

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Held in Bellsquarry Hall, Livingston
On Sunday 25th March 2018**

J. Hughes, President	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
S. Orr, Chairman	Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
L.A. Riad, Treasurer	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
P. Hazzard, Minute Secretary	City of Edinburgh
A. Dalziel, Vice Chairman	Craigmount
A. Hazzard, Secretary	City of Edinburgh
D. Johnstone	Director
B. Watt, Trophy Convenor	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
M. Binder, Reporter	Stockbridge
V. McMorrان	Glencorse
W. Dalziel	Craigmount
G. Cameron	Camelon and District
E. Todd	Denny & Dunipace Gleneagles
D. Todd	Denny & Dunipace Gleneagles

Apologies: M. O'Neill, I. Simpson, T. Thompson, D. Brand, S. McDonald, A McLauchlan, O. Brownlie

Welcome:

The Chairman welcomed all present.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting 25th February were approved by Stockbridge and seconded by Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman thanked the bands for their response to our request for support at the AGM. We had over 30 of our branch bands represented either in person or by proxy vote.

Secretary's report:

The entries for the outdoors have started coming in although as always are slow to start off with.

Treasurer's report:

The Treasurer gave her report, details available from the secretary by request.

Directors report:

Following the AGM there were a number of changes to the Constitution & Rules as follows.

- Ability for adjudicators to confer after a bands performance
- The restructuring of the Education Management Group into the Pipe Band College
- Allow any two qualified individuals to represent the Branch at Music Board, not necessarily 1 piper and 1 drummer although this is preferred.
- Additional Director for Branches with 40 bands and over. The branch bands will be contacted by the Branch President and asked for nominations for the role of Director.

Two proposed changes were rejected by the membership as follows.

- The proposal to reduce the qualifying period for higher to lower transfers from 42 days to 25 days was rejected by the membership by 66 to 23 votes

- The proposal to allow a leading drummer of a Grade 4 band to be dual registered was rejected by the membership by 53 to 29 votes.

The Refurbishment of Headquarters is moving forward. The plan is to move to the Pentagon Centre during the month of May to allow the building work to commence.

- RSPBA Committee Convenors following the AGM
 - Paul Brown – SOSC
 - Kevin Reilly – Marketing & Media
 - Kenny Crothers – Finance & Maintenance
- RSPBA Director Appointments to Standing Committees following the AGM
 - APMB – Iain MacAskill & Gordon Hamill
 - Music Board – Stewart Orr & Kevin Reilly
 - College Board – John Gibb & Paul McAndrew

Music Board

There has been no meeting of the music board since our last Branch meeting.

The Branch will only put 2 qualifiers through to this year's World Solo Drumming Championships, as one of the qualifiers advised that he would not be available for this year's event. There was also a discussion on the disappointing number of entries for this event.

Stewards Report:

The Chief Steward thanked all Stewards for their hard work at the indoors contest.

Allocation sheets from Headquarters should all be out by the end of next week.

Education

There was nothing to report.

Trophies:

Vi brought in the W. McMorran Memorial Trophy and this was on view during the meeting. This trophy will be used at North Berwick.

Indoor Contest:

Another very successful Indoor Contest this year with good feedback from the bands and from the school. Thank you to all involved for their help and support in making this work. The extra hands made the day much more manageable.

We also used a new First Aid provider this year which delivered an excellent service as always and reduced our costs.

Outdoor Contests:

We have not yet had confirmation of the requirement to provide stewards for Inverkeithing. Still awaiting confirmation of the Contest Information sheet Peebles. All other contests are online and entries are coming in.

Request for funding for Burntisland has been turned down by Fife Council due to the surplus made from previous year's contest. This is in line with our expectation, and the Branches commitment to run the 2018 contest from the Burntisland Funds held by the Treasurer. We will however need to look for additional funding for 2019 and beyond, and Denis Johnstone will lead that search.

We have not had a response from last year's Sponsor for Edinburgh at this point, so our President will follow up with them prior to getting the funding letters sent out from Edinburgh City Council.

AOCB:

We had a very disappointing entry for the Willie Fergusson contest this year although details were sent out to other branches we only had 1 entry.

The First Aid provider (Burntisland First Aid Services Trust) we used for the Indoors has been engaged to provide services at Burntisland and Edinburgh this year.

Meeting Closed 18.45

Next Meeting 29th April, Bellsquarry Village Hall.