



RSPBA North West England Branch

GM 2nd November 2014 at Padgate Community Centre.

A quorum **was NOT** 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}.

Present Officials

- P Brown Secretary
- C Eyre President, Treasurer & Webmaster
- P Brown Director RSPBA
- T Brown Music Board representative

Apologies

- J Thomson Chairman

Welcome

Bands in attendance:-

- Warrington
- Wirral
- Manchester Phoenix

Apologies were received from:-

- City of Liverpool
- Bolton Caledonia
- Chorley

Bands not in attendance:-

- Oldham Scottish
- Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service -2003
- Scots Guards Association Manchester
- West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service.
- City of Preston

Bands closed

- Black Thistle
- Greater Manchester ACF

Apologies were received from the Chairman and a number of Bands.

A quorum was not present, please read these notes in conjunction with those of the 28th September. Where possible Branch business was progressed and duly recorded.

It was noted that in the notes of the 28th September Bolton Caledonia were noted as being both in and not in attendance. It is recognised that Bolton Caledonia was in attendance.

It is important that the Branch be able to function; as noted in the September notes a revised Constitution will be prepared for the December AGM.

Finance Report.

A draft set of accounts has been produced and circulated for review. The accounts have been prepared from the spreadsheet circulated by the Treasurer.

Please review the accounts as they need to be agreed by the membership at the AGM.

A copy of the draft account will be forwarded to RSPBA headquarters in advance of our AGM.

Music Board Report.

The next MB is on the 22nd November 2014, the key update is all the pipe scores are now available on the SPBA web site; Grade 4 bands have 42 tunes from which to make their competition selection.

Directors Report

Paul advised that the Directors meeting is to be held on the 15th November 2014.

A bid had been placed on a plot of land and premises that would be refurbished as the new RSPBA headquarters. The bid was rejected in favour of a more lucrative bid.

The format of the World Solo Drumming competition is to be discussed at the next meeting, as discussed previously the branch could host a regional heat, that may bring in a sizable entry provided we could find a venue and trophies, possibly leading to revenue for the branch.

There are some rule changes being considered in the pipe line such as the splitting of Novice Juvenile grade in Major Championships and the possible amendment of the registration period being changed from 14 days to 42 days before a transferred player can play with their new band.

Branch Competitions

Proposed dates for our indoor contests for 2015:

1. Sat. 7th Feb: Solo Piping
2. Sun. Feb 8th: Solo Drumming
3. Sun. March 1st or 8th: Trio Piping
4. Sat. Apr 11th: Minibands, Quartets, Drum Salute

The venues and adjudicators will be announced as soon as confirmed. The competitions as in 2014 will be open events, all are welcome.

The competition Secretary is to poll all the bands to get a view on likely entries; the Solo Piping based on last year's entrants and the movement of players, at first glance, may not be viable.

Premises have not as yet been confirmed; the officials will progress and hope to have firmed up the details for the AGM.

Education

The branch as in previous years is looking at what we can provide for the members.

The RSPBA Education Officer has been contacted by the Secretary to obtain confirmation that the instructor's fee will be met by headquarters as part of the outreach program if the branch covers the venue, travel and accommodation expenses in respect of:-

1.A Drumming weekend (side, bass and tenor). Emphasis to be at practical Grade 4 level. Dates proposed: 10/11th or 17/18th January. Theresa will discuss further at the MB meeting on the 22nd November.

2. A Drum Majors workshop. (One day or two?) Dates proposed: 18th and/or 19th March. There was a debate as to what would be more desirable - draw on local talent (the same two instructors we had last year), go for a top competing D/M or an official RSPBA adjudicator. Details have been sought from the Education Officer as to who may be available.

No feedback from RSPBA headquarters had been received prior to the meeting.

AOCB

Next Meeting Branch AGM will be the 7th December 2014, please ensure the band is represented if possible.

Closed @ 14:00.

P L Brown
Secretary
NWE Branch