



## RSPBA North West England Branch

Minutes of the AGM at Padgate Community Centre on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2009

### **Welcome**

The representatives of the bands in the branch as well as the RSPBA chairman K Reilly were welcomed by Jeff Thomson the branch chairman to Padgate.

Apologies were received from:-  
Chorley Pipe Band (A Paton)

Bands represented at the AGM:-  
City of Sheffield Pipe Band  
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Pipe Band.  
Oldham Scottish Pipe Band  
Warrington Pipe Band 2004  
Wirral Pipe Band

The bands in the branch:-  
Bolton Scottish Pipe Band – RSPBA dues unpaid.  
Chorley Pipe Band  
City of Liverpool Pipes and Drums  
City of Preston Pipes and Drums  
City of Sheffield Pipe Band  
Greater Manchester (Celtic Society) Pipe Band – RSPBA dues unpaid.  
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Pipe Band.  
Henderson Caledonian – RSPBA dues unpaid – believed to have folded.  
Oldham Scottish Pipe Band  
Scots Guards Association Pipe Band Manchester  
South Cheshire Pipe Band.  
Warrington Academy Pipe Band – RSPBA dues unpaid  
Warrington Pipe Band – has been folded.  
Warrington Pipe Band 2004  
West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Pipe Band – RSPBA dues unpaid  
Wirral Pipe Band.

Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Pipe Band are planning to register a G4 band in the near future.

### ***Minutes of the Previous Meeting***

The secretary asked for issues / comment on the previous AGM minutes:-

- Chorley renewed their membership.
- Accounts prepared and sent to headquarters along with the bank statement.
- Secretary apologised for the incorrect spelling of the RSPBA Chairman's Surname.

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Warrington Pipe Band – 2004, seconded by City of Sheffield Pipe Band and carried by a unanimous vote.

### **President's Address.**

This has once again been a mixed year. Let us start by welcoming the City of Liverpool Pipes and Drums to the branch, let us hope their enthusiasm continues. Our branch indoor competitions were a success once we had a venue and arranged adjudicators, unfortunately due to timing we could not hold our Solo Piping competition. I must thank those individuals and bands who actively support the branch and hope this continues to grow.

The branch competitions and the drumming weekend were a success and should be a foundation on which the branch continues to grow. The branch needs to utilise its own resources to keep costs to a minimum when promoting activities, we should look to using our own contacts and skills to promote the competitions, seminars and PDQB.

Work is underway preparing the 2010 branch competitions let us make these a success by taking part either as competitors or volunteers (stewards, compilers etc). Please consult the branch web site for details.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The accounts have been prepared and a copy sent to headquarters. The latest bank statement needs to be forwarded to complete the actions placed on the Branch.

The levy is a key component in supporting the branch activities. Not having a Solo Piping competition in 2009 impacted on the balance sheet. The drumming seminar and adjudicator costs were the major branch outgoings. It is hoped to manage these in 2010 by planning ahead to reduce cost.

The accounts are attached at the end of these minutes.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Oldham and Scottish Pipe Band, seconded by Warrington Pipe Band 2004 and carried by a unanimous vote.

### **Music Board**

The biggest changes in 2010 are the changes to MAP. The new tune list and scores are available on the RSPBA website. The competition format has changed to MSR for grade 4a as a progression to grade 3. All band secretaries have been notified from headquarters, please ensure headquarters have the correct contact details for your band secretaries.

The RSPBA training is now recognised by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) along with the Piping And Drumming Qualification Board (PDQB) certificates. The RSPBA have been developing their Instructors over the year and have just started to run courses within some of the branches.

Theresa, PM of City of Sheffield and the branch Music Board representative, has just completed the last weekend of the RSPBA Instructors course, as well as just completing this year's examination weekend at Sheffield with a number of candidates successfully passing their certificates.

Lothian and Borders are to host the William Ferguson trophy.

### **National Council**

This has been my first year as NC member for the branch.

First congratulations to the bands that competed in 2009, as I now appreciate the time and effort it takes in getting your bands to the start line. I must however emphasise the amount of behind the scene activity that takes place (venue, draw, parking programs etc) and key element of the day the Stewards. These individuals are the key to the day. They start early (some times the day before), prepare the ground and ensure you get to the start line on time. Please continue to give these individuals the courtesy they deserve and observe their instructions. They are only trying to keep things moving smoothly and avoid the NC enforcing some of the unpleasant rules.

Majors are now planned until 2012, and the European and World competitions are to be 2 weeks apart to allow foreign bands to participate for two weeks in the “worlds experience”.

Major	Scottish	British	European	Worlds
2010	Dumbarton	Annan	Belfast	Glasgow
2011	Dumbarton	Annan	Belfast	Glasgow
2012	Dumbarton	Annan	Belfast	Glasgow

The PDQB syllabus has been picked up by the SQA. (see Music Board report). The RSPBA in some areas are playing catch up, however the RSPBA manuals remain a key reference in the provision of educational material. I feel as a branch we should be able to hold a number of workshops to enable students to be mentored ready for an examination weekend in late 2010.

