

# Gloucestershire County

County Conference  
and  
Annual General Meeting  
2023 Minutes  
Severn Vale School  
Ouedgrev

Saturday 21st January 2023  
11am





## Meeting Minutes Gloucestershire County AGM 2023

### Meeting information

<b>Date</b>	21/01/23	<b>Time</b>	11:00 – 14:00
<b>Location</b>	Severn Vale School	<b>Meeting type</b>	Annual General Meeting
<b>Chair</b>	Jackie Robertson	<b>Note taker</b>	Seamus Brennan

### Committee and Guests

<b>Name</b>	<b>Initial</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Initial</b>
Jackie Robertson – Chair	JR	Norman Low – Life Vice President	NL
John Maloney – Vice Chair	JM	James Brimble – Treasurer	JB
Kay Scase – Committee	KS	Chris Boskett – Committee	CB
Kate Reynolds – Committee	KR	Ian Campbell – Webmaster, Publicity and Recruiting	IC
Bob Perkins – Standard Bearer	BP	Stan Rudge – Committee	SR
Allen Warren – Committee	AW	Rev. Paul Youde	PY
Phil Davies – MC Rep	PD	Sir Henry Elwes	HE
Sukbir Bindra – MEM	SB	Seamus Brennan – MEO	SBr
Gary Ryan – Executive Director of Marketing, Fundraising and Remembrance	GR	Carole Hoban – County Parade Marshall	CH

### Delegates

<b>Name</b>	<b>Initial</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Initial</b>
Yate and Sodbury – Dawn Nugent	DN	Cheltenham – Roy Roberts	RR
Dursley and Cam – Matt Patrick	MP	Fairford – Evelyn Webb Carter	EWC
Newent – Richard Balding	RB	Forest Green and Nailsworth – Tim Godden	TG



## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Kemble – Austin Hind	AH	Stoke Gifford – Tony Peters	TP
Staple Hill and District – Aileen Hulin	AiH	Thornbury – Mick Mills	MM
Gloucester City – Rob Howells	RH	Cinderford – Mark Evans	ME
Hardwicke and District – Jason Whitehouse	JW	Badminton and Hawkesbury – Sally MacFadyen	SM
Minchinhampton – Roger Sims	RS	Woodmancote – Andrew Reece	AR

### Meeting objectives

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#### Agenda items

1. Parade of standards
2. Welcome and house keeping
3. Reading of the roll call
4. Opening prayers & silent tribute
5. Apologies
6. Civic welcome
7. County President's address
8. Chairman's address
9. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the County Conference held 22 January 2022
10. Matters arising
11. County Finance report
12. Other reports
13. Elections
  - a) County Committee nominations
  - b) County Conference Committee (branch nominations)
14. Motions
15. Address by guest speaker
16. Presentation of awards
17. Vice-Chairman's address



18. Install the New County Chairman
19. National Anthem (first verse)

#### Agenda item 1 Parade of Standards

#### Agenda item 2 Welcome and House Keeping

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Initials	Discussion
JR	The Chair welcomed the guests and Delegates to the AGM

#### Agenda item 3 Reading of the roll call

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Initials	Discussion
JR	The Chair read the following names : Brian Hewitt, Ronnie Carradine, Brian Fathers, Andrew Hamblin, Ernest Potts, Allen Bills, Clive Roberts, Gordon Hollister, John Slowley, Nigel Nicholls, Pauline Constable, Dennis Hughes, Tony Davis, John Tansy, Lady Carolyn Elwes

#### Agenda item 4 Opening prayers & silent tribute

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Initials	Discussion
PY	PY read an opening prayer and led the attendees in silent tribute

#### Agenda item 5 Apologies

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Initials	Discussion
JR	Anny Reid Local Councillor This year we were not able to send a loyal message, as the King has not yet agreed to be our Patron.

