

## Branch Meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023

### Agenda items

1. Welcome and Exhortation [IC]
2. Apologies [GC]
3. Minutes of the previous meeting (below) and matters arising [GC]
4. Chairman's report [IC]
5. Secretary's report [GC]
6. Treasurer's report [JN]
7. Membership/Recruitment [AH]
8. Branch Community Support (BCS) [JC]
9. Socials & Trips reports [LH]
10. Poppy Appeal report [IC]
11. AOB
12. Guest Speaker – Seamus Brennan

### Minutes from the previous meeting

<b>Date</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2022	<b>Time</b>	1900 to 2100
<b>Location</b>	Page Community Association	<b>Meeting type</b>	Branch
<b>Chair</b>	Ian Campbell	<b>Note taker</b>	Glen Cooper

### Item 1. Welcome and Exhortation

Initials	Discussion
IC	Exhortation was read by IC

### Item 2. Apologies

Initials	Discussion
AH	Apologies were read out from Alan Fisher, David and Marilyn Addis, Sandy Thomas, Adrian Prior, Glen Cooper

### Item 3. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

Initials	Discussion
IC	No matters arising

### Item 4. Chairman's Report

Initials	Discussion
IC	IC commented that we have some new additions to the committee, but are still looking for a Youth Officer, Deputy Standard Bearer and Youth Standard Bearer
IC	Branch property was discussed; SF is going to help IC in sourcing a new building, IB has helped in getting the Council to progress this but there is a concern that the money will be used elsewhere by the RBL if no progress
IC	County Conference is on 21 January 2023, see AH if interested in attending
IC	Annual Conference is in Torquay on 19 to 21 May 2023
IC	Armed Forces Day will be held in Staple Hill 17 June 2023; there will be a parade and it will occur in Page Park. The traders will be invited to join the committee as the intention would be to include the High Street in the event

#### Item 5. Secretary's Report

Initials	Discussion
IC	November Town Hall has been cancelled to take into account feedback given and improve for the next meeting
IC	Feedback has been given on the remembrance period to the RBL on behalf of the branch

#### Item 6. Treasurer's Report

Initials	Discussion
JN	The accounts stand at £6819.99

#### Item 7. Membership/Recruitment Report

Initials	Discussion
AH	13 new member letters have been given out, the current membership is listed as 140 members
AH	AH is looking for volunteers to offer lifts to members who wish to come along but struggle due to the dark nights. AH asked those able to help to get in touch
AH	AH welcomed three new visitors to the meeting; IC welcomed all new members and commented the recent interest in joining the branch

#### Item 8. BCS Report

Initials	Discussion
JC	The branch breakfast will take place at the Lamb Inn in Mangotsfield on 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2022, £5 per breakfast, with ten booked in for this
JC	JC reminded members of the Crisis Grant for veterans and beneficiaries to support with winter fuel

#### Item 9. Socials and Trips Report

Initials	Discussion
----------	------------

IC	IC welcomed LH to the meeting, taking on the role of organising socials and trips
IC	The Battlefields coach trip will take place on 29 September 2023 for 4 days, costing £379 per person if sharing a room, additional £125 if staying in a single room. See IC if interested in going.
IC	Festival of Remembrance went well, AH will collect names for interest to go in 2023

#### Item 10. Poppy Appeal Report

Initials	
IC	IC commented that five Poppy Appeal tins have been stolen, the police are aware and are proceeding to prosecute
IC	IC thanked the volunteers, deputies and shops and supermarkets for their involvement in the appeal. There is an appetite locally e.g. IKEA for us to do more. The total is looking at around £45,000. The aim will be recruiting volunteers from April 2023 to start expanding the number of supermarkets covered. QR codes are being investigated to support for next year.

#### Item 11. Any other business (AOB)

Initials	
JR	JR thanked the branch for their role in Poppy Appeal and in the County as being a leading example.

**Meeting ended at 2100hrs**

#### Notes

- Date of the next meeting – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm

#### Key dates for 2022/ 2023

**Branch meetings/socials – First Friday of the month at 7pm**

**Branch Committee meetings – Third Wednesday of the month**

**Branch breakfasts – First Saturday of the month at 10am**