



RSPBA North West England Branch

AGM and GM 11th February 2018 at Padgate Community Centre.

A quorum **was** attained within one half hour after the 13:00 start time of the meeting.

Present Officials

- P Brown Secretary / P Brown Director RSPBA
- K Thacker Vice- Chairman
- T Brown Music Board representative
- C Eyre President, Treasurer & Webmaster
- J Thomson Chairman

Bands in attendance:-

- Warrington
- Wirral
- Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue
- West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
- Manchester Phoenix

Apologies:-

- None received

A quorum was attained, and the meeting started with the AGM @ 13:15

Opening

The chairman welcomed those attending the second meeting of 2018 on another cold day, including his thanks for our wishes for his speedy recovery recorded in the previous minute.

Minutes

The secretary apologised that the minutes were titled "AGM and GM ...", the GM minutes for the 7th January were circulated. The minutes were accepted in full on a:

Proposal by GMFRS

Seconded by Warrington

All others were like minded.

Matters Arising.

No further news has been received regarding the health of K Reilly. He is expected to be at MB in April and we hope he is able to attend the RSPBA AGM.

The branch has ten bands that have paid their membership as of the 3rd February BoD meeting. A question is outstanding over the non-payment by Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association. Would need this band plus one other to remain with director representation

when next comes around. Consider combining the branch with the Midlands branch to ensure a seat at the table based on the total number of bands.

Treasurers Report

Flights have been booked for adjudicators attending the solo piping and mini band events. Medals have been purchased. Levies as well as entries for the solo piping are coming in.

The income / expenditure currently is in line with expectations and previous year's figures. Full report will be provided at the next meeting.

Directors Report

Headquarters Building Insurance renewed, increase in premium not as large as expected considering the claim we made.

European Championship 2018 has been launched, web site and advertising. Outstanding bids for 2019 championships is still on going.

The grade 2 recordings on the RSPBA web site have been a hit.

Request to consider Grade 1 contest as part of the MOD, under RSPBA rules.

Indoor and Overseas adjudicator allocation draft circulated to BoD, along with the Version 1 of the 2018 outdoor allocations.

AIMS meeting dates are the Friday of the Belfast Championships with a follow up in worlds week. Agenda items / structure needs to be progressed.

The Music Board after being without a Convenor for some time, following some considered debate, Bruce Cargill was voted into office.

MB were concerned about proposals for format and registration changes coming forward that had not previously been passed through branches Music Board representatives.

The World Solo Drumming Proposals items 1 to 14 were accepted by the Board of Directors for implementation.

Grade 4 format, all bands are to be asked to complete a survey to identify what changes if any need to be made. The playing of 2/4 tunes from a prescribed list is only applicable at majors, as the local format is 2.5 to 4.5 minutes of march tempo.

The revised Complaints Procedure has been added to the website.

The RSPBA PVG documentation has been approved and is awaiting publication (to the web site).

The Standing Orders and Steering Committee considered all the proposals received on the 2nd February and presented the case for their inclusion / exclusion from the AGM order paper to the Board of Directors on the 3rd Feb. The board agreed to put the following changes before the membership:-

OR1 - 2018: Confer / Comment on a Performance.

OR2 - 2018: Pipe Band College

OR3 - 2018: MB Piping and drumming representatives.

OR4 - 2018: *RSPBA Articles of Association – Increase the number of Directors*

MR1 - 2018: PROPOSED BY MCNEILLSTOWN PIPE BAND - QUALIFYING PERIOD

MR2 - 2018: PROPOSED BY McDONALD MEMORIAL PIPE BAND - G4 DUAL REGISTERED LEADING DRUMMER.

It was asked if a review of the International Tenor Drumming event was needed, should we claim the World event before someone else does?

Registration system is on-going with a possible trial of providing access by band secretaries; however our office bandwidth is currently not sufficient to progress this.

Premises plans were reviewed, communication to be issued regarding going out to tender. Application for planning permission is being progressed. Hope to start in May.

Music Board Report

The next meeting is in April. Key details mentioned in the director's update.

2018 Branch Competitions.

Those present discussed the progress on the branch competitions.

The events are open to all branches, to increase the viability of the events and vary the competition. Within each section of the open competition, confined branch results will also be announced.

The entry forms are available on the NWE Branch Website.

The venue for all contests will be St Joseph's, Birkenhead, pending other premises becoming available at a reasonable cost.

103 Regiment have been asked for their support in assisting to steward the events.

Adjudicators have been contacted and have agreed for the Solos, Trios, and Mini Bands and headquarters have been notified and agreed to their use.

The dates and venues have been notified to headquarters: -

- Solo Piping: Saturday 17th February (St Joseph's, Birkenhead)
Adjudicator - Harry Stephenson
The chanter and intermediate part of the day will start at approximately 11am and the open events at 1pm.
The draw will take place following the meeting and will be published on the web site.
- Trio Piping: Saturday 3rd March (St Joseph's, Birkenhead)
Adjudicator - Cameron Edgar
- Solo Drumming, Quartets and Minibands: Saturday 7th April (St Joseph's, Birkenhead). *PMS can decide on entry to Quartets and/or Mini Bands.*
Adjudicators – John Moles and Ciaran Mordaunt

Workshops

It has been agreed that any workshops will not be run in conjunction with any of the Indoor Contests.

Bands are requested to consider their own training needs so these can be progressed as targeted days for specific needs

.
An Ensemble Adjudicator with a drumming preference (Paul Turner) is to attend GMFRS premises on the 24th 2017, to comment on / review the GMFRS band's sets for the 2018 season.

A Drum Majors workshop will be arranged when the weather improves, with basic instruction being provided by Calum Brown (our local resource)

AOCB

Please bring Raffle prizes (recycled Christmas presents) to the next meeting – all donations gratefully received.

Next GM meeting will be on the 18th March 2018 @ 13:00

The final GM before the competition season will be on the 29th April 2018 @13:00

Closed @ 14:46

P L Brown
Secretary
NWE Branch