



RSPBA North West England Branch

GM 3rd April 2016 at Padgate Community Centre.

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

Present Officials

- C Eyre President, Treasurer & Webmaster
- T Brown Music Board representative
- K Thacker Vice- Chairman

Apologies

- J Thomson Chairman
- P Brown Secretary / Director RSPBA

Bands in attendance:-

- Warrington
- Wirral
- Oldham Scottish
- Manchester Phoenix

Apologies:-

- None Received.

A quorum was attained and the meeting started @ 13:20

Opening

The vice chairman welcomed those present and thanked them for giving up their time to support their band and the branch.

Apologies were noted.

A quorum was not achieved at the Feb meeting, a discussion took place simply to progress the solo events and complete the Draw.

The GM Minutes of the 10th January were circulated for consideration. The minutes were accepted in full on a:-

Proposal by Warrington

Seconded by Oldham Scottish

All others were like minded.

Matters Arising.

The Liverpool Scottish are now members of the Branch, but Branch is still seeking other interested bands.

Treasurers Report

Balance is £2336. Annual Levy has raised £200. Solo Piping made a small profit and the Solo Drumming a small loss, net cost to the branch -£24. Both events well attended, a lot of drumming interest from the audience.

Thanks to the 103 Regiment for their support on the day.

Directors Report

Director Not Present, update passed by Music Board rep.

RSPBA AGM attended by 42 bands.
2 Rule changes as in order paper approved.

The BOD suspended Fife Branch last year, and have now had to suspend the Stirling Branch. Post meeting update please review the Standing Orders and Rules regarding branch responsibilities, regarding notification of officials, having regular meetings and supplying AGM / Account details to headquarters, the NW England Branch although small still complies with these requirements.

To keep our branch, we need a minimum of 12 bands to pay their membership in Oct/Nov 2016.

A review of Band and Member registrations is taking place; no decisions have been made at this time but considering personal membership through the band.

Music Board Report

Next meeting on the 9th April.

The board is continuing to look at competition formats, as well as looking at extending the list of prescribed tunes.

2016 Branch Competitions.

Solo Piping and Drumming a success (see Treasurers Report).

The mini bands are to be held on 16th April at St Josephs Birkenhead. The entry forms are available on the NWE Branch Website.

Trios will be included as part of the Mini Band competition in place of the quartets, allowing more branch bands to participate.

Drum Salute competition also included.

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 judges are Jim Wark and Eric Ward. Small entry at present - Wirral, Wolverhampton, Chorley Croft & Culcheth, Birmingham Irish and Manchester Phoenix.

Draw will take place on the 10th April and will be published by Chris Eyre.

£50 prize still available for the Drum Salute winner.

103 Regiment will helping out again on the day, for which we are very grateful.

Please bring Raffle prizes on the day.

Workshop

The drumming workshop on the 17th April will be supported by Eric and Lynn Ward. We have also retained the services of Jim Wark for an extra day to cater for the Pipers. It starts at 9.30am and will run till 3.30pm with a break for lunch.

There's no need for uniforms but bring your instruments, including sticks, pads and practice chanters. The structure and content of the day will depend on who turns up and how many. If there is any particular aspect you would like covered, let us know, or bring it up on the day.

Branch members are free to attend the workshop. Non-branch members will be charged £10.00 for the days' tuition.

Buffet lunch will be available at £5.00 per head or feel free to provide your own.

AOCB

Next year at the Solo Tenor Drumming, competitors will be allowed to use a recording, as it is often difficult for them to obtain a Piper and Snare Drummer.

Need to give 2 weeks' notice in newsletter and Facebook regarding meetings and events.

Next GM meeting date will be circulated after Sunday 17th April.

Meeting closed @ 14:10

P L Brown (thanks to Catherine for taking notes)
Secretary
NWE Branch