Royal British Legion Minchinhampton Branch

Branch Meeting AGM - Minutes

Wednesday 14th October 2026 – 7.00pm – Cotswold Club

<table>
<tr><th>Item</th><th></th><th>Action</th></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>Act of Homage – POC1 Mr Roger Sims
Prayers and reflection – POC2 Mr Simon Ritter</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>
<table>
<tr><td colspan="4">Roll Call</td></tr>
<tr><td>Roger Sims</td><td>Chris Blick</td><td>Dennis Sparrow</td><td>Simon Ritter</td></tr>
<tr><td>Helen Sims</td><td>Jennie Hanchett</td><td>William Reddaway</td><td>D R Hanchett</td></tr>
<tr><td>Nigel Parry</td><td>Paul Hayward</td><td>Tony Walworth</td><td>Coralie Nurden</td></tr>
<tr><td>Gerry Robbins</td><td>Maurice Balllinger</td><td>Germaine Ballinger</td><td>Dave Nurden</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Apologies</td></tr>
<tr><td>Rosemary Robbins</td><td>Anne Parry</td><td>Annie Toomer</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Visitors</td></tr>
<tr><td>Jenny Broad</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
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<tr><td>3</td><td>The Minutes of the AGM held on 15th October 2025 and General meeting held on 15th April 2026 had been circulated to all members by email.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td>Matters Arising:
None</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>5</td><td>Approval of Minutes:
All agreed. Proposed: Chris Blick, Seconded: Dave Nurden</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>6</td><td>Appointment of officers for the ensuing year:
Roger Sims stated that he would remain as POC1
Simon Ritter wished to stand down as POC2.
Helen Sims was willing to stand as POC2. Proposed by Germaine Ballinger and seconded by Gerry Robbins
Simon Ritter stated he would remain as Standard Bearer and Welfare officer
All agreed.
The relevant forms (MS1) will be completed and submitted to RBL County HQ in due course.
Paul Hayward and Roger Sims proposed a vote of thanks to Simon for his work as POC2.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>7</td><td>Finance:
POC1 reported that our ringfenced account stands at £2309.31. This includes the voluntary £1 per member donated to the Branch at membership renewal and accrued interest.
The Branch wreath, laid at the Remembrance Service, has to be paid for by the Branch, it was proposed and agreed that money raised by the raffle during the evening would pay for the wreath, any leftover funds to go to the Poppy Appeal.
The wreath laid by the (ex)-ladies RBL Minchinhampton Branch is paid for by Coralie Nurden and Annie Toomer as a private contribution.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>8</td><td>Poppy Appeal:
Poppy Appeal Organiser Paul Hayward stated that last year’s Appeal had yielded £5,740.
Collection boxes are being distributed for this year’s appeal. The Scouts will be covering the street collections.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>9</td><td>Welfare:
Welfare officer Simon Ritter had nothing to report.</td><td></td></tr>
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10	**Remembrance 2026:** • The Poppy appeal is underway. • POC1 has spoken to the Head of the Primary school for the annual visit to an assembly prior to Remembrance, this is scheduled for Friday 6th November with Roger Sims, Jenny Hanchett and Helen Sims attending. • The parade on Remembrance Sunday, 8th November, will commence at 1045 immediately after the 0945 Church Service, followed at 1100 by the act of Remembrance at the Cross. Road closures will be in place. Additional wreaths will be laid by Stroud District Councillor Jill Thomas and GCC Councillor Chloe Turner. • Armistice day will be commemorated on 11th November gathering at the Memorial Cross at 1045. No road closures will be in force. • The timing for laying of poppy crosses on war graves in the churchyard by school children from Minchinhampton Primary Academy (and possibly students from the Chine school) will be after the Armistice day parade, 11th November.	
11	**Social Programme:** • Coralie Nurden has organized a Quiz Night in the Cotswold Club at 1930 on Friday 30th October, the proceeds will go to the Poppy appeal. Brian Powel will run the quiz. Tables of up to 4 people at £10 per table. Donations of raffle prizes will be gratefully received. Please contact Coralie and book your table. • Speakers at Branch meetings. Helen Sims has offered a talk on the History of the Stuart Singers for a future meeting. Dennis Sparrow has offered a talk on Aden and the Aden Veterans society, including information on the 4 boys from Marling School who met up in Gibraltar during the war. Both offers to be followed up by POC1.	
12	**Frequency of future Branch meetings:** 2 per year. Next meeting: 14th April 2027 at 1900 Next AGM: 13 October 2027 at 1900 The Branch will be represented by the Standard Bearer and members at the ANZAC day in Leighterton.	
13	**Branch Website:** Updated by Paul Hayward following liaison with POC1. It was noted that there are some very historic out of date pages showing on the website that Paul has not been able to remove yet.	
14	**AOB:** **Raffle raised £52.00 - divided between cost of wreath £30.50, and Poppy Appeal £21.50** **There being no further business, POC1 declared the meeting closed at 2000.**	