

# RSPBA North England Branch North West England Section

AGM 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021 by Zoom Meeting. Note this is a Report.

Present Officials	
P Brown	Section Secretary.
C Eyre	Section President, Treasurer & Competition Secretary.
T Brown	Branch Music Board representative.
K Thacker	Section Chairman.

Bands in attendance: -

- Warrington
- Wirral

### Apologies: -

Manchester Phoenix

The meeting was advertised by Email, the Website and the Sections Facebook page. The meeting started at 1.05pm giving time for members to join the meeting.

A quorum was NOT attained. The meeting progressed with those present to enable matters discussed to be reported.

#### **Opening**

The secretary welcomed those who joined the call. It was decided to have a discussion as we need to continue to progress the running of the sections and look ahead.

#### Treasurer's Report

There has been no expenditure over the year. The statement of accounts has been published on the website and a copy forwarded to headquarters.

# **Section / Association Report**

The Board of Directors have been meeting online during the whole of the pandemic to make sure that the Association functions as well as possible. This has been challenging when all the staff have been furloughed for the whole period of the pandemic.

The minutes have been made available to the members as published news items on the association's website. There is a need to resolve some Health & Safety, Risk Assessment and Administration matters now we have access to the building before we will be able to declare it open for use by our members.

Financially we are not overflowing with money but the Board of Directors are confident that we will be able to keep our heads above water. This position will improve when the Championships come back on stream next year.

As a gesture of good will to the Bands that supported the association last year we have given them a reduction of 50% in their membership fees for 2022 and are looking at this also happening in 2023 if the finances allow - just a small thank you.

The various committees have still been working away during this difficult time reporting back to the Board. Our new website is up and running. Further functionality will be deployed in the coming months.

Let us look forward to a 'normal' 2022 season and being back on the grass where we all belong.

# **Music Board Report**

The MB has held meetings throughout the year. Details have been reported through the Board of Directors minutes.

They held a meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020. Theresa was not present at the meeting due to other commitments. These minutes are still to go before the Board of Directors.

There is to be the 'Grade 1' online conference call on Sat 15th August at 1800h GMT.

On 30<sup>th</sup> July a MB survey of the Novice Juvenile/Grade 4B bands was undertaken using "Survey Monkey" and the RSPBA contact details for the registered bands. The survey is looking to get support for a pilot on the change to the start of a performance.

The Music Board is recommending that Indoor and Solo contests are reviewed by the Format Group in line with rule 2.16 (The Music Board is responsible for Competition format.....) to update and to have a defined set of rules and principles where local adaptations are likely to continue.

# 2022 Section Competitions / (and workshop).

The Section will continue with its own Solo Piping contest, but we are looking to having a Branch contest for the Drumming and Mini Bands, to share the costs and create a larger pool of entries to make the event viable.

The committee will progress the scheduling of the event in the New Year once we have clarity on the likely participants and under what restrictions an indoor event needs to consider.

# **Officials**

There was insufficient representation for appointments to be voted / ratified. Those in post agreed to continue in post until the next AGM

# **AOCB**

A question was asked on when the RSPBA Fees would be due. It was reported payment is now due and these can be paid through the association website. Chris offered to put a post on the Section Face Book page as an update and reminder.

The Branch AGM will be on the 21st November at 11am.

Closed @ 14:00 P L Brown Secretary NWE Section

North England Branch Post		In Post until			
Music Board	T Brown	Dec 2022	Appointment rolled over from NWE Section on establishing the NE Branch Nov/Dec 2019; 1st Dec 2019 Last NWE Branch AGM Prop: Manchester Phoenix Sec: Warrington		
Music Board	C Smith	Nov 2021	Appointment rolled over from NEE Section on establishing the NE Branch Nov/Dec 2019		
Regional Representative	C Smith	Nov 2021	Appointment rolled over from NEE Section on establishing the NE Branch Nov/Dec 2019		
Director	K Reilly	Nov 2021	becomes North England Branch director.		

North West England Section Post		In Post until			
President	C Eyre	Dec 2022	Extended at 2021Section AGM 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2017 NWE Branch AGM Prop: Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Sec: Manchester Phoenix		
Chairman	K Thacker	Dec 2022	1st Dec 2019 Last NWE Branch AGM Prop: Manchester Phoenix Sec: Warrington		
Secretary	P Brown	Dec 2022	Extended at 2021Section AGM 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2017 NWE Branch AGM Prop: Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Sec: Manchester Phoenix		
Treasurer	C Eyre	Dec 2022	Extended at 2021Section AGM 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2017 NWE Branch AGM Prop: Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Sec: Manchester Phoenix		
Trophy Steward, Web Site Design and Competition Secretary	C Eyre	Dec 2022	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2019 Last NWE Branch AGM Prop: Manchester Phoenix Sec: Warrington		