

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of  
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association  
Held in Bellsquarry Hall, Livingston  
On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

**Present:**

J. Hughes, Chairman	Boghall & Bathgate
A. Dalziel, Vice Chair	Lothian & Borders Police
A. Hazzard, Secretary	Bo'ness
W. Dalziel, Trophy Convenor	Lothian & Borders Police
P. Hazzard, Minute Secretary	Bo'ness
B. McMorrان, President	Glencorse
D. Brand	Newtongrange
G. Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
N. Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
V. McMorrان	Glencorse

**Apologies:** J. Barnes, L.J. Barnes, LA Hughes.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> September were approved by the Newtongrange and seconded by Craigmount.

**Matters arising:**

There were no matters arising.

**Secretary's report:**

Secretary has been speaking to St. Ronan's Piping Society with regards to the date for their contest Discussion is ongoing.

Peebles wish to move their contest to Sat 6<sup>th</sup> September this year and they are aware that this will coincide with the Pitlochry contest.

AGM files are all ready to be emailed out to branch bands.

**Treasurer's report:**

In the absence of the Treasurer the Chairman gave the report. Details are available from the Branch Secretary upon request.

**Directors report:**

There was some discussion on the format for the 2014 Worlds, this was mostly around a 2 day Friday/Saturday event. With only the Grade 1 Qualifying talking place on the Friday. A number of things have been considered here including the fact that there are a number of bands who do not wish to play on a Sunday. It is also hoped that the International Parade will still go ahead from Blythswood Square to George Square.

There was a presentation from Jim Campbell on the Outreach Program and taking education out to the Band Halls. There was also some discussion on funding.

The plan is to train the Pipe Band tutors on the syllabus and lessons and for the tutors to go on and present the lessons to the bands.

### **Music Board report:**

The Adjudicator Panel Management Board gave a presentation on where the future should be. This seemed to revolve around the Grade 1 and how they should be judged. This would be good if there was some progressive outcome.

### **Trophy Convenor's report:**

Nothing to report

### **Steward's report:**

The Stewards meeting was well attended and there was some discussion on the Major Championships. Only 2 summary sheets were completed and returned, we will try these again next year.

There was some discussion on practice areas for Drum Majors.

It was stressed that Stewards and Directors must work as a team with regards to getting the van loaded promptly and efficiently.

The World Solo Drumming went well overall with only 1 event in the morning and one in the afternoon running well over the allocated time.

### **Education report:**

Nothing to report

### **Indoor Contest:**

The date of next years Indoor Contest will be 29<sup>th</sup> March 2014. This venue was better this year than in previous years.

### **A.O.C.B.**

### **Outdoor Contests**

#### **Dunbar**

Discussions are still ongoing with regards to the date for this contest either the 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> May are the dates being discussed.

#### **Bathgate**

Bathgate have confirmed that they will hold their Highland Games on the same date as the British Championship for the next 2 years. This means there will not be a separate Bathgate Pipe Band contest for the next 2 years. All Trophies will be returned to Bathgate.

#### **Peebles**

Peebles have asked for their contest to be moved to Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **North Berwick**

This contest is all going to plan and will take place on the 9<sup>th</sup> August.

#### **Melrose**

Melrose are still discussing dates.

## **Edinburgh**

The RHC have been having discussions around the 23<sup>rd</sup> August for their contest.

Our Chairman has been involved with discussions with Edinburgh Council with regards to having a small contest, possibly Grade 3 and 4 only to be held in Princes Street Gardens

There was some discussion here to see what could be done to discourage bands from withdrawing from contests. One thing which was discussed was a rewards system for bands who attend more contests than others.

## **Dunbar Street Parade**

The possibility of a street parade and prize giving ceremony on the High Street was discussed. The Hallhill Centre would be happy if this was to take place, however the number of bands competing could prove to be a problem if the parade was to go on for too long.

## **World Solo Drumming**

There was some discussion on the format for next years World Solo Drumming Contest. A number of points were discussed mainly around Qualifying rounds and also the possibility of introducing regional qualifying. The possibility of having this as a two day event was also discussed.

## **Website**

It was asked if we could get Jason along to a meeting to discuss the website.

## **Magazine**

It was asked why we do have many articles in the Pipe Band Magazine. There was some discussion on this and Peter stated that he wished to give up the Magazine Reporters position, and hoped that someone who would be more suited to writing reports for the magazine may step forward.

It was reported that the magazine may also go electronic.

It was asked if anyone who wished could submit a report for the magazine or only elected persons. We were informed that for specific events or Items the magazine Editor may contact individuals for a report.

It was asked if we could contact the bands and ask for better attendances at the branch meetings. It was also asked if we could compile a mailing list of Pipe Majors and Leading Drummers as not all band secretaries are present at practice nights, this might help ensure that all information gets out to the correct people.

**Next meeting AGM:** Bellsquarry Hall on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 3.00pm.

This will be followed by the normal committee meeting at approx. 5.00pm