

**Minutes of the Committee Meeting Held On**  
**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014**  
**Wagon Works Club, Tuffley**

**Present:**

Eric Ede - President  
Ian Boyd – Chairman  
Chris Hill - Treasurer  
Ray Bunnage – Honorary Welfare Officer  
Lorraine Wilson – Honorary Secretary  
Ruth Aldridge - Committee Member  
Pam Blackhall - Committee Member  
Noel Phillips - Committee Member  
Sally Dixon – Branch Member

**1. Opening and Dedication.**

The meeting was called to order at 1940 hrs by the Chairman, Ian Boyd and the Dedication was observed. Lorraine introduced and welcomed Sally Dixon, Branch Member and prospective HWO, to the meeting.

**2. Minutes of the Last Meeting.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> September were presented by the Secretary. It was proposed by Chris and seconded by Ray that they represented a true record of the meeting. Carried. Minutes signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters Arising from the Minutes.**

- a. Item 8b. Ray reported that the new website, RAFA Gloucester.com, was up and running at a slightly lower cost than anticipated.
- b. Item 8c. Lorraine is to put forward an article for inclusion in Airmail advertising the new website and production of regular newsletters.
- c. Item 8d. Ray reported that the proposed visit to Brize Norton had been postponed because the RAFALO had been posted and not yet replaced. Ray will reapply in January when, hopefully, the post will be filled.
- d. Item 8e. Ray reminded the Committee about the invitation from Cheltenham branch. Details on the Gloucester branch website.

**4. Correspondence.**

- a. Ray presented a letter from the HWO Cheltenham branch giving details about a seminar on dementia being held at Fairford House, Suffolk Square, Cheltenham on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 1400 hrs for approximately 2 hrs. The seminar is being given by Suzanne Booker, the Manager of Fairford House.
- b. Lorraine presented an email received from Jim Ritchie, Area Branch Support Officer, asking if any decision had been made by the Branch regarding the presentation of the certificate and tassels for the Standard in commemoration of the Branch's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Following a suggestion from one of our Branch members,

that we organize a pre Christmas cheese and wine party for all members, Ray proposed that we do this and incorporate the presentation within this function. Seconded by Lorraine. Carried. It was agreed that we would hold our December meeting at 1900 hrs on 1<sup>st</sup> December followed by the cheese and wine party and presentation at 1930 hrs. Lorraine is to obtain permission from the Wagon Works Club Manageress to bring our own food and wine into the Club and also to liaise with Jim Richie regarding the presentation. Ray is to advertise the function in the correspondence letter and on the website.

c. Ray presented an email received from Sqn Ldr Nigel Smith VR(T), OC NE Sector 181 Sqn ATC in response to his contact with the Sqn in a bid to improve contact between RAFA Gloucester and the ATC, and with a view to obtaining their help with Wings fundraising. Sqn Ldr Smith regretted that the Sqn were committed to assisting Cheltenham this year but would be available to us next year. He further extended an invitation to Ray to visit the Sqn when they parade on a Monday or Wednesday.

d. Lorraine presented a letter from Paul Baker outlining the plans for the Area Annual Conference and Reunion scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> to 22 March 2015 at the Derwent hotel, Torquay. Anyone interested in attending should contact Lorraine for further information and to book.

e. Lorraine presented an email received from Duncan Harrison, SVGC, outlining details of an Armed Forces Families and Veterans race day at Wincanton race course in aid of Combat Stress. The event will take place on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2014. All members are invited to attend. Lorraine has forwarded the email to the members of the committee for their perusal.

## **5. Treasurer's Report.**

Chris reported that the working balance in the account stands at £12,481.67 which includes the Wings Appeal collections.

## **6. Honorary Welfare Officer's Report.**

Ray reported that:

a. He had made 7 welfare visits, 3 IT visits and the team had made 9 tea and chat visits and 39 non face to face 'phone calls and emails. The introduction of the new website had shown 60 users making 121 hits, 30% from Cheltenham, 20% from New York and 28% from Gloucester.

c. That plans for the proposed visit to Staverton Airport on 1<sup>st</sup> November were underway. This would consist of a 2 hour guided tour at a cost of £4 per head which would be paid for from Branch funds. Individuals would be invited to visit the Aviator restaurant for a meal or refreshments afterwards but at their own expense. Details can be found on the website and in the next correspondence letter.

## **7. President's Comments.**

The President wished to thank Ray for his hard work and early success with the Social calendar and website. He also congratulated and thanked the Treasurer for the success so far with his prosperous investment.

**8. Any Other Business.**

Lorraine reported that the total for the Wings appeal collections was £257.39 broken down as follows:

Teri Ogden £26.24 – in Gloucester City Centre

Chris Hill £99.56 (which included £64.64 collected at his church)

Lorraine Wilson £56.73 – in Gloucester City Centre

Noel Phillips and Pam Blackhall £74.86 (which included collections at Staverton Jet Age Museum and Shurdington)

20% of the total collection will be given as a rebate to the Welfare account.

**9. Next Meeting.**

The date for the next meeting was set for Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014 at 1930 hrs.

**10. Adjournment.**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 2050 hrs

Minutes submitted by:           Lorraine Wilson (Secretary)

Approved by:

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Ian Boyd (Chairman)