Request for Funding

Dear Abergavenny Town Council,

We are constituted under the Royal British Legion Royal Charter.

Each Branch of the Royal British Legion is responsible for raising its own funds.

Branches are not supported by the RBL Centre. Branch funds are raised from

Donations, often from deceased members, by raffles at functions and by selling

Items donated by members and members of the public.

Branch funds pay for the Branch Mobile Phone as we do not have a permanent premises; expenses for travelling for Branch Officers and Standard Bearer attending funerals, Services, Memorials etc. and Community support workers when visiting veterans in need, visiting Veterans in,hospital; shopping trips and transporting Veterans to GP/Optician/Dental appointments. Over 40 such visits have been made in the past 6 months. Branch funds are also used to pay for community events such as coffee afternoons for local serving members of the Armed Forces and Veterans.

Each Branch has its own Standard which represents the Branch at Funerals/Cremations/Memorials

(Local and National), Remembrance Services/Parades, RBL Conferences and

Local and National competitions. From March 02nd to May 16th this year, the

Abergavenny Standard was paraded at 10 such events as above, 6 of these being

Funerals/Cremations of local to Abergavenny Veterans.

The Abergavenny Standard was commissioned in 1921 when the Branch was first

established. The Branch is responsible for the cost of renewing its own Standard when

the current Standard is no longer fit for parade. The Abergavenny Standard has

now been deemed as such by the RBL Parade Marshall for Gwent and South

Wales and so we now have the dilemma of replacing our current Standard and

other items that are used by the Standard Bearer when carrying the Standard such

as protective case, leather cross strap and gauntlets and additional regalia

attachments awarded to the Abergavenny Branch that are attached to the

Standard, namely the 100 year pennant and the Ypres 2018 patch. The current

Standard was purchased just under 30 years ago and so it has served us well and

has been well looked after and maintained by the several different Standard

Bearers over this period of time. When a new Standard is commissioned it has to

be dedicated and the old Standard laid up. This is a ceremonial affair and is carried

out at St.Mary’s Priory, Abergavenny where numerous dignitaries will be in

attendance and which we expect should receive good media coverage.

This request is to respectfully ask the Town Council of Abergavenny please, if they would

be prepared to fund/part fund the replacement Standard of the RBL Abergavenny Branch,

along with the necessary equipment to carry the Standard which we then hope will

last another 30 years. I have obtained a quote from the official UK Standard

supplier, Newton and Newton, and attach this for your consideration. The cost to

replace the Standard and all mentioned regalia is £1440. We have also approached the Abergavenny Rotary for funding. They hope to be able to consider our request at their next finance meeting mid- July. Should the Rotary agree to contribute to the cost of a new Standard I will inform you of the amount donated soonest or vice versa.

Once funding has been secured, I will commission the Standard to be made and commence making

arrangements for the dedication of the new and the laying up of the old Standard

to which we would cordially invite Town Council dignitaries and Officers to attend this momentous occasion.

I respectfully submit this request for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Peter.

Chair RBL Abergavenny Branch.