

The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Held in Beechwood Bowling Club, Edinburgh, on Sunday 28th January 2007

Present:

W.McMorran, President	Glencorse
G.Craig, Vice Chair	Lothian & Borders Police
A.Hazzard, Secretary	Bo'ness
T.M.Clarke, Treasurer	Craigmount High School
A. Lyon	Tweedvale
W.Dalziel	Lothian & Borders Police
A.Dalziel	Lothian & Borders Police
V.McMorran	Glencorse
S.Hazzard	Bo'ness
P.Hazzard	Bo'ness
E.Hanratty	Penicuik
C.McLuckie	Bo'ness
N.Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
G.Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
I. Simpson	George Watson's College
A. Cook	Lothian & Borders Police
D.Brand	Newtongrange

Apologies:

J.Brand, T.Clarke, J.Hughes.

The Vice Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the meeting of 26th November 2006 were approved by Craigmount High School and seconded by Glencorse.

Matters arising:

Peebles High School has not yet been confirmed as the venue for the Branch Solos Contests.

The date for Dunbar is 12th May 2007.

Secretary's report:

Stockbridge Pipe Band's name has been omitted from the Branch website. This is to be rectified.

North Berwick is asking that a record breaking highland dancing event take place at their massed bands. It was agreed that this would not be practicable. Tweedvale have asked if they might do the catering again at the Branch indoor solos. This was agreed.

Treasurer's report:

There was no report.

Music Board report:

National Council are looking to cut costs by reducing the number of Music Board meetings **by** one per year. (Amended at February'07 meeting)

The Grade 2 project.50 questionnaires were sent out to the grade 2 bands. Only 16 replied with 7 in favour and 9 against. The Music Board decided to leave it at the status quo.At the National Council Executive meetings there was no Music Board representative (unless invited). It was asked why the Executive Group are meeting when the National Council is meeting. The group should only be meeting when the National Council are in recess i.e. during the season May to September.

On Education, the exam date is likely to be the last Sunday in March.

The Music Board asked that the competition circles be increased by one metre in diameter to 8metres (inner) and 14 metres (outer)

MAP seminars. Only two responses. Midlands and North of Scotland.

Grade One final. A questionnaire asking bands to drop rules 3.69, 3.70 & 3.49 (regarding two three pace rolls and to form up as they wish-not necessarily in a circle). This was due to TV coverage to make more interesting viewing. Some members felt that unless the format is changed we could lose BBC coverage in 2008.

A list of band grading was read out.

National Council report:

The Worlds have been voted the Best Event in Scotland and a prize was received by the Chief Executive on behalf of the RSPBA.

The Association and the Chief Executive met with the Cowal organisers. No details were given.

The all England Championships are to be held in Ashbourne in 2007, 2008 & 2009.

The Association is to purchase radios.

Standing Orders and Steering Committee are to look at some alterations to the rule book.

The RSPBA received a cheque for £1000 from the Ladies Committee of Northern Ireland.

Education report:

There are currently 21 students. There are no problems.

Trophy Convenor's report:

Lothian & Borders Police are listed on the Branch website as Branch Champion of Champions. This should be Boghall & Bathgate. The necessary amendment is to be made.

A.O.C.B.:

Peebles Highland Games Committee, St Ronan's Piping Society and North Berwick Highland Games Committee have each agreed to sponsor a grade each at the Branch Indoor solo contest. Grateful thanks to them.

It was asked who agreed to R.T.Shepherd appearing as sponsor on the Branch website and who was getting any monies. This is to be looked into.

It was asked that the National Councillors give backing to the Stewards at contests. This is to be brought up at the next National Council meeting.

A training course for National Councillors is to be held after the Association's A.G.M.

The time for the march past at Melrose was not as published in the programme. This resulted in some bands not appearing in the massed bands.

To date there is no venue for the World Solo Drumming Championships.

As some things on the Branch website were being taken out on context it was suggested that the Branch minutes would not appear on the Branch website until they had been ratified at the next Branch meeting.

There being no further business the Vice chairman closed the meeting.

**Dates of Branch meetings: 25th February, 25th March and 29th April.
All held in Beechwood Bowling Club, Roseburn Street, Edinburgh at 6.00 pm.**