



## RSPBA North West England Branch

General Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at Padgate Community Centre.

A quorum **was** attained within one half hour after the 13:00 (1pm) start time of the meeting {rule 14.1 Five Band Representatives entitled to vote shall form a quorum at Branch Meetings}.

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

Apologies were received from:-  
City of Liverpool Pipe Band

Bands in attendance:-  
City of Sheffield Pipe Band  
Oldham Scottish Pipe Band  
Warrington Pipe Band 2004  
Greater Manchester Army Cadet Force  
Wirral Pipe Band  
Chorley Pipe Band

### Welcome

The representatives of the bands in the branch were welcomed by Jeff Thomson, the branch chairman, at Padgate at the beginning of the preceding Annual General Meeting.

### Previous Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by all the bands present as a true reflection of the meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

Prop: Warrington Pipe Band.

Sec: Oldham Scottish Pipe Band.

Accepted: Unanimous.

### Music Board

No meeting since the last GM.

Band Grade 4 MSR: regarding G4 MSR, you can play your interpretation. Provisionally booked 14<sup>th</sup> January, letter sent to headquarters to request a workshop on grade 4 playing requirements including G4 MSR.

The World Championships 2013 will be a 2-day event, format of the day(s) to be agreed. Please provide your input as there is only a short window to influence the format.

## National Council

Two bids for the Worlds, Belfast and Glasgow. The announcement will be made at 9:30 on the 5<sup>th</sup> December.

The RSPBA is to employ an Education Officer. Vacancy is advertised by Hays. There will be a link to it on the RSPBA web site.

PDQB is ongoing with training taking pace in two branches and one band. Anyone interested contact Theresa. Work is ongoing to progress Pipe Band Studies, some differences to be resolved between PDQB and RSPBA.

There is to be a review of the RSPBA organisational structure in light of it being a Company limited by Guarantee. Need to ensure the committees and sub-committees are set up for the benefit of the membership to drive actions forward.

Majors 2012 are:-

- Scottish 19<sup>th</sup> May
- British 30<sup>th</sup> June
- European 28<sup>th</sup> July
- Worlds 11<sup>th</sup> August
- Cowal 25<sup>th</sup> August

Minors for 2012 (England) are:-

- Haggerston Castle 10<sup>th</sup> June
- Colchester 10<sup>th</sup> June
- Annan 7<sup>th</sup> July
- Corby 8<sup>th</sup> July
- Ashbourne 15<sup>th</sup> July
- Chatsworth 2<sup>nd</sup> September

## Treasurers Report

The branch levy of £40:00 is to be paid to the "RSPBA (North West England Branch)" preferably by the AGM. Branch bands need to pay this to take part in branch activities.

## 2012 Branch Competitions.

1. Solo Piping Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012 hosted by Oldham Scottish Pipe Band. Start at 09:30. Includes an A Grade Hornpipe and Jig (open). Closing date for entries 29<sup>th</sup> Jan 2011.

**Piping Workshop** will be held in the afternoon after the competition.

Solo Drumming (Snare and Tenor) Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012 hosted by Oldham Scottish Pipe Band. Start at 09:30.

**Drumming Workshop** will be held in the afternoon after the competition.

**ACTION (GM) – Format of the day to be publicised to ensure we get the maximum attendance.**

Bands to advise Gordon (Oldham Scottish Pipe Band) on the specifics they would like to see covered in the workshops.

The branch will have accommodation and travel costs for some of the party to pay, should not be significantly different to previous years if flights can be booked early.

Non-competing participants to pay a door charge (circa £2.00) combined with a good raffle, should cover the additional travel cost.

2. Trio Piping Saturday 24 March at Sheffield or Bury (ACF) to be confirmed.  
Adjudicator to be contacted, Piping – Jim Wark/David Clarke??
3. Mini Bands / Open Drumming **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2012** at Birkenhead  
Piping: Cameron Edgar  
Drumming: Adrian Hoy

Need to amend the solo entry form, the late entry fee should be payable per contestant not band. Appreciate the need to encourage entries but we need to balance this against those who commit early to make the events financially viable.

Trophies to be returned at the first branch meeting of the year to ensure they are not missing at a competition and can be presented to the rightful winner. Trophies are to be collected by the recipient in the competing bands uniform. Restrict tuning up time in solos, specify on entry form.

## **AOCB**

Visit the Oldham Scottish Web Site and order the CD for the modest sum of £5:99.

There is to be a Pipe Fest type gathering in Perth in 2012 if interested.

The meeting closed at 14:45.

P L Brown  
Minutes Secretary