

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 25th November 2007.

Present:

W.McMorran, President	Glencorse
J.Hughes, Chairman	Linlithgow
A.Dalziel, Vice Chair	Lothian & Borders Police
A.Hazzard, Secretary	Bo'ness
LA Oubbaih, Treasurer	Linlithgow
J.Brand	Penicuik
W.Dalziel	Lothian & Borders Police
T.M.Clarke	Craigmount High School
G.Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
P.Hazzard	Bo'ness
S.Hazzard	Bo'ness
P.Starr	Duns
T.Fergusson	North Berwick
A. Cook	Lothian & Borders Police
I. Simpson	George Watson's College
C.Galleitch	Duns
C.McLuckie	Bo'ness
D.Brand	Newtongrange
G.Craig	Lothian & Borders Police

Apologies:

N.Purves, A.Angus, D.Barnes

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The new office bearers took up their position for the first Branch meeting of the new season.

The minutes of the meeting of 28th October 2007 were approved by Bo'ness and seconded by Torphichen & Bathgate.

Matters arising:

The dates for Banbridge and Cowal in 2009 will be confirmed at the next National council meeting.

There is still no venue confirmed for the Branch Solo contest.

Hawick has been cancelled. It was asked if another Border town might take this on. This to be explored with the Borders Council at the first opportunity.

Secretary's report:

The contest at Hawick has been cancelled.

Caterers are sought for the Branch indoor solo contest. Any band wishing to fund raise would be most welcome to take this on.

Treasurer's report:

There was no report. The new Treasurer has said that a report will be made available at the next Branch meeting.

National Council report:

There was no report as there had been no National Council meeting since the last Branch meeting on 28th October. Next National Council meeting is on 1st December'07.

Music Board report:

There was a problem with the UK bands qualifying for the Worlds. This included one non UK band. The minutes confirming how this could happen are being sought in the Music Board.

The Championship criteria are reversed for 2008. So if you played an MSR last year in say the Scottish, you will play a medley in 2008 at the same contest.

The Worlds Grade 2 split (28 bands). It has been reported by the Music Board that no Music board members were consulted. However this statement was contested by G Purves and will be discussed at the National Council meeting on 1st December. Music Board members must be involved prior to any decisions.

PBQB update. Instructors course starting January 2008. Branches to forward names to headquarters. Pipe band studies, well advanced but still one or two points to overcome.

There were two re-gradings proposed by the Grading committee which affect the Branch. Duns from 4A to 3B and Bo'ness from 3A to 3B by request. These are subject to National Council approval.

The Music Board would like the Chief Executive Officer and two National Councillors to facilitate Adjudicators allocations for all contests.

The Music Board will produce a document on Competition Procedures.

The MAP contest now has three tunes and the timings will remain the same.

Trophy Convenor's report:

After the problems with the Bathgate sponsors last season it was decided to let them handle all the trophies. All the trophies are to be handed to the Bathgate promoters.

A.O.C.B.:

Last season there was some duplication with the allocation of adjudicators at Branch contests. It was asked if this could be avoided in the future.

The Chairman is to contact the promoters of the Branch contests within the next few weeks and draw up contracts with them.

It was asked if all the 2009 major dates be put on the RSPBA website as soon as possible thus allowing bands to seek accommodation at those some distance away.

A copy of the Branch Constitution has been uncovered. This needs to be looked at and brought up to date. Its adoption would be needed at the next Branch AGM.

The Committee all received badges. There were new Branch lapel badges shown and these are to go on sale to the bands.

At the recent Graeme Johnston Memorial event in the 14 and under the first prize went to David Anderson, Lothian & Borders Police. Second was Paul Brown, Boghall & Bathgate.

In the 18 & under contest first place went to Jonathon Simpson, Boghall & Bathgate with the fourth place going to Alexander Scougall, Boghall & Bathgate. Our congratulations to all.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

The date of the next Branch meeting is Sunday 27th January 2007 in Beechwood Bowling Club, Roseburn Street, Edinburgh, at 6.00 PM.