

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Held in Bellsquarry Community Hall, Bellsquarry, on
Sunday 24th November 2019**

Band representatives present:

J. Hughes, President	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
L.A. Riad, Treasurer	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
A. Dalziel, Vice Chair	Wallacestone & District
A. Hazzard, Secretary	City of Edinburgh
P. Hazzard, Minute Secretary	City of Edinburgh
W. Dalziel	Wallacestone & District
V. McMorran	Glencorse
M. Brown-Scott	Scottish Fire & Rescue
I. Simpson, Music Board	George Watson's College Novice Juvenile A + B
M. O'Neill, Music Board	George Watson's College Juvenile & Police Scotland Fife
M. Binder, Magazine Reporter	Stockbridge
T. Thomson	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
S. Orr, Chairman	Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
B. Watt, Trophy Convenor	Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia
J. McKenna	Scottish Fire & Rescue
M. Watters	Scottish Fire & Rescue
Mel Rieley	Police Scotland Fife
S. P. McQuillan	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
H. Cranston	City of Edinburgh
G. Cameron	Camelon and District
Kevin Reid	RSPBA
Willie McIntyre	George Heriot's School
Christine Reid	Scottish Fire and Rescue
Elizabeth Scott	Scottish Fire and Rescue

Apologies: P. White, E. Orr, E. Hanratty

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present to the 79th AGM of the Lothian & Borders Branch.

Minutes of the 2018 AGM:

The minutes of the 2018 A.G.M. were read and formally adopted by Wallacestone & District and seconded by Scottish Fire and Rescue.

Matters Arising

Book of Eminence will go online.

It pointed out that A. Dalziel was not involved with the discussions with the promoters for the North Berwick or Peebles contests

Secretary's Report:

This year has been another successful year for the Branch and I would like to congratulate all bands who were successful at both Local and Major competitions. I would also like to thank everyone for their continued support.

Treasurer's Report:

Our Treasurer gave her report and any questions asked were answered satisfactorily. Details are available from the secretary by request.

The Treasurer's report was Approved by George Watson's College and Seconded by Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia

Directors Report:

The British Championship at Paisley at St James' Park went well, it was hoped to move to a new park for 2020 but work is still ongoing.

The UK Championships at Lurgan, this contest went well but there were some problems due to water in the park. The Highland Dancing will be moved with the option to be moved to an indoor venue if the weather is bad.

The European Championships at Inverness went well but the layout of the park may be looked at for future years.

The Scottish Championships at Dumbarton went well although the march past had to be cancelled due to the weather.

The Worlds at Glasgow this contest went well. There was a discussion regarding the Stewards for the extra arenas at the world's only working for part of the day.

World Solo Drumming, the Adult Final was moved back to the auditorium as the acoustics were much better in there.

There was a problem with information not being sent out to some officials on time.

Headquarters have started moving back into the old building but there is still more to be moved back, this will be ongoing.

A report from Headquarters was read out regarding the funding for the refurbishment and upgrading of the building. It was also stated that branches have offered the option of a loan to HQ if required.

Contracts are in place for the Major Championships.

Music Board Report:

The Music Board oversees the higher to lower transfers and there have been proposals to reduce the number of higher to lower transfers during the season as this creates problems for the music board with the time it takes checking each of these transfers. One proposal may be the introduction of a fee being charged to bands who have transfers during the season.

Work on the list of prescribed tunes is ongoing and drum scores have been provided.

There was a discussion on grade re-alignment and the possibility that 4/4 marches could be added to the list of prescribed tunes as it was felt that some bands would benefit from this.

There was some discussion on the current format for the world solo drumming adult qualifying in the morning of the contest.

The Pipe Band College is up and running with various courses underway.

Stewards Report:

There is not much going on at the moment but stewards have been organised to assist the Headquarters move back into their own premises.

Education Report:

Nothing to report as no education activity took place, although two candidates were sponsored for the RSPBA Summer School.

Loyalty Scheme

The following awards were made under the Branch Loyalty Scheme this year.

Camelon and District	£750
Royal High	£750
Stockbridge Grade 3A	£250
Tynecastle	£250
Royal High	£250

Trophy Convenors Report: There is nothing to report

Elections:

President	John Hughes	Unanimous Elected Annually
Vice Chairman	Alex Dalziel	Unanimous 3yrs
Treasurer.....	Lesley Anne Riad	Unanimous 3yrs
Trophy Convenor	Brian Watt.....	Unanimous 3yrs
Magazine Reporter	Michael Binder	Unanimous 3yrs
Music Board	Drumming Stephen McQuillan	Unanimous 3yrs
Committee	Elizabeth Scott	Unanimous 2yrs
Committee	Margaret Watters	Unanimous 2yrs
Committee	Vi McMorran	Unanimous 2yrs

Honoraria:

It was decided that the Honoraria for this year will be as follows

Secretary	£650
Treasurer	£650
Minute Secretary	£400
Trophy Convenor	£400

Adoption of Auditors:

There was a discussion on the appointment of auditors.

AOCB

There was a discussion on Whether we could pay the normal fees to the stewards at the indoors and it was decided to pay fees across the board for this contest

Branch meeting dates 2020:-

26 th January	23 rd February
29 th March	26 th April
27 th September	25 th October
24 th November AGM	24 th November Branch meeting

There being no more business the meeting was closed at 15.45.