#### Agenda item 6 County President's address

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Initials	Discussion
NL	NL read out the President's address in Anny Reid's absence (appendix)



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## Agenda item 7 Chairman's address

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Initials	Discussion
JR	The Chair gave a report covering the year and thanking the county and branches for their hard work over the last 3 years. (appendix)

## Agenda item 8 Minutes of the County Conference 2022

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Initials	Discussion
JR	Called for vote on accepting the minutes of the previous conference. <b>Unanimous vote to pass.</b>
	Raised 2 matters arising from minutes, 1. to add to record this year that the county had 2 motions passed at conference that went to National conference and passed 2. County need to review answers to questions raised last year

## Agenda item 9 Matters Arising from Previous minutes

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Initials	Discussion
JR	re-review figures passed on from previous treasurer <b>Answered in the Treasurers report</b>
JR	follow up on lack of Area Report in time for conference GM/ SB <b>We have an Area report this year.</b>
JR	feedback to HQ about the lack of meeting spaces promised to counties at start of restructure JR <b>This was fed back and there is a process in place to enable committees to hire somewhere.</b>
RR	feedback to HQ about the short timespan in which branches are to engage with Trustee elections (one month) JR <b>This was addressed at National Conference and this should not be an issue going forwards.</b> RR wants to be able to question Motions in the Resolution booklet published by HQ.



## Agenda item 10 County Finance Report

Initials	Discussion
JB	Gave the Finance report (appendix) <b>unanimous vote of acceptance</b>
AW/ JB	AW asked why the County had £14,000 in current acc not BFI. JB explained that he and JR suggested to CC that we transferred approx. £9000 to BFI in March 22 but CC voted not to. AW said should be earning interest. JB agreed and will discuss at first committee meeting with new Chairman. PD explained that this does not need county approval as it is standard practice to keep less than £5000 in the county general account.
RS	asked where the income had come from. JB explained that it was in the report but gave a breakdown.
LC	Visitor Larry Cauchi asked why a nil return on BCS. JB explained no Almonisation request received. PD said one due soon.
JB	JB – There is a full audit underway, just waiting report.

## Agenda item 11 Other Reports

Initials	Discussion
JM	<b>BCS Report</b> (appendix) JM stated that BCS has failed due to 4 websites that don't talk to each other. GR explained that we don't have 4 websites. Different areas of the organisation have different systems and processes but that doesn't affect what we do. JM say some people are having issues. GR will report and feedback.
RR	wants direct contact details for Casework Team. PD/SB explained that all requests have to go through the call centre, not referred direct.
IC	<b>Publicity and recruiting</b> (appendix) IC thanked everyone who contributed to the newsletter but also reminded them to send stuff in so it could continue. Membership is raising across the County. The joining process needs to be a bit easier; the links online are not all working or allowing people to select their nearest Branch. The youth joining process is still paper which is outdated. GR – the process for joining and the offer are under review at present.
SM	We cover 3 Counties and have trouble getting our poppy totals. GR – Poppy Appeal areas are also being mapped out and reporting processes sped up.
All	Discussions from the floor on signposting leavers to RBL, bulk renewals, newsletter, Magazine relevance, website and membership offer. GR – We are working on it.



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BP	BP added to the Youth report to thank the hard work of the outgoing and incoming Youth Standard Bearers.
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### Agenda item 12 Elections

Initials	Discussion
JR	<b>County Committee</b> Bob Perkins and Kay Scase only nominees, vacant spaces on committee so no vote required
JR	<b>County Conference Committee (branch nominations)</b> -no nominations

### Agenda item 13 Motions

Initials	Discussion
JR	Staple hill have submitted a motion but due to technical error it didn't go out in December. It was agreed, after discussion that the motion would be discussed by teams and resubmitted to Conference Committee + delegates if approved would be sent in before the closure date.

