



RSPBA North West England Branch

GM on the 9th September 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	RSPBA Director

Apologies were received from:-
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue
Oldham Scottish Pipe Band
Chorley Pipe Band

Bands in attendance:-
City of Sheffield Pipe Band
City Of Liverpool Pipe Band
Manchester Phoenix Pipe Band
Warrington Pipe Band 2004
Greater Manchester Army Cadet Force Pipe Band
Wirral Pipe Band
Bolton Scottish 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.

The outdoor season had gone with active representation of the branch being made by the Manchester Phoenix, Greater Manchester Army Cadet Force and Black Thistle Pipe Bands.

Previous Minutes

The meeting of the 29th April 2012 was not attended by a quorum. The Minutes of the prior meeting of the 19th Feb 2012 were accepted.

Prop: Warrington Pipe Band.

Sec: Greater Manchester Army Cadet Force

Accepted: Unanimous.

The Branch

We do need active support from the member bands. There are 14 bands registered in the branch, we need a minimum of 12 to nominate every three years a director to the RSPBA. Theresa our Music Board representative has resigned from the City of Sheffield Pipe Band, the branch wishes her to continue as their representative. To comply with rule 3.14 she will become a committee member of a band in the branch to enable her to continue to compete with RAF Waddington (now she is no longer a G4 Pipe Major).

The AGM is to be held on the 2nd December 2012. The Chairman or the CEO are to attend a branch AGM once every three years. It was decided that we would notify the RSPBA of our AGM date and let them decide if they wish to attend, as attendance has been quite low in recent years.

The post of Secretary is open for nominations to involve others on the branch committee. The post of Treasurer is due for ratification/renewal this year. All other posts remain filled until the 2013 AGM.

Treasurers Report

This has been a good year 2011-12, we have only made a loss of £119.68 following a successful year of events. The branch invested in trophies for the Solos, Trio Piping and Mini Bands (£370).

The spread sheet summary was circulated, and a profit/loss statement will be made available as required prior to the AGM.

The branch funds are currently £2,233.52.

Directors Report

The first directors meeting after the season is scheduled for the 13th October. The Worlds in 2013 was confirmed in the 2012 Worlds programme as being a two day event. The programme contained the basic outline of each of the two days, the detailed planning will take place between now and the RSPBA AGM..

Grade 4B are to Play and be Adjudicated in accordance with MAP.

All the majors in 2013 are on the mainland, Forries, Bathgate, Dumbarton, Glasgow and Cowal. The dates are to be confirmed for the next meeting.

Details

Please note the dates and locations for the 2013 Major Championships are as follows:

British - May 25th at Bathgate
European - June 29th at Forres
Scottish - July 27th at Dumbarton
Worlds - August 17th/18th at Glasgow
Cowal - August 31st at Dunoon

Ian Embelton
Chief Executive



Music Board

The 4 A and B tune lists are to be updated on the RSPBA Web Site.

Entries are required for the PM William Fergusson Contest required, taking place on 24th Nov 12. Players must be 18 or under on day of the competition. The playing requirements are one tune from the entry list plus a march of their own choice.

The Education Officer and the Music Board are actively looking at education. If Bands or Individuals require a PDQB assessment (Piping), Theresa will happily come along and advise on what candidates need to learn for a particular level, or if they are ready to be put forward for the examination.

Theresa is currently in contact with the Bolton Scottish and Oldham Scottish Pipe Bands who have requested information. Possible exam day in January.

The drumming practical standards for L1 and L2 are high. The workshop last year with Adrian Hoy was an extremely valuable day.

What education does the branch want to facilitate? Pass ideas to Theresa, under consideration are PDQB assessments, another drumming day with Adrian Hoy possibly including Bass and Tenor, as well as Drum Majors.

Do we require a MSR workshop? The one requested last year could not be resourced by the RSPBA.

2013 Branch Competitions.

Bands to come forward with Dates and Venues

1. Looking at a weekend in Feb for the Solo Piping and Solo Drumming (Snare and Tenor), need to ask if the Oldham Scottish Pipe Band could provide the venue again.

City of Sheffield Pipe Band may be able to host one of the events if it needs to be split over two weekends.

2. Trio Piping in 24 March. The Greater Manchester ACF are to see if we could use the venue used last year at Bury.
3. Mini Bands /Quartets/ Open Drumming 13th **April 2013** at Birkenhead to avoid the Grand National.

Trophies are to be returned on time.

No changes to categories / entry criteria. A category may not be run if there are less than three entries.

When a Band Member moves who has a trophy, they 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).

The bands have no preference on adjudicators but would like different adjudicators at the trios and mini bands.

AOCB

Bolton Pipe band progressing nicely may not be a competing band, progressing one step at a time.

The meeting closed at 14:40. Next Meeting 14th October 2012 (18th November and 2nd December 2012).

P L Brown
Minutes Secretary