



RSPBA North West England Branch

Minutes of the Branch meeting at Padgate Community Centre on 7th December 2008

P Brown	Secretary
J Thomson	Chairman
C Eyre	President, Treasurer & Webmaster
T Brown	Music Board Representative
P Brown	National Council Representative

Band Representatives

Sheffield	T Brown
Greater Manchester Pipe band	J Dillon
Warrington	K Thacker
Warrington 2004	J Thomson
Wirral Pipe Band	C Eyre
Henderson Caledonian	V Walsh
GMFRS	R Brown
WYFS	No Info
Scots Guards	No info
South Cheshire Pipe Band	No info
City of Preston	No info
Bolton Scottish	No info
Chorley	No info
Oldham	No info

The new chairman Jeff Thomson opened the meeting, following a welcome he offered congratulations to Rick Brown on becoming the Pipe Major of GMFRS.

Minutes of previous meeting presented in summary

Minutes of the previous meeting on the 28th September 2008 are accepted by those present at the meeting. After acceptance any members present can discuss matters arising.

Proposed K Thacker
Seconded J Thompson
Voted Unanimous

Matters Arising / Ongoing / Completed from previous meetings

2009 Homecoming to Scotland as mentioned in the AGM the RSPBA are looking at joint ventures/links.

Pipefest event is taking place in Liverpool and band need to volunteer, those interested should contact bvpb1933@yahoo.co.uk if they are interested.

Branch Outdoor Competition investigations ongoing. Two venues reviewed one has good arena(s) but no parking, the other parking but no arena(s). Sponsor approached has had to withdraw due to current financial climate.

Lothian and Borders are to host the William Ferguson trophy in 2009. A grant of £50.00 towards preparation (tuition) will be provided by the Branch.

Sheffield requested the branch Trios be moved to the 21st February to allow the band to participate. This was accepted.

Secretaries Reports

1. As per the AGM.
2. Secretary to report changes in Branch executives to Headquarters.
3. Secretary to contact Headquarters for competition Adjudicators once details confirmed by the Competition Secretary.
4. Secretary to forward accounts to Headquarters.

Treasurers Report

The branch LEVY is to remain as £40:00 for 2009. This LEVY is made against bands in the branch that actively participate in branch band activities (Trios, Mini Bands etc).

To encourage greater participation, the solo events are open to all members of the bands within the branch irrespective of the payment of the LEVY by the band.

Accounts as presented at the AGM.

Music Board Report.

No additional update to that provided in the preceding AGM meeting.

National Council

No additional update to that provided in the preceding AGM meeting.

AOB

1. Following the requested amendment of dates, the branch competitions will be 21st February for the Trio Piping, 28th March for the Mini Bands, Quartet Piping and Solo Drumming. The Solo Piping will be in October (date to be arranged later). The draw for the Trios will be at the Branch meeting on Sunday 8th Feb. The draw for the Minibands, etc will be at the Branch meeting on Sunday 15th March. C Eyre will update the entry forms. P Brown will Email/Post to those bands in the branch. For each contest the branch will decide, at the time of the draw, whether or not sufficient entries have been submitted for the event to be viable.
2. PDQB exams Levels 1 to 3 will be hosted by Sheffield in May 2009 over a weekend to include a workshop. Please could bands let T Brown know if there is any interest? The numbers will determine what format the weekend will need to take.
3. A Drumming Workshop (Snare, Base and Tenor) has been proposed by V Walsh Henderson Caledonian. Dates considers Last weekend in Jan or first in February. Details

to be firmed up and bands contacted – likely cost to be £5.00 per head. Please could bands let us know if interested? Tutors who have offered their time are Davie Sheriden -ex DUT and now leading drummer of D&G police, Bass section will include 2 tenor drummers -Billy Laudon, ex power of Scotland, now playing with D&G police and Gordon Gillmore, Field Marshall. Bass drummer will be Steven Craik who has played in numerous grade 1 bands.

4. A proposal that in the solo drumming competition, drummers should play different beatings if entering more than one section. To be confirmed at the 7th February branch meeting following feedback from the bands within the branch.

Next meeting will be the 8th February 2009.

P L Brown

Minutes Secretary