



Royal British Legion Minchinhampton County Supported Branch

Minutes of Branch Meeting

Wednesday 15th April 2026 – 7.30pm – Cotswold Club

Item		Action																																								
1	Act of Homage – POC1, Mr Roger Sims Prayers and reflection – POC2, Mr Simon Ritter																																									
2	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">Roll Call</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mr C Blick</td> <td>Mr P Hayward</td> <td>Mrs C Nurden</td> <td>Mr D Nurden</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr N Parry</td> <td>Mrs A Parry</td> <td>Mr D Sparrow</td> <td>Mrs J Hanchett</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr R Sims</td> <td>Mrs H Sims</td> <td>Mr S Ritter</td> <td>Mr I Lloyd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guests</td> <td>Mr W Reddaway</td> <td>Mr A Walworth</td> <td>Mrs J Broad</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="4">Apologies</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr G Robbins</td> <td>Mrs R Robbins</td> <td>Mrs H Kemmett</td> <td>Mr D Toomer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs A Toomer</td> <td>Mr D Hanchett</td> <td>Mr M Ballinger</td> <td>Mrs G Ballinger</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr P Graham</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Roll Call				Mr C Blick	Mr P Hayward	Mrs C Nurden	Mr D Nurden	Mr N Parry	Mrs A Parry	Mr D Sparrow	Mrs J Hanchett	Mr R Sims	Mrs H Sims	Mr S Ritter	Mr I Lloyd	Guests	Mr W Reddaway	Mr A Walworth	Mrs J Broad					Apologies				Mr G Robbins	Mrs R Robbins	Mrs H Kemmett	Mr D Toomer	Mrs A Toomer	Mr D Hanchett	Mr M Ballinger	Mrs G Ballinger	Mr P Graham				
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3 & 4	The Minutes of the AGM held on 15th October 2025 had been circulated by email and were approved by Chris Blick seconded by Simon Ritter. There were no matters arising.																																									
5	Welfare: Simon had nothing to report. Sadly, if we are informed of a local need we as a Branch should report it to the National welfare team who will decide on what action to take. If any member becomes aware of a local welfare issue, they should contact Simon Ritter who may be able to investigate the level of need before involving the National support team.	POC2																																								
6	Finance: POC1 reported that our County Supported Branch (CSB) ring-fenced account currently stands at 2200.90. By June this year, the balance should increase by £27 once members voluntary £1 contribution is included at renewal. We currently have 27 paid up branch members. Note: See separate attachment for more details.	POC1																																								
7	Poppy Appeal: Paul Hayward reported that the current Branch Poppy Appeal stands at £5703. This includes Street collections, house to house, local business's, local schools & Amberley pub and shop. The Scouts were involved in street collections and, together with the schools, have been very supportive and proved their understanding of the Appeal. The ability to use a QR code has proved very beneficial to the collection.																																									
8	Branch Website: Webmaster Paul Hayward and POC1 will undertake a review prior to the AGM in October. The Cotswold Club's link to our website is now up and running.	PH/RS																																								

9	<p>RBL Parades and Commemorations:</p> <p>1. Leighterton ANZAC Sun 26th April 2026 14.00 for 14.45 service: Simon will attend with our Branch Standard. Ian Lloyd is unable to attend this year. Any member wishing to attend please liaise with Simon Ritter. Chris Blick and Dennis Sparrow will attend in their own right as members of the Aden Veterans Association.</p> <p>2. If any member is aware of a Funeral where the family of the deceased would like our branch Standard to be paraded, please contact our Standard Bearer POC2 Simon Ritter. Any commitment would be subject to location and Simon's availability. There would be charge to cover traveling expenses plus a small donation to Branch funds.</p> <p>3. Chris Blick talked about the Woodlands Memorial Remembrance service to be held on 10th June at Earthcott Green, Alveston, Bristol. Note: Since the meeting we have received an invitation from Woodlands which POC1 sent to all Branch members.</p>	
10 & 11	<p>Social Programme:</p> <p>1. A visit to the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) has been discussed in the past but it was agreed that an organised Branch visit was now untenable due to legal responsibilities of the person organising it. However, if an individual member wishes to attend and take some passengers in a private vehicle, they should contact POC1 who will be able to advertise it to the Branch. Members should make their own arrangements and use individual transport. Check the NMA website for parking, eating and tours.</p> <p>2. A skittles evening at the Cotswold Club was discussed but no decision was made. A volunteer is needed to organise such an event. POC1 is happy assist.</p> <p>3. It was proposed that a Quiz be held in the Cotswold Club in October prior to Remembrance in aid of the 2026 Poppy appeal. Coralie Nurden to arrange with Brian Powell and confirm date.</p>	
12	<p>Future of the Branch:</p> <p>Discussed need to attract new members by advertising and word of mouth. To this end our Branch website will be updated and maintained. The Cotswold Club has a link to our Branch site on their website which could result in social media interest.</p>	
13	<p>Guest Speakers:</p> <p>Members were encouraged to suggest representatives from local organisations who might be interested in presenting a short talk on their subject. Please contact POC1 if you are prepared to organise.</p>	
14	<p>AOB:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. POC1 welcomed Nigel and Anne Parry who introduced themselves and were attending their first meeting since becoming members. 2. POC1 welcomed visitors William Reddaway and Anthony (Tony) Walworth who both introduced themselves and gave a brief résumé of their careers <p>Note: Tony has since joined and William is in the process of doing so. Jenny Broad who is a lapsed member is in the process of rejoining the branch.</p>	
15	<p>Raffle:</p> <p>The raffle raised £36 which was donated to the Poppy Appeal. Thanks to all who donated prizes and particular thanks to Jenny Broad and Helen Sims who organised the raffle. Also to Helen Sims for taking the Minutes of the meeting.</p>	
16	<p>Future Meetings:</p> <p>It was agreed that future meetings would commence at the earlier time of 7pm. The next meeting will be the AGM on Wednesday 14th October 2026 in the Cotswold Club at the earlier time of 7pm. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.</p>	