



The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association – Dundee Perth & Angus Branch

Minutes from Branch Meeting No 1 Sunday 8th February 2015 in the Glencarse Village Hall

1. Chairman's welcome:

Paul opened the meeting at 7.10 pm and welcomed everyone to this, the first meeting of the year.

2. Presence and Apologies:

Present:

Paul McAndrew, Gary Mair, Nigel Kellett, Bruce Cargill, Irene Black, Gillie McNab, Stewart Findlay, Jim Mills, Nicola Liddell, Craig Fyall, Greig Ogilvie

Apologies:

Paul Winter, Derek Dunn, Morag MacKenzie

3. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting:

Actions from minutes in 2013

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Sep-A5	Investigate recent winners' names and dates of the Open Drumming trophy and arrange to have details added to it.	Gary / Paul	OPEN. (This was the NCR trophy) Trophy now with Paul, now got all dates except 68, 72, 75, 83, 94 and 2000 to 2007. (Plus 2013) Suggestion to now post them onto the website to see if anyone can help.

Actions from minutes in December 2014

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Dec-A1	Gary to confirm to Greig Ogilvie that he is suitably qualified to be Music Board rep for Drumming		CLOSED. Greig was advised and is now in attendance
Dec-A2	Paul to speak to HQ to see if Branch can get access to electronic entry system		CLOSED. Unfortunately this will not be possible as it is not compatible with the new operating system.

4. Approval of previous minutes

Approved: Bruce

Seconded: Jim

5. Correspondence:

- Confirmation from Strathmore Games Committee that the contest will go ahead, Sunday 14th June, but no DM competition. Paul advised that the director on the day will be John Gibb (Northern Branch)
- P&K Library now have paper copy archives of all branch records with some info back to 1988 (9 foolscap files). If anyone wishes to look a number is available – contact Gary for the info.
- Letter received from Axon' Cable with a donation of £400 for the Loch Leven contest next year, but unlikely they will continue in the future.

6. Treasurer's Report:

- Irene presented the accounts, contained in a separate confidential document

7. Music Board Report:

- Bruce reported from the last Music Board Meeting as follows:
 - Short meeting, asked the directors to consider the 42 days registration times
 - Asked to spread majors out rather than having 3 (more or less) in the month of June
 - Random checks will take place for registrations at all the majors in 2015
 - Looking at more instructor training
 - Re-gradings. Strathearn is a new 4B band in the branch, plus the City of Discovery at 3A
 - For Grade 4A's there will be new 4 parted Strathspeys and Reels for 2016 onwards



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8. Director's Report:

- Paul reported as follows from the meeting yesterday:
 - RSPBA has been offered a new voting app for audience voting at contests
 - Received a complaint from Grampian Police band about the new Grampian & District Pipe Band, potentially infringing their name (agreed this was not the case)
 - New national juvenile pipe band fund now has a deposit of £10,000, so all registered novice and juvenile bands will be able to apply for some financial support for bus travel
 - AGM will be on 14th March at the Trades Hall (Merchant City) starting at 10.00 am
 - Question for everyone. The Chairman, Gordon Hamill, is up for re-election this year. The Branch is quite happy to support his re-election. Gary to confirm this in writing.
 - Ian Embelton was in Kansas on 10th January, invited by the North American PB Associations meeting. Very busy set of meetings, and his/our attendance was much appreciated.
 - RSPBA website. 300,000 hits, 320 million pages viewed, 5,000 twitter followers, 11,000 downloads of the manuals and 4,400 DM downloads. Last magazine had 1,140 downloads compared 400 in print.
 - Being asked to encourage all local contests to level the prize money across the grades. Question for Paul to ask is will the entry fee be the same for all grades?
 - The directors have decided not to change the registrations period alone (North Americans limit it to one transfer per year per person) as they are looking at a registrations working group
 - Registrations will be getting checked at each major, and sanctions applied. (Normally disqualification)
 - Suggested that RSPBA look at employing a PR/fundraising officer
 - Warning: Scotland/Ireland rugby match is on at the same weekend as the UK championships and consequently there are no more ferries or flights available.
 - Closing date for major bids for 2016, 17 and 18 was last Friday. 4 bids were received. Dumbarton, Belfast and Forres have all been awarded, but the British is still to be awarded.
 - RSPBA have been offered a further 3 possible properties in Glasgow for HQ location. Watch this space.

