

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Held in The Society Centre, 60 The Pleasance, Edinburgh
on Sunday 25th October 2008**

<u>Present:</u>	W.McMorran, President	Glencorse
	J.Hughes, Chairman	Linlithgow
	A.Dalziel, Vice Chair	Lothian & Borders Police
	A.Hazzard, Secretary	Bo'ness RBL
	LA Oubbaih, Treasurer	Linlithgow
	P.Hazzard	Bo'ness
	S.Hazzard	Bo'ness
	P.Starr	Bo'ness
	V.McMorran	Glencorse
	S.Orr	Royal Scot Dragoon Guards
	E.Hanratty	Penicuik
	R.Fairnie	Prestonpans
	W.Dalziel	Lothian & Borders Police
	D.Brand	Newtongrange

Apologies: J.Brand, G.Craig, A.Cook, I.Simpson, G&N Purves, C.McLuckie.

The chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The Minutes of the meeting of 28th September 2008 were approved by Bo'ness and seconded by Lothian & Borders police.

Matters arising: Any matters arising were dealt with under the relevant reports.

Secretary's report: There was no report.

Treasurer's report: The Branch books are away to be audited.

National Council report:

The date for Dumbarton in 2009 has been brought forward by one week to Saturday 16th May.

A working party is to be set up to look into the format of the Worlds i.e. holding it over two days.

Long service awards are to be presented to any R.S.P.B.A. officials who have served at least twenty years with the Association.

Major championships have been secured for the years 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Several issues concerning Cowal were discussed and it was said that improvements had been made but that it was still being monitored.

The problem with the dancers finishing late had been discussed with the Cowal folk.

Music Board report:

The list of new gradings was read out. They included Torphichen & Bathgate going up from grade 2 into grade 1. Stockbridge going up from grade 4B into grade 4A.

Trophy Convenors report:

All was well with the trophies. However an M&D trophy for the march past at Bathgate is to be added to the list.

Bathgate Highland Games Committee is keen to restart the solo piping contest for 2009. There are currently nine trophies missing and our trophy convenor was asked if she could help in recovering them. An appeal may be placed on the Branch website and the R.S.P.B.A. website.

Steward's report:

The stewards had held a meeting within headquarters last week and much had been discussed.

It was said that all bands should register at least fifteen minutes before the start of their particular grade otherwise the stewards may not look elsewhere for them.

Three of the stewards are to be presented with long service awards.

We are still seeking new stewards.

Education report:

There are plans by the Association to hold an instructors course to SQU certification.

Because of this there will be no courses run by the Branch this year.

A.O.C.B.:

A draft constitution and rules was presented and there was much discussion and questions asked.

It was agreed that the final draft be presented to the bands at the forthcoming AGM.

Copies of this would be sent out with the papers for the AGM.

It was agreed to purchase two new tents for the 2009 season.

The Branch is to purchase promotional pens for sale at all contests.

Branch cap badges and belt buckles are to be priced.

There being no further businesses the Chairman closed the meeting.

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 30th November 2008 at 3.00pm within the Students Association at 60 The Pleasance, Edinburgh. The venue is the Cabaret Bar.