The RSPBA is progressing with its plans to go Ltd, a working party has been established but has yet to report back to NC.

The RSPBA AGM will be in March 2010, it is important that the bands within the branch make representation, use your vote or loose it.

I will continue to report back on NC activity. It does take some time to understand the background and scope of the activities, particularly when the minutes do not contain all the information.

### **RSPBA update by the Chairman (K Reilly)**

The RSPBA Chairman spent some time discussing the association’s current position and looking ahead.

In the main this confirmed the feedback made by the branch Music Board and National Council representatives.

Development groups have been established to look at the “way forward” and review the “world championships”. The latter is looking at the format and experience of the whole day – not just from a bands perspective, please register any interest so your input can be gathered.

The association is in a healthy position thanks to the negotiations regarding the championships; because as we are a charity we are able to report for the first time that the association could continue to operate for three years on its existing funds should the worst occur and our income stream stop.

The BBC have agreed a contract for 2 years to produce a program on the world pipe band championships. The internet was a success with over 44,000 streams taking place. The BBC have to ask the trustees of the BBC if they will allow future internet streaming of the event. DVD sales have been unaffected. In fact they have increased slightly.

We are looking at contests to start at 10 – 10:30 other than the worlds to allow bands to travel and experience a friendly day.

PBQB exams will be through the SQA, as NVQ type qualifications. Thanks to the PDQB development team for getting us on the road.

Kinross and George Watson's College pipe bands were nominated for the traditional Music Awards. Unfortunately they were pipped to the post by Haddington Pipe Band.

### **Branch executives for 2009**

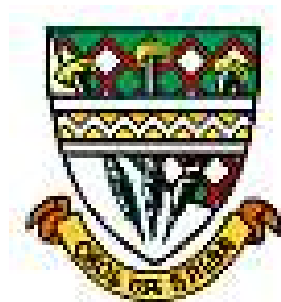
The election of branch officials was chaired by the RSPBA Chairman

Post		In Post until	Proposed and seconded
President	C Eyre	Dec 2011	City of Sheffield Pipe Band Warrington Pipe Band 2004
Chairman	J Thomson	Dec 2011	City of Sheffield Pipe Band Wirral Pipe Band
Secretary	P Brown	Dec 2011	Oldham and Scottish Pipe Band Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Pipe Band.
Treasurer	C Eyre	Dec 2010	Oldham and Scottish Pipe Band Warrington Pipe Band 2004
Music Board	T Brown	Dec 2010	Oldham and Scottish Pipe Band Wirral Pipe Band
National Council	P Brown	Dec 2010	City of Sheffield Pipe Band Wirral Pipe Band
Trophy Steward, Web Site Design and Competition Secretary	C Eyre	Dec 2010	Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Pipe Band. City of Sheffield Pipe Band

The Pipe Band Magazine representative is Calum Brown.

Meeting close @14:35 after thanks to the Chairman for his support and input.

P L Brown  
Minutes Secretary



North West England Branch  
Of the RSPBA

Review of Accounts for the Year Ended  
December 2009  
Version 1

North West England Branch  
Balance Sheet – October 2009

Assets Employed

2009  
£

**Current Assets**

Bank Account	1,088.01
Cash in Hand	<u>246.15</u>
	1,334.16

**Current Liabilities**

Sundry Creditors	<u>0.00</u>
Net Current Assets	1,334.16

**Accumulated funds**

Balance Brought Forwards	1,743.19
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	<u>(409.03)</u>
	<u>1,334.16</u>

In my opinion the Accounts give a true and fair view of the state of the branch affairs as at 6<sup>th</sup> October 2009 and of the balance for the period at the end.

This report has been prepared from the details provided to the membership by the branch Treasurer. The records kept are clear and reflect the activities of the branch fully.

P L Brown

6<sup>th</sup> October 2009

North West England Branch  
Income and Expenditure Account  
For the year ending October 2009

	2009	2008
<b>Income</b>		
Levy	320.00	360.00
Entry (Solos)	0.00	94.50
Drumming Clinic	210.00	
Entry (Trio)	159.50	93.50
Entry (Quartet)	251.50	162.50
Door	0.00	30.00
Donation	40.00	5.00
Raffle/Teas	108.97	78.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,089.97</b>	<b>823.50</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Hall Competition	150.00	50.00
Drumming Clinic	550.00	
Adjudicator (Solo)	0.00	72.00
Adjudicator (Trio)	280.00	92.00
Adjudicator (Quartet)	454.00	596.55
Misc	0.00	10.00
Hall Hire Meetings	40.00	45.00
Expenses	25.00	30.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,499.00</b>	<b>895.55</b>
Profit/(Loss) for Year	<i>(-409.03)</i>	<i>(-72.05)</i>
Income Due	0.00	24.00
(Loss) for 2009		<b>(-48.05)</b>