### Agenda item 14 Address by Guest Speaker

Initials	Discussion
GR	Gary Ryan Executive Director of Marketing, Fundraising and Remembrance. (appendix)

### Agenda item 15 Presentations of Awards

Initials	Discussion
Presented by NL	<b>County Certificate of appreciation</b> <b>John Black</b> Thornbury and district Branch The Branch asked for John to get this award in recognition of his 5 years doing BCS. He set up weekly phone calls to members during Covid, set up coffee mornings, monthly socials and monthly breakfasts has built great links in the local community and youth groups. Thank you, John.



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**Sam Allen**

Badminton and Hawkesbury Branch

The Branch asked for Sam to get this award in recognition of her long service as Branch Treasurer. She has worked tirelessly in the role.

Thank you, Sam.,

**Les Merry**

Cinderford Branch

The Branch asked for this award to recognise his outstanding efforts for the Poppy Appeal. His efforts have made a huge difference in his local area.

Thank you, Les.

**Jackie Robertson**

Jackie has led us, as County Chairman for the last 3 years. With her committee she saw us all through Covid and having to work remotely, improved communication with our Branches and HQ, with Ian gave us the newsletter and has worked at raising the profile of the legion across the community. Thank you for all you do.

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**Marling Cup**

The object of this competition is to encourage all branches to take a consistently keen interest in Legion activities. Small Branch (up to 70 members)

This year it is awarded to **Thornbury & District Branch** for their efforts in reaching the wider community, supporting the Aims of The Royal British Legion, growing their links with local groups and supporting veterans in their area. Their meetings are well attended, their visibility in the local area is growing.

Thank you.

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**Pearce Cup**

The object of this competition is to encourage all branches to take a consistently keen interest in Legion activities. Small Branch (71 members plus)

This year it goes to **Staple Hill & District Branch** for their efforts in supporting veterans, involving the wider community, promoting the Aims of The Royal British Legion, increasing membership, and supporting other branches.

Thank you.

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**Robertson Cup**

This Award is to encourage all branches to take a consistently keen interest in social media engagement.

**Staple Hill and District Branch** the Robertson Award for having a fantastic presence both online and in their local community. The Branch is going from strength to strength.

Thank you.

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	<p><b>Hewitt Cup</b> Chairmans Choice. This award goes to <b>Kate Reynolds</b> for all her hard work and Branch, Poppy and County level. As well as being a fantastic representative for us with the Standard. Thank you.</p>
	<p><b>Presidents Cup.</b> This goes to the winner of the County SB competition and the County Standard Bearer. <b>Bob Perkins</b>. Many thanks for the fantastic work that you do. <b>Wilf Britton Cup</b> This goes to the winner of the County SB competition and the Deputy County Standard Bearer. <b>Brian Cash</b>. Many thanks for the fantastic work that you do.</p>
	<p><b>Perkins Cup</b> This goes to the winner of the County Youth SB competition and the County Youth Standard Bearer. <b>Alfie Davis</b>. Many thanks for the fantastic work that you do</p>
	<p><b>National awards:</b> <b>National Certificates</b> were awarded to the 4 standard bearers from Gloucestershire who attended the Cenotaph for HM Queen Elizabeth's funeral procession. Congratulations to <b>Bob Perkins, Rachel Perkins, Kate Reynolds</b> and <b>Ed Cowper</b> <b>A Gold Badge</b> was awarded to <b>Mrs Moyne Blake</b> of Cheltenham Branch <b>Life Membership</b> was awarded to <b>Garry Mills</b> Board of Trustees member</p>

### Agenda item 16 Vice Chairman's address/ 17 Install new County Chair

Initials	Discussion
JM	<p>PD officiated the handover of the Chairman's Jewel. JM took over as Chairman</p> <p>JM gave an address as Vice Chairman/ new county Chairman, thanking the outgoing chair and outlining the need for more volunteers for County Committee.</p>

### Agenda item 18 Charging of the Standards

Initials	Discussion
JM	<p>JM called the county Standard Bearer and Youth Standard Bearer and charged them with care of the respective standards.</p>

### Agenda item 19 National Anthem



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Initials	Discussion
JM	The First Verse of the National Anthem was played and the AGM brought to a close