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**WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION – Antrim and Down Branch**

**Minutes of the AGM held at 5th AGM, NIWM, Belfast 12 March 2020**

**Attendance (noted, 10 people counted in all, no register given the COVID-19 threat)**

Jackson, Mike (MJ)

Montgomery, Ian (IM)

Ruddell, George

Sleith, George

Thorpe, Tom (TT)

1. **Apologies**

Montgomery, Heather

Sandford, Stephen

Butler, Robert

Scarth, Stephen

2. **Minutes from the Previous Meeting**

* IM was still drafting.

3. **Matters arising**

4. **Co-Chairman’s Report**

* TT/IM outlined the attached report (Appendix 1 - attached).
* There were no questions.

**5. Treasurer’s report**

* RB outlined treasurer’s report (Appendix 2 - attached).
* There were no questions.

6. **Election of Officers**

The following nominations were received in the timescales set out in the draft branch rules.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Post | Candidate | Proposed | Seconded |
| Secretary | Tom Thorpe | Tom Thorpe | Ian Montgomery |
| Co-Chair | Ian Montgomery | Ian Montgomery | Tom Thorpe |
| Treasurer | Robert Butler | Tom Thorpe | Ian Montgomery |
| No portfolio | Michael Jackson | Michael Jackson | Tom Thorpe |
| No portfolio | Stephen Scarth | Stephen Scarth | Ian Montgomery |

These individuals were duly elected to serve for 2020/2021.

7. **AOB**

* There was none.

**8. Date of next AGM - TBC**

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**APPENDIX 1 - WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION – ANTRIM AND DOWN BRANCH**

**Chair’s report, 2019-20**

**5th AGM, NIWM, Belfast 12 March 2020**

**1. Overview**

This report documents the branch activities from April 2019 to March 2020 for the branch AGM.

**2. 2019-20**

The branch held 6 talks on Thursday nights and two half day conferences.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Details | Programme | Numbers attending |
| 11 April 2019, AGM (details on the website) | Margaret Graham, 'WW1 Nurses-the Northern Ireland Connection' | 6 |
| 9 May 2019, afternoon half day branch Spring Conference, ‘The Consequences of War’, 2 – 4.30 pm at PRONI | Speakers to included:  Dr William Butler (University of Kent) on the British army mutinies of 1919. Dr Mario Draper (University of Kent) on the Connaught Rangers in India, 1920. Dr Stefanie Linden (Maastricht University) on shell shock during the First World War and after. Dr Patricia Marsh (PRONI) on the flu epidemic in Ulster in 1919. | 37 |
| 13 June 2019 | Mike Taylor, ‘Beyond the Somme - Brig-Gen Frank Crozier and the Welsh Bantam Brigade'. | 11 |
| July and August 2019 | No meeting |  |
| 12 September 2019 | Michael Nugent, ‘It was an awful Sunday': the 2nd Inniskillings at the Battle of Festubert, May 1915. | 11 |
| 5 October 2020, all-Ireland WFA branch one day conference, ‘Legacies of War’ at Dublin Port, Dublin. | Speakers were:  Professor Gary Sheffield, (University of Wolverhampton, President of the WFA): ‘Hinge of the 20th Century: The Aftermath of the First World War’  Gerry White, (Island of Ireland Trustee, WFA): 'From Gunner to Guerrilla - Tom Barry's Road to Rebellion'  Lar Joye, (Heritage Director at Dublin Port): ‘A Divided Company - Dublin Port and the Impact of the First World War’  Dr. Darragh Gannon, (Queens University, Belfast): ‘Beyond Versailles: Ireland's Global Revolutionary Moment’  Dr. Jennifer Wellington, (University College Dublin): ‘Exhibiting War: The Great War, Museums, and Memory’  Chair: Dr Brendan O’Shea, (European Trustee, WFA) | 34 |
| 10 October 2019 | John Green, 'Willie Redmond and the Great War'. | 19 |
| 14 November, afternoon half day Winter Conference on ‘Beyond the centenaries: Taking forward the story of the First World War and its impact on Ireland’ | Speakers included Dr Tim Bowman, Mike Jackson and Dr Tom Thorpe. | 26 |
| December | No meeting |  |

**3. Membership and attendance**

1. Attendance at Thursday night meetings has been variable between 6 and 17 at each meeting. Numbers for individual meetings are set out in item 2.
2. The WFA has 50 paid members in Northern Ireland (as at March 2020). This is an increase of two from March 2019.

**4. Communications and stakeholder engagement**

1. **Podcast.** A free podcast has been set up titled *Barrage!* This makes public branch talks and conference presentations. Progress on this initiative has stalled a bit and two talks are available at present.
2. **Website.** The website is up and continues to be updated. ([www.antrimdownwfa.org.uk](http://www.antrimdownwfa.org.uk))
3. **Twitter.** The branch twitter (@WFA\_AntrimDown) account has 889 followers (4 March 2020). This is an increase of 10 from last year (14 March 2019)
4. **Facebook.** The branch FaceBook page has 306 ‘friends’ (4 March 2020). This is a decrease of 6 from last year (14 March 2019).

