



RSPBA North West England Branch

AGM and GM 7th January 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 / P Brown Director RSPBA
- K Thacker Vice- Chairman
- T Brown Music Board representative

Apologies

- C Eyre President, Treasurer & Webmaster
- J Thomson Chairman

Bands in attendance:-

- Warrington
- Wirral (by proxy)
- Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue
- West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
- Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association (by proxy)
- Oldham Scottish Pipe Band

Apologies:-

- None received

A quorum was attained, and the meeting started with the AGM @ 13:10

Opening

The vice chairman welcomed those attending the first meeting in 2018 on such a cold day.

We wish Jeff and Chris a speedy recovery.

Minutes

The secretary apologised for the poor cut and paste used in the preparation of the minutes resulting in some references to 2015 remaining that should have been 2018.

The AGM and GM Minutes of the 29th October were circulated. The minutes were accepted in full on a:

Proposal by Warrington

Seconded by GMFR

All others were like minded.

Matters Arising.

No further news has been received regarding the health of K Reilley. The branch eight bands that have paid their membership as at the 2nd December 2017. Still chasing a few.

Treasurers Report

The secretary provided an update. The current movements of funds is associated with the receipt of band levies and the booking of travel (flights) for the adjudicators who have agreed to support the branch indoor contests.

Directors Report

The BoD meeting was on the 2nd December 2016.

There are many branches with falling numbers of bands and/or members willing to represent them at headquarters.

For example, the four English branches who are entitled to eight Music Board representatives, only have two nominated individuals attending meetings. The Midland Branch now has no appointed director. It may be that the branches become sections under a unified English Branch.

The RSPBA complaints procedure has been updated and the revised document will be added to the RSPBA web site in the next couple of weeks (early January).

The RSPBA PVG documentation is under final review and will be placed on the web site in February. These will be amended and versions appropriate to the branch placed on our web site. It will be then up to the bands to take this guidance and develop their own procedures and policies from these documents.

There is a link on the RSPBA web site to the general government guidance, for England & Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. <https://www.disclosureservices.com/page/criminal-record-check-services>

Standing Orders proposed by the BoD are:-

- 1) Conferring at end of band performances.
- 2) 42 day rule clarification: should not be applied to dual registration in Juvenile (and Novice Juvenile) Bands.
- 3) Branch Representation in Music Board to be two members, preference being one piping and one drumming.
- 4) Compulsory Registration at all competitions
- 5) Pipe Band College to be formed from the Education Management Group.

At the December meeting it was noted that NI bands had submitted rule changes to the NI Branch AGM, the NI branch executive have not yet issued them for consideration by BoD or inclusion into the AGM order paper.

The details of all proposed rule changes should be available and circulated for discussion at our next branch meeting.

Music Board Report

The Music Board Tunes Group are at the early stages at looking at drumming scores. The pipe scores for the proposed new tunes have been added to the RSPBA web site the final few reels are being progressed this month.

2018 Branch Competitions.

Those present discussed the progress on the branch competitions.

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 entry forms are available on the NWE Branch Website.

The venue will be St Joseph's, Birkenhead pending other premises becoming available at a reasonable cost.

103 Regiment will be asked for their support in assisting to steward the events.

Adjudicators have been contacted and have agreed for the Solos, Trios, and Mini Bands we are still trying to confirm a piping judge for the mini Bands.

The dates and venues have been notified to headquarters: -

- Solo Piping: Saturday 17th February (St Joseph's, Birkenhead)
Adjudicator - Harry Stephenson
- Trio Piping: Saturday 3rd March (St Joseph's, Birkenhead)
Adjudicator - Cameron Edgar
- Solo Drumming, Quartets and Minibands: Saturday 7th April (St Joseph's, Birkenhead). *PMs can decide on entry to Quartets and/or Mini Bands.*
Adjudicators - xxxxxxx and Ciaran Mordaunt

Start completing Entry forms for the Solo Piping now, Draw will take place on the 11th Feb.

Workshops

It has been agreed that any workshops will not be run in conjunction with any of the Indoor Contests.

Bands are requested to consider their own training needs so these can be progressed as targeted days for specific needs

An Ensemble Adjudicator with a drumming preference (Paul Turner) is to attend GMFRS premises on the 24th (or 25th Feb) 2018, to comment on / review the GMFR and Phoenix bands sets for the 2018 season, and possibly provide some insight into the development of drum scores for the Grade 4 bands (Wirral).

The premises are to be confirmed by the 12th Jan, allowing the travel arrangements arranged flights in and out on the Saturday, allowing the costs to split between the bands making use of Paul's time.

A Drum Majors workshop will be arranged when the weather improves, with basic instruction being provided by Calum Brown (our local resource)

AOCB

Please bring Raffle prizes (recycled Christmas presents) to the next meeting – all donations gratefully received.

Next GM meeting will be 11th February 2018 @ 13:00

Closed @ 14:40

P L Brown
Secretary
NWE Branch