

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – UCKFIELD BRANCH

(BR2222)

Branch Meeting

**Thursday 14th May 2009 at 7.30pm
Uckfield Civic Centre, Ashdown Room.**

MINUTES

Present:

Mr D Firth (Secretary)	Mrs S Mayers
Mrs M Firth (Treasurer)	Mr N Mayers
Mrs D Whitcombe	Mr R Divall
Mr J Whitcombe	Mr M J Tuffley
Mrs J Edwards	Mr J Gorrie

1 Act of Remembrance

The exhortation was said by the Secretary

2 Chairman's Opening Remarks

In the absence of the chairman and vice-chairman all those present agreed that the secretary should chair the meeting.

The secretary (chair) informed the meeting that, regretfully, the branch chairman, Sarah Rae, has stepped down as branch chairman with immediate effect. The remaining executive officers on the committee have asked the branch president, Mary Reed, to act as branch chairman until the next branch AGM in October.

3 Apologies for Absence

Mr R Wright, Mr E Osborne, Mr and Mrs Nelson, Mrs M Reed, Mr E Holdaway and Mr J Edwards.

4 Introduction of New Members

Mr Micheal Tuffley was introduced to all present and welcomed to the branch.

5 Minutes of meeting held on 9/4/09

The minutes of the previous branch meeting were accepted by all present and the Poppy Appeal Organiser, Mr N Mayers, was asked to sign the minutes.

6 Matters arising from previous meeting

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

7 Secretary's Report

See attached

8 Treasurer's Report

See attached

9 Poppy Appeal Organisers Report

See attached

10 Forthcoming Events

- a. Sunday 7th June 1330 hrs – Lions Fete
Members were reminded that the branch will have a stand at the Lions Fete. We will be holding a tombola and 'Poppy Pick'.
Mr N Mayers will be contacting Mr S Nelson to arrange the Poppy Pick board.
All members were asked to donate prizes for the tombola and deliver them to Mrs M Reed or on the day at the stand.
Mr D Firth to ask the ATC for the loan of some tressle tables.
- b. 11th July – Uckfield Festival
Mr N Mayers suggested a 'Name that Flag' competition for which prizes may be won by members of the public.

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11 **AOB**

- a. There was some discussion regarding the cost of postage, photocopying and packaging of minutes each month.
It was suggested that minutes are no longer sent out by post and members wishing to obtain a copy should collect a copy from the next branch meeting.
Proposed by Mrs M Firth.
Seconded by Mr J Gorrie.
All members present voted in favour of the proposal with one abstention.
- b. It was suggested that an alternative venue be sought for branch meetings in order to reduce room hire costs. The Chair asked members present to obtain costs of alternative venues so that further discussion and possible ballot held at the next meeting.
Mr J Gorrie volunteered to approach the Cinque Ports Club, Mrs J Edwards volunteered to approach the Highlands Public House, Mr M Tuffley volunteered to approach Uckfield Cricket Club. Mr D Firth agreed to contact Uckfield Town Council to see if there are any cancellation penalties for the Civic Centre.

12 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 11th June at 1930 hrs in the Civic Centre.

Royal British Legion Uckfield Branch

Branch Meeting

14th May 2009

Secretary's Report

1. **Membership**

Current membership stands at 34 fully paid up adult members.

This concludes the secretary's report.

David Firth
Secretary
Uckfield Branch Royal British Legion

Royal British Legion – Uckfield Branch

Treasurer's Report

14 May 2009

(For period 9/4/09 to 14/5/09)

1 Bank Account Statement

The current account stood at **£3790.60** as at **30 April 2009**

2 Outgoings (2/3/09 to 14/5/09)

Royal British Legion Membership Subscriptions	£132.00
Uckfield Concert Brass Band FoR	£600.00
Uckfield Town Council Room Hire – 14/5/09 (not in statement)	£ 15.96
Sarah Nelson – Stationery (not in statement)	<u>£ 35.20</u>
Total Out:	£783.16

3 Income (12/3/09 to 9/4/09)

Subscriptions (D Stocker)	£12.50
Branch Raffle 9/4/09	£17.00
Voluntary Donations from Branch Members 9/4/09	<u>£11.00</u>
Total In:	£40.50

4 Reconciliation of Account

Bank Account Statement (30/4/09)	+£3790.60
Outgoings (not listed in statement)	- <u>£51.16</u>
Total:	+£3739.44

Maria Firth
Treasurer
Uckfield Branch Royal British Legion

PAO REPORT

Firstly, I would like to record my thanks to Jean, Sarah and Steve for their help in delivering the letters to the shops and businesses in the Uckfield area.

Already we are getting some spontaneous favourable responses for this year's appeal and I intend to start phoning the other addressees during the next few weeks.

As I mentioned at the last meeting, I was due to receive a visit from the Community Fund Raiser on 29 April. Our meeting went ahead and I found her visit constructive and helpful. She carried out a trial audit in preparation for the full audit of records and procedures later in the year.

One thing that has been clarified since the visit is the age limit for collectors and I quote " There is no upper age limit on collectors. However collectors are only automatically insured up to the age of 85. After that any claim is considered on a case by case basis and, in my experience, the RBL has treated claims in this category very fairly. There is therefore no reason for a branch to stop anyone collecting because of their age. (Response from Nick Buckley, Head of Poppy Appeal)".

I propose writing to the various organisations in Uckfield like the Lions and the Rotary Club to seek assistance for this year's house to house collections and to also inform them that our Branch has a Welfare Committee and two Caseworkers who are able to carry out house visits to offer help and advice to ex-servicemen and women and their families who may be in need.

End of report.

PS. Jean handed £5 to the PAO that had been left in a collection box in November and which will be paid into the Poppy Appeal Fund in due course.

Uckfield RBL Branch Diary

June 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
7th	Sun	1330	Uckfield Lions Fete - Luxfords Field
11th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting - Uckfield Civic Centre

July 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
9th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting - Uckfield Civic Centre
11th	Sat		Uckfield Festival 'Big Day Out' - Luxfords Field

August 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
13th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting - Uckfield Civic Centre

September 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
10th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting - Uckfield Civic Centre

October 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
8th	Thurs	1930	Branch Annual General Meeting - Uckfield Civic Centre

November 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
12th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting - Uckfield Civic Centre

December 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
10th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting - Uckfield Civic Centre