

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 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2006

Present:

J.Hughes, Chairman	Linlithgow & District
W.McMorran, Secretary	Glencorse
A.Dalziel	Polkemmet
W.Dalziel	Polkemmet
V.McMorran	Glencorse
G.Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
N.Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
G.Stafford	Torphichen & Bathgate
C.Firth	Torphichen & Bathgate
P.Hazzard	Bo'ness
A.Hazzard	Bo'ness
S.Hazzard	Bo'ness
C.McLuckie	Bo'ness
A. Lyon	Tweedvale
N.Cranston	Boghall & Bathgate
H.Franks	Boghall & Bathgate
D.Brand	Newtongrange

Apologies:

J.Brand, G.Craig, A.Cook, I.Simpson, M.O'Neill, T.M.Clarke.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> September were approved by Torphichen & Bathgate and seconded by Bo'ness.

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

Secretary's report:

Nothing to report. A copy of the 2007 Branch contest dates was circulated.

Treasurer's report:

There was no report.

National Council report:

A trophy in memory of Dick McGrory is to be presented.

The RSPBA web shop has made a profit of £3000.

The availability sheets will be posted out soon.

Instructors for Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced courses are being sought.

Forms have been sent out re the MAP contests. There has been a 50% response.

The Drum Majors manual is to be updated. The photographs are still waited on. There is to be a meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> November to decide the fate of this manual.

Late return of trophies at major championships will result in a £50 fine for each trophy.

Starting in the 2007 season Drum Majors must register at Major Championships as do the bands.

John Nevans gave a report on the Summer School. Premises and sponsorship are being sought.

A training day for National Councillors, Adjudicators, Compilers and Stewards is to be considered. One possible date was the afternoon of the RSPBA's AGM. No confirmation of this as yet.

Future possible Major Championship venues were read out.

2008 Birmingham, Lisburn. Cowal's bid was not accepted.

2009. Ashbourne, Greenock, Pitlochry, Lisburn.

2010. Alden Biesen, Creiff, Kelso.

Please note that some of these places have only shown an interest in holding a Major Championship and are not yet confirmed.

Some bands do not register at Major Championships. Letters are to be sent out to persistent offenders. Perhaps a change of rule is needed to ensure they do register.

Music Board report:

There was no report.

Education report:

The Morris Club in Newtongrange is to be the venue for the forthcoming Structured Learning course which starts on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2007. The cost will be, for Branch members £90. For others £100. This does not include exam fees.

Trophy Convenor's report:

There was no report.

A.O.C.B.:

Dates for the 2007 contests were handed out.

Dunbar is a week earlier than usual. The promoters are to be asked if they will put it back to the week before the following Major Championship and that the playing criteria be the same as at the Major.

There was some discussion on the 2006 Major Championship venues. Most were favourable but there were problems that the RSPBA will take on board.

There was mixed feelings from the bands about Cowal. Kevin Reilly will be visiting Branches for their AGMs and will the feeling from the bands.

Gordon Stafford said that he was sorry to hear about the problems with Polkemmet and emphasised that these had nothing to do with him. He said that there had been bad comments on the Beer Tent and the Piper & Drummer websites concerning this.

As Grade 2 is becoming a large grade, there was talk about splitting the grade or having qualifying heats. The Music Board is to be asked to look into this.

The Branch website will be changing to the same format as the RSPBA.

The Branch members were asked if they knew of anyone willing to sponsor events at the Branch indoor contest which will be held in Peebles High School on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2007.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

**The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting which will be held in Beechwood Bowling Club, Roseburn Street, Edinburgh, on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2006 at 3.00pm.**