and he has the coasters that advertise the branch. On top of all his activities Billy is putting together a catalogue of audio books and is getting a very good library put together. With regard to the Library exhibition in the local libraries advertising the branch, Billy is still working hard to make sure the branch is involved with as many libraries as possible. (Well done Billy. Sec.)*

**5/4c/11. Any Other Business.**

**a/b./ 25 club.**

*The chairman stated that the branch needs a member to run the 25 club, as s/m Brian Macintyre has vacated the position.*

*The sec. brought up the question of when dues for the club are paid, as some believe that you paid this month for next months draw.*

*The sec. told the meeting that s/m Jack Robson had thought that we should have a numbers board with all the discs hung on it and as the person pays his dues the number is removed from the board and put into the bag*

*This was debated for some time, but in the end it was agreed that the running of the club will remain as the Status Quo whereby if you don't pay on the day of the draw or in advance (as some members already do) your numbers will not be included in the draw.*

*Several names were put forward for running the club, but s/m Sugar Robinson said that this should be put to the next full branch meeting, all agreed*

**c./ July 20<sup>th</sup> Citz club.**

*With regard to the coming get together in the Citz club July 20<sup>th</sup>, s/m Tommy Graham was asked if we had an artiste booked yet.*

*Tommy informed the committee that a singer had been booked called Scotty Duncan who was reported as been pretty good.*

*s/m Ted Dobson told the committee that the buffet had been ordered as was the buffet for the Christmas social night in the RAFA club in December.*

**d./ Branch Constitution.**

*Following on from item 2 in the correspondence from s/m Tony Whatmore regarding the branch having its own constitution, a very long debate followed covering many items including the national MNA constitution. Tony as the branch PR officer, is at present trying to get sponsorship from local firms to help pay the cost of the Plaque for the 'Birger' anchor; and one outlet, Tees Valley Foundation, had told him that they might be able to help but the branch needed its own constitution as the national one did not cover a branch application even though the branch is bound by a national agreement.*

*It was agreed that the branch should have its own constitution and the sec. was asked to draw one up. The recent Standing Orders & Guidelines completed by the sec, will be included into the new constitution. The sec. said that he was not going to draw up a constitution of 20-30 pages but something on the basis of maybe 15 pages or within that region. It was further agreed that in the future, the branch could even have its own Charity number which would be better still. The treasurer proposed that s/m's Billy Dobson and the sec. will hold carte blanche on dealing with the 'Birger' plaque, all agreed.*

***c./Invites***

*It was agreed that the branch should get in touch with the newly formed South Shields branch MNA with the view to inviting them to our social in July and also Harrogate. It was also thought that South Shields would be a good place to pay a visit and make a change for all the other places we go to.*

*With no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 2045 hrs.*

*Secretary David Buckworth*

*Chairman David Price*

*Proposed-----*

*Seconded -----*