



RSPBA North West England Branch

GM on the 18th November 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	RSPBA Director

Apologies were received from:-

None at the meeting.

City of Liverpool post meeting

Bands in attendance:-

Warrington Pipe Band 2004

Greater Manchester Army Cadet Force Pipe Band

Wirral Pipe Band

Bolton Caledonia Pipe Band

Black Thistle Pipe Band

Oldham Scottish Pipe Band

Welcome

The representatives of the bands in the branch were welcomed by Jeff Thomson, the branch chairman, to the General Meeting at Padgate. There was a slight delay while a quorum was achieved.

Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the 14th October 2012 were accepted. They were issued with the wrong date (September instead of October). This was corrected before they were uploaded to the Branch Web site.

Prop: Black Thistle Pipe Band

Sec: Bolton Caledonia Pipe Band

Accepted: Unanimous.

Matters Arising

Please ensure your RSPBA Membership has been paid. South Cheshire Pipe Band are not continuing their membership. It is also possible that the branch may have also lost the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Pipe Band.

The RSPBA have been asked to deliver a course on Grade 4 playing requirements, selection of tunes, making sure they are right for the band capabilities as well as suitability for competition. Other topics include how to link the components of the MSR and meet the desires of MAP. This request is with the Education Officer. We will be notified by the end of next week (by 23rd Nov). Proposed dates are 15th Dec, 6th or 13th Jan at Padgate. Open to all branch band members.

The branch accounts have been forwarded to headquarters as well as notification of the branch AGM date of the 2nd December 2012.

Treasurers Report

No change since last month, the branch funds are currently £2,233.52.

The branch levy of £40:00 per band for 2012-13 to be paid at the AGM.

Directors Report

There has not been a directors meeting since the 13th October, the day before the last branch meeting. The next meeting of the directors will be the 9th December after the branch AGM.

The ongoing work is focusing on delivery of training and instruction via the Education Officer, as well as ensuring the procedures and processes needed to run the organisation are in place.

Rule changes are being considered to make the Stewards and Compilers a recognised subcommittee; They also are considering changes to address Equipment Failure on the competition line. Any changes will be put forward at the 2013 RSPBA AGM.

Music Board

Music Board had a meeting on the 17th October.

Branch training request as covered in the matters arising

Theresa (and others) are reviewing the nominated tunes on the web site with a view to ensuring the details published are musically correct, as well as considering new tunes to be added. If you would like any tunes considered please let Theresa know. The current thinking is any additions will be notified as current practice prior to the worlds 2013. However the actual music may not be added to the web site before September.

Band Grading; Manchester Phoenix have been promoted to Grade 3b on request (the previous move to 4a being on standards only). New band - Bolton Caledonia have been graded 4b.

A Summer school is being proposed to run from the 14th to the 19th July, at the Glasgow Academy. It was quickly pointed out that the English school holidays would not start until the end of July.

2013 Branch Competitions.

Theresa and Chris have contacted several different adjudicators to come and give you their views on the standard of playing within the branch. Confirmation of their allocation is required from headquarters, the line up so far is:-

1. Oldham Scottish Pipe Band are to host the Solo Competitions.
2nd Feb – Solo Piping – Harry Stevenson
3rd Feb – Solo Drumming (snare and tenor) – David Brown
2. Greater Manchester ACF are to host the Trio Piping at Holcombe Moor on the 9th of March – Jim Wark.
3. Wirral Pipe Band are to host the Mini Bands /Quartets/ Open Drumming at St Josephs Birkenhead on the 14th April. Piping - William Garrett and Drumming – Adrian Hoy

AOCB

The secretary is to notify all bands of the AGM by Post.

A drumming workshop to be arranged with Adrian Hoy, hopefully in January. Proposed venue Oldham. Chris Eyre and Graham Houghton are working on it.

A statement regarding the Black Thistle Pipe Band was made by Gordon McCaoidh. The band has lost a number of players and is unlikely to be competing in the next year. The band has not folded and not all players have been released. Release forms will be completed on return of equipment and settlement of outstanding monies.

Raffle Prizes for next year: bear this in mind if you receive unwanted gifts over the festive period.

The meeting closed at 14:20. Next Meeting is the AGM on the 2nd December 2012

P L Brown
Minutes Secretary