

The Minutes of the meeting of The Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Held in Beechwood Bowling Club on Sunday 27th February 2005

<u>Present:</u>	J.McNeill (President)	Dunbar RBL
	J.Hughes (Chairman)	Drambuie Kirkliston
	G.Craig (Vice Chair)	Lothian & Borders Police
	W.McMorran (Secretary)	Glencorse
	T.Clarke (Treasurer)	Craigmount High School
	I. Simpson	George Watson's College
	G.Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
	T.Colquhoun	Tranent
	P.Hazzard	Newtongrange
	A.Hazzard	Newtongrange
	S.Hazzard	Newtongrange
	V.McMorran	Glencorse
	N.Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
	G.Craig	Lothian & Borders Police
	T.M.Clarke	Craigmount High School
	D.Brand	Newtongrange
	A. Cook	Lothian & Borders Police
	C.McLuckie	Bo'ness RBL

Apologies: J.Brand, T.Clarke, M.O'Neill

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.
He intimated that Willie McBride had passed away at the beginning of the month.
The Branch stood in a minute's silence.

The minutes of the meeting of 16th January 2005 were approved by
Newtongrange and seconded by Dunbar RBL.

At this point there were presentations made to John & Linda Whitecross and to
John McKenzie as thanks for all the work that they had done for the Branch over
the years.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

Secretary's report:

A letter had been sent to Headquarters concerning unqualified adjudicators. It
was said that this will not affect any other adjudicators attending contests.

Elma Brown has given up as Secretary of Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia. Her place will be taken by Heather Franks.

A letter had been received from North Berwick Highland Games concerning the playing requirements of MSR in grade 3. They said that they were unwilling to fund an extra MSR contest. This, however, will not affect this years contest.

Treasurer's report:

This appears on a separate sheet. Copies may be had by applying to the Branch Secretary.

National Council report:

The placing system is to be applied for the Drum Majors. This has now put back one year, the training scheme. There was some discussion on this. A letter is to be sent to the Adjudicators Panel asking for confirmation if training is to go ahead.

There was a presentation on Grade 4 by Jim Campbell.

Future Major Championships confirmed are, Cowal 2006, British at Ballymena 2007 and Europeans at Inverness in 2007.

There is to be a solo piping and solo drumming contest to be held in Glasgow Green the day before the Worlds.

Music Board report:

There was some confusion about the playing requirements proposed for Grade 4. A letter sent from Headquarters had included Novice Juvenile bands. This is to be clarified at the next Music board meeting.

Structured Learning:

This is going well. There are currently 15 students taking part.

Trophy Convener's report:

It was asked if medals could be purchased for the forthcoming Branch indoor contest. This was approved.

Indoor Contest:

The entry forms have been sent out.

Catering requirements are still being sought.

Outdoor Contests: There will be no Grade 1 contest at Bathgate.

Playing requirements at Innerleithen are Grade 2 an MSR, Grade 3 a selection and Grade 4 and Novice Juvenile a March.

Hawick, all bands will play a selection.

Melrose, Grade 2 a selection. Grade 3 an MSR.

Peebles, all bands will play a selection.

A.O.C.B.:

The Association's AGM will be held in Glasgow on Saturday 12th March. All bands are urged to send a representative along to this.

Proposals and changes of rules for the AGM were read out and there was some discussion on them.

Some bands have yet to pay their Branch subscriptions.

The Summer School run by Headquarters did not run last year. It is to run this year. It was proposed that the Branch inform Headquarters that they intend to send two pipers and two drummers to this.

There was some discussion on the proposed playing requirements for Grade 4. It was explained that the object of this was to try to raise the standard of some Grade 4 bands. This would happen in 2006. A DVD plus a list of tunes is to be sent out to all Grade 4 bands from Headquarters.

George Watson's College is holding their contest on Sunday 6th March.

A prototype of the Branch web site is to be looked into.

The Branch is to issue official car passes to those requiring them.

John McNeill has intimated that he will be standing down as Branch President at the next Annual General Meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

The date of the next meeting. Sunday 20th March 2005 in Beechwood Bowling Club, Roseburn Street, Edinburgh at 6.00 pm.

Donald Brand