



RSPBA North West England Branch

GM 19th February 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

Welcome

The representatives of the bands in the branch were welcomed by Jeff Thomson the branch chairman to the General Meeting at Padgate.

Previous Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by all the bands present as a true reflection of the meeting held on the 4th December 2011

Prop: Warrington Pipe Band.

Sec: Wirral Pipe Band

Accepted: Unanimous.

There were no points raised against the AGM minutes from the 4th December 2011.

Music Board

Theresa has not attended a meeting since the last GM as the Music Board meeting coincided with Burns Night.

The playing requirements for grade 4 bands have been confirmed. Details are available on the RSPBA web site.

As we know Glasgow has been awarded the worlds for a further period, in 2013 this 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 before the details need to be made available at the Worlds in August.

The Music Board are actively looking at education and the introduction of Summer School, possibly need to look at other times of the year to fit in with UK school holidays, worlds week may no longer be the best time due to the amount of activity taking place now around Glasgow.

National Council

Bids for Worlds announced Glasgow, expecting bids for the other championships to be complete for an announcement at the RSPBA AGM.

The RSPBA have employed an Education Officer, the applicant will start at the beginning of March.

PDQB is ongoing both Piping and Drumming, contact Theresa if interested. Work is ongoing to progress Pipe Band Studies, some differences to be resolved between PDQB and RSPBA.

The AGM is on the 10th March, be there or use a proxy to be represented. No major changes to the Standing Orders and Rules. Key areas are related to the operating of the Limited Company and its definitions including a register of interests. The Glasgow West of Scotland Branch have proposed amendments to the Contest Rules regarding Registration as well as to the commencement of the performance.

G Hamill has been proposed for the position of Chairman and G Ussher for President as these positions have come up for renewal.

There is to be a review of the RSPBA organisational structure in light of it being a Company limited by Guarantee is ongoing. 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 19th May
- British 30th June
- European 28th July
- Worlds 11th August
- Cowal 25th August

Minors for 2012 (England) are:-

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

Treasurers Report

The branch levy of £40:00 has been paid by the active bands in the branch. Branch bands need to pay this to take part in branch activities.

The branch balance following the Solo Competition (slight loss on the days) is approx £2,300.

Trophies required following a discussion the Treasurer was authorised to send up to £400 on new ones. Trophies should be mainly first place trophies with medals being used for other places.

2012 Branch Competitions.

1. Solo Piping Saturday 4th Feb 2012 and Solo Drumming (Snare and Tenor) Sunday 5th Feb 2012 hosted by Oldham Scottish Pipe Band was a success although both days were long. There is a need to consider the categories we would like to have next year (age and/or sections), representatives to bring forward views/ideas for the next meeting.
2. Trio Piping Saturday 24 March at Bury (ACF) confirmed.
Adjudicator will be Cameron Edgar. We need to ensure the premises are left at the end of the day in good order, the bands need to respect the fact that the ACF has gone out on a limb to ensure we have a venue. The draw will take place on Sunday 19th March 2012. Late entry fee will apply to each band.
3. Mini Bands /Quartets/ Open Drumming **Sunday 15th April 2012** at Birkenhead
Piping: Cameron Edgar
Drumming: Adrian Hoy

Trophies to be returned if they have not already for the Trio and Mini Bands.

When a Band Member moves who has a trophy, can either return the trophy as part of the release or sign a declaration that they will return the trophy via the new band or personally by the next AGM (December 2012)

AOCB

Members have left The Oldham Scottish Pipe Band to form a new band to concentrate on Competitions.

A question was asked about Drum Major and/or Tenor drumming courses. The need will be passed back to headquarters as could form part of the Summer School. There was a Drum Major weekend held at Sheffield, will need to look into arranging a follow up.

The meeting closed at 14:45. Next Meeting 29th April 2012.

P L Brown
Minutes Secretary