**APPENDIX 2 - Accounts**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Antrim and Down Western Front Association** | | | | | | | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **14/15** |  |  |  |  |  | **14/15** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Income** |  |  |  |  |  | **Expenditure** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings | |  | £106.00 |  |  | Cash on Hand | |  | £106.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  | £106.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **15/16** |  |  |  |  |  | **15/16** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Income** |  |  |  |  |  | **Expenditure** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Opening Balance Cash - 14/15 | | | 106.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings | |  | 391.50 |  |  | Meetings - Speaker Expenses | | | 8.40 |  |  |
| Gallipoli Conference - Funding | | | 109.00 |  |  | Gallipoli Conference - Piper & Catering | | | 109.00 |  |  |
| WFA - Calendar | |  | 8.00 |  |  | WFA - Calendar | |  | 12.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Cash on Hand | |  | 485.10 |  |  |
| Total Income 15/16 | |  | 614.50 |  |  |  |  |  | 614.50 |  |  |
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| **16/17** |  |  |  |  |  | **16/17** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Income** |  |  |  |  |  | **Expenditure** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Opening Balance Cash - 14/15 | | | 485.10 |  |  | Meetings - Speaker Expenses April | | | 10.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - April | | | 32.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - May | |  | 22.00 |  |  | Equipment - PowerPoint laser Clicker - April 2016 | | | 33.98 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings -June | |  | 37.03 |  |  | Bank Fees - September | |  | 1.44 |  |  |
| Western Front Branch Grant | | | 300.00 |  |  | Somme Conference - Expenses | | | 262.47 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - September | | | 39.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - October | |  | 6.00 |  |  |
| Somme Conference - Eventbrite | | | 123.06 |  |  | Speaker Expenses - September | | | 23.80 |  |  |
| Somme Conference - Cash Sales | | | 30.00 |  |  | Stationary - Stamps & Envelopes | | | 13.40 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings October | | | 39.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - November | |  | 6.82 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - November | | | 34.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - December | |  | 6.00 |  |  |
| Somme Conference - Living Legacies | | | 150.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - December | January |  | 6.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - March | | | 24.00 |  |  | Federation Ulster History Studies | | | 50.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **17/18** |  |  |  |  |  | **17/18** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Income** |  |  |  |  |  | **Expenditure** |  |  |  |  |  |
| WFA - Antrim & Down Bank Account | | | 603.66 |  |  | Bank Fees - April | |  | 6.00 |  |  |
| WFA - Antrim & Down Cash in Hand | | | 278.80 |  |  | Bank Fees - May | |  | 4.36 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - June | | | 51.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - June | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - August | | | 66.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - July | |  | 4.82 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - September | | | 36.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - August | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - October | | | 39.00 |  |  | Expenses Re August Meeting Cheque | | | 109.48 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - November | | | 42.00 |  |  | Expenses Re August Meeting Cash | | | 76.90 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - February | | | 20.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - September | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - March | | | 52.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - October | |  | 4.13 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Expenses Re October Meeting Cheque | | | 204.41 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Federation Ulster History Studies | | | 50.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Bank Fees - November | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Bank Fees - December | |  | 5.64 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Bank Fees - January | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Bank Fees - February | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Expenses Re March Meeting Cash | | | 66.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Bank Fees - March Assumed | | | 4.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | WFA - Antrim & Down Bank Account 31/3 | | | 432.52 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | WFA - Antrim & Down Cash in Hand 31/3 | | | 196.20 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Income 16/17 | |  | 1,188.46 |  |  |  |  |  | 1,188.46 |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **18/19** |  |  |  |  |  | **18/19** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Income** |  |  |  |  |  | **Expenditure** |  |  |  |  |  |
| WFA - Antrim & Down Bank Account | | | 432.52 |  |  | Bank Fees - April | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
| WFA - Antrim & Down Cash in Hand | | | 196.20 |  |  | Bank Fees - May | |  | 4.19 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - April | | | 24.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - June | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - May | |  | 34.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - July | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - June | | | 38.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - August | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - October | | | 40.00 |  |  | Expenses Re September Conference -Cash | | | 85.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - February | | | 38.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - September | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - March | | | 46.00 |  |  | Bank Fees - October | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Bank Fees - November | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Bank Fees - December | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Federation Ulster History Studies | | | 50.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Bank Fees - January | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Bank Fees - February | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Expenses Re February Meeting - Cash | | | 43.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Expenses Re February Meeting - Cash TT | | | 92.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Bank Fees - March | |  | 4.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | WFA - Antrim & Down Bank Account 31/3 | | | 430.53 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | WFA - Antrim & Down Cash in Hand 31/3 | | | 100.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Income 16/17 | |  | 848.72 |  |  |  |  |  | 848.72 |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **19/20** |  |  |  |  |  | **19/20** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Income** |  |  |  |  |  | **Expenditure** |  |  |  |  |  |
| WFA - Antrim & Down Bank Account | | | 430.53 |  |  | Bank Fees - April - Mar | |  | 58.37 |  |  |
| WFA - Antrim & Down Cash in Hand | | | 100.00 |  |  | Expenses Re March Talk | |  | 126.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - April | | | 24.00 |  |  | Expenses Re May Conference - Cash | | | 301.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - June | | | 40.00 |  |  | Expenses Re June Talk | |  | 160.94 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - September | | | 34.00 |  |  | Expenses Re September Conference - Cash | | | 35.00 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings - October | | | 64.00 |  |  | Expenses Re October Talk | |  | 80.45 |  |  |
| Donations - Meetings & Conference | | | 277.00 |  |  | WFA - Antrim & Down Bank Account 31/3 | | | 207.77 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Income 16/17 | |  | 969.53 |  |  |  |  |  | 969.53 |  |  |
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