9. Website Report:

- None. (No webmaster currently serving on the committee, see AOCB below)

10. AOCB:

- **RSPBA Magazine**
 - Craig happy to do this, but still wanting to get in touch with Ian Campbell for some rough directions
- **Webmaster**
 - Agreed to speak to Jason Lafferty to see if he can quote us for re-vamping the website and making it easy to upload news, data, etc
 - Nicola happy to upload and add news etc as required if the website is designed to make it simple to do
- **Education**
 - Add Education as a standing item on future agendas, just before the website Report
 - Has been very difficult to get dates for an Outreach training session. Agreed to request dates from after Pitlochry, for all 3 dates, first, second and exam, avoiding Music Board dates, etc
 - The dates for HQ summer school will be Mon 3rd to Thurs 6th August. (And our candidates from the Branch solos will be sent there if they accept)
- **Pitlochry contest**
 - Paul and Gary met with Ian Graeme, Pipe Band Convener. We have asked if the competition could at least be opened up to allow branch bands to attend, and thereby become a branch championship contest. It would probably entail only an additional 15 minutes at the start. In principle they think this will be OK, but just need to check with the committee. There will not be a RSPBA DM contest
- **Crieff Games update**
 - We believe Crieff contest has been cancelled for this year, but we have not been officially informed. The Crieff committee has, however, been writing to certain bands inviting them to come and play
 - Discussed whether or not to try and put a branch-run contest on at Crieff this year, and decided not to



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- **Other contests**
 - It looks like the Dunfermline contest will not be going ahead this year, but Burntisland contest will be (on Saturday 18th July)
 - Lochore contest is also a good contest, Saturday 20th June
 - Reminder the DPA mini-bands will be Saturday 18th April at Craigie High School (not Forfar Academy)
- **Nigel: Loch Leven Contest**
 - Very poor take up on sponsorship so far. 6 responses of which 4 have declined. Only £700 guaranteed so far, out of a nominal £1,800 (ish) required
 - Agreed to amend the Kinross contest to make the contest 4B and 4A
- **Irene.** Kenny Forbes believes he has the wrong trophy from Crieff. Gary to check
- **Craig.** Nothing
- **Nicola.** Nothing
- **Bruce.** Nothing
- **Gillie.** Aberfeldy Mod syllabus is out. Would like to add it to website or Facebook apage
- **Stewart.** Nothing
- **Greig.** Nothing
- **Jim.** Will there be a Trophy for Grade 2 at Pitlochry this year? It seems to be missing.

11. New Action Items

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Due By	Status *
Feb-A1	Ask if the new proposed levelling of prize money across grades in the majors will also mean a level entry fee for all grades	Paul	March	New
Feb-A2	Ask Jason Lafferty if he can quote to revamp the DPA website and make it easy to upload news, data etc	Gary	March	New
Feb-A3	Add in Education as a standing item for all future agendas	Nigel	March	New
Feb-A4	Request all 3 Outreach dates from September to December/ January	Gary	March	New
Feb-A5	Write to Pitlochry to ask for confirmation on whether or not they can open the contest up to branch bands, and therefore join the branch championship	Gary	March	New
Feb-A6	Check whether the correct trophy was awarded to Kenny Forbes at Crieff	Gary	March	New
Feb-A7	Confirm that the Branch supports Gordon Hamill for re-election as Chairman	Gary	March	New

* Status should be "New", "Open", "Closed" or "Cancelled"

12. Next Branch Meeting: **Sun 22nd March, 6.30 for 7.00 pm start.**

- Reminder of Branch meeting dates for 2015:
- 8th Feb, 22nd Mar, 3rd May, 4th Oct, AGM on 1st Nov, 15th Nov, 6th Dec