

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Held in Polbeth Village Hall, Polbeth
On Sunday 28th October 2018**

S. Orr, Chairman	Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
P. Hazzard, Minute Secretary	City of Edinburgh
A. Dalziel, Vice Chairman	Craigmount
A. Hazzard, Secretary	City of Edinburgh
B. Watt, Trophy Convenor	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
P. Hazzard, Minute Secretary	City of Edinburgh
M. Binder, Reporter	Stockbridge
V. McMorran	Glencorse
W. Dalziel	Craigmount
G. Cameron	Camelon and District
S. Easton	Wallacestone & District
T. Thomson	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
M. Clark	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Novice
O. Brownlie	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Gd 2
C. Reid	Scottish Fire and Rescue Gd 2
E. Scott	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
M. O'Neill	George Watson's College

Apologies: S. Orr, S. McDonald, M. O'Neill, E. Todd, D. Todd

Welcome:

Our Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting 30th September were approved by Glencorse and seconded by Stockbridge.

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

Secretary's report:

Branch Bands have been emailed details of the AGM and we have had the first few bands paying their branch fees online.

Treasurer's report:

There was no report but the books have been closed for auditing.

Directors report:

The BBC have advised us that the live streaming was once again very successful.

The Board will be meeting with the Scottish Government to seek funding for the refurbishment of Headquarters.

There was a discussion around getting bands to come forward for the marchpast.

A questionnaire will be sent out to get feedback on the outcome of the survey.

The review for the World Solo Drumming is ongoing.

Music Board Report

The Music Board have asked for feedback from the from grade 4 bands regarding the questionnaire they were given.

World Solo Drumming review is ongoing.

There was some discussion on the possible introduction of an Adult grade for the Tenor Drumming event.

Stewards Report

There has been a cut back on the number of stewards and everything went well.

Stewards Meeting there was a discussion regarding the fact that there are still problems with some directors not helping to clear the rings and it was said that they could give more help getting bands ready for and getting band on to the march in better time. There was a discussion on what could be done to speed the march past up a bit with suggestions regarding limiting the number of bands or putting a time limit on bands to get on to the park. There was a suggestion that the Pipe Majors and Leading Drummers could position themselves at the front of the bands at the prize giving ceremony to cut down on the waiting time in getting members coming forward to collect the prizes, while it was agreed that this may well speed things up it was pointed out that many individuals would also like to be with band members and have the best chance to congratulate each other as the results are announced.

There was also a discussion about the way the prize money was handed out at the Worlds and the Branch feel strongly that this should revert back to being handed out at the same time as the trophies are handed over as has been in the past.

Education

It was asked why Branch band members were attending courses at another branch when Lothian and Borders could have been running their own courses. It was also said that we should get the proposed dates for next years courses as soon as possible.

Trophies

There is not much to report. Brian will speak to S. Mathews at Peebles to ensure that there is no repeat of the problems encountered at the prize giving this year.

Indoor Contest

Forms have been submitted to the James Young High School for next years contest but we may have to pay a higher fee for the hire of the school

Outdoor Contests:

There was a discussion regarding next years contests and it was pointed out that there are some contests still trying to secure funding for the event.

It was also said that we must have a meeting with the Peebles committee to ensure that problems and issues that arose this year do not happen again.

AOCB

It was asked if the Novice and Juvenile contests were to be held on the Friday of the Worlds would the Branch and Association would support players getting the required time off school including time for traveling to some of the further away contests when competitors would be required to travel on the Thursday.

There was some discussion regarding Grade 1 and it was said that if all 25 grade 1 bands were to enter the worlds it would be difficult to run the contest on 1 day.

It was suggested that if the closing date for Grade 1 at the Worlds was 31st March this would give the Association more of a chance to arrange the contest.

Meeting closed 19.15

Next meeting is the AGM on 25th November 2018 at Bellsquarry Village Hall.
There will be a short break after the AGM then we will hold our first Branch meeting of 2018/2019.