



RSPBA North West England Branch

GM 6th May 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 / Vice Chairman of RSPBA
- K Thacker Vice- Chairman
- T Brown Music Board representative
- C Eyre President, Treasurer & Webmaster
- Vacancy Branch Director

Bands in attendance:-

- Warrington
- Wirral
- West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue

Apologies:-

- J Thomson Chairman
- Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue

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

Opening

The vice chairman welcomed those attending the final meeting of 2018 before the outdoor season.

Minutes

The GM minutes for the 11th February 2018 were circulated. The minutes were accepted in full on a:

Proposal by Warrington

Seconded by WYFR

All others were like minded.

Matters Arising.

K Reilly is on the mend and is attending RSPBA meetings, besides being a Director on the Music Board he has just taken on the role as convenor of the Marketing and Media committee.

The branch has ten bands that have paid their membership as of the 3rd February BoD meeting. Following the RSPBA AGM in March Paul Brown ceased to be a branch director on election to hold the post of vice chairman of the RSPBA.

The branch cannot comply with the requirement for a minimum number of bands to elect a representative on to the BoD. Paul will continue to provide an update on RSPBA business at Branch meetings.

Treasurers Report

It has been a good year considering the weather event that impacted the trios.

A balance sheet was circulated, which has a couple of items to be considered before it is complete (Hall Hire / Prizes). The current position is a loss of approximately £70.00 on the year.

A frank discussion took place on the organising of events and the need for all to agree the financial implications up front.

Directors Report

The RSPBA PVG documentation approved has been published to the RSPBA Web site. Please take note and adapt as needed for use with your Band.

Premises plans are awaiting approval before finally progressing with the tender process. The vacation of the Washington Street building is scheduled for the 11th to 13th May. Headquarters staff are being relocation over the road into temporary office space. Work is still expected to be completed by early 2019.

The RSPBA AGM was held in March with 86 Bands represented. The resolutions that were agreed are:-

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*

Promoters for the 2019, 20 and 21 Major Championships have been selected from those who submitted bids. Details of the venues will be communicated once all the involved parties have been notified in writing as to their success or failure in being select to host a Championship.

The Pipe Band College is being established following the AGM from the Education Management Group. There is to be a new application procedure for applying for Out Reach training and funding.

Members of the Branch (and Face Book group) need to be aware of the changes with the data protection law. Do not pass on contact details to a third party, advise them to look on the Web Site, or take their details and pass them on to the involved party so they can contact the third party.

Music Board Report

The MB are to issue (via headquarters) to all the secretaries of Grade 4 bands a questionnaire that needs to be signed by the Pipe Major regarding the Grade 4 competition format, to identify what changes if any need to be considered. 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.

Terms of reference are being written to establish a sub-committee of the Music Board to undertake the "Grade Realignment Project" which will consider the adult Grades and competition Format.

There will also be a review of the International Tenor Drumming Competition.

Consideration is being given to make the Friday before the worlds the "Juvenile World Championships". The Juvenile bands are to be canvased for support for this initiative.

Vacancies still exist for members on the MB particularly from English Branches.

Branch Competitions.

The events were successful, thanks to all who helped organise and run the events.

The mini bands clashed with events in Liverpool increasing the flight costs, so we may have to change the order of the events. The drumming entries were down on previous years across the board.

The need for separate Trio / Quartet events was discussed. Should we only have one and run this alongside the Mini Bands?

Workshops

It has been decided that any workshops will need to be agreed, costed and signed up to first by the membership.

Consideration of a Drum Majors workshop with instruction provided by Calum Brown (our local resource) is ongoing

AOCB

Next GM meeting will likely be in September date and time to be notified via the web and Facebook group

Closed @ 14:30

P L Brown
Secretary
NWE Branch