



**Minutes from Branch Meeting
Sunday 4th February 2018 in the Glencarse Village Hall**

1. Chairman’s welcome:

Paul welcomed all those present and opened the meeting at 7pm.

2. Presence and Apologies:

Present: Sarah Rathbone, Ian Hughes, Willie Tait, Kenny Traill, Jim Mills, Bruce Cargill, Irene Black, Gary Mair, Paul McAndrew, Andrew Downie, Gillie McNab, Owen Sweeney, Paul Winter

Apologies: Stewart Findlay, Nicola Liddell, Nigel Kellett, Ali Bryce, Craig Stewart, Jim Clark

3. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting:

Actions from minutes in March 2017

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Mar-A1	Dundee Miniband trophy – Gary Mair to obtain from Andrew Downie with a view to sourcing unused shield and have prizewinner names transposed on reverse side / or attempt to straighten. 8.10.17 update – returned and awarded again; GM to request from Davidsons Mains to bring to Paisley event. P Brown agreed to sponsor trophy for replacement.	GM	OPEN
Mar-A9	Gary Mair to approach Common Good Fund and ascertain status. 8.10.17 update - this was specifically carried out for the Dundee contest and was awarded.	GM	CLOSED
Mar-A12	Consideration to circulate MAP guidance document to Branch. 30.4.17 GM searched under ‘Learning’ but unable to locate. GM to submit request to HQ (or Paul Brown). PMcA to scan as one document and Jason Lafferty to upload thereafter. 8.10.17 update – Paul McAndrew advised unable to locate original MAP document. Issue with copyright previously so was removed from website.	GM	CLOSED
Mar-A13	Paul McAndrew and Gary Mair to finalise SQA qualifications programme. 30.4.17 – GM confirmed email circulated 13.3.17 with dates and initial outline. Awaiting further information from Tam Brown (with a view to possibly compressing to single days rather than whole weekends). GM confirmed numbers required ASAP from each band (with RSPBA band number and instrument stipulated). 8.10.17 – SQA programme underway.	PMcA GM	CLOSED

Further matters arising:

- None.

4. Approval of previous minutes

Approved; Ian Hughes, Seconded: Bruce Cargill.

5. Correspondence: Gary Mair summarised the following items

- Details provided to RSPBA HQ on Branch costs for education during 2017 season. 10% refund available to Branch for all education costs incurred.
- South Ayrshire Council ask if any Branch band would be interested in participating in an Armed Forces Day event in June – possible dates would either be 16th or 23rd. Email reply to Council thanking them for their



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invitation but that dates clash with UK Championships in Belfast and local competitions in Lochore, Ayr and Lesmahagow.

- Correspondence from Traders to attend Dundee City Outdoor event. As things stand, we will not have a suitable Market Traders Licence to permit Traders and therefore we will run contest with no Traders – see Dundee City Outdoor contest details below.
- Information received from Kinross & District that a new project is trying to get off the ground to create a youth piping and drumming initiative in Perth & Kinross Schools within the Kinross High School catchment area. Members of Kinross & District have committed to help along with support from Perth & Kinross Council and Scottish Schools Pipes and Drums Trust. Branch have been asked if they can help by advertising for potential tutors. Gary Mair has contact the project steering group Chairman for a Draft advert.
- Several bands and band members who sat SQA exams in December 2017 have still not received examination results. It would appear this is purely an administration bottleneck at RSPBA given the large number (approx. 350) examinations undertaken in December. Staff are working hard to clear the backlog.
- Alternative dates for those who could not attend SQA examinations in December are being sought – hopefully prior to competition season beginning.

6. Treasurer's Report:

- Irene Black presented the accounts (confidential).

7. Music Board Report: Bruce Cargill reported as follows -

- Plans are ongoing to make drum scores available on RSPBA website purely as guidance / information.
- Recent regrading on Branch bands means that Dollar Academy remain as three bands, NJ-B, NJ-A and Juvenile; Lochgelly NJ-A are regraded as NJ-B.
- The Music Board (MB) will be asking for feedback from Grade 4 and NJ bands on what their preference would be for competition – consideration should be given to tune tempos (4/4, 2/4 etc), idiom, selection of tunes, performance times etc. If any bands have ideas that they would like to feedback to Bruce, these can be e-mailed to the Branch Secretary or to Bruce directly.
- Strong encouragement from Bruce Cargill for as much representation at this year's RSPBA AGM on Saturday 10th March as possible. There are important items that will be up for voting – suggestion to reduce the 42-day rule to 25 days & Grade 4 bands to have permission to play dual-registered leading drummers.
- MB would also like to hear ideas from Branch bands on their thoughts on how to make 2-day World Championships a better spectacle. One idea (from outwith the Branch) is to have Friday as the "Junior" day with all NJ and Juvenile events being held on a single day. Any ideas should be pass to Bruce Cargill directly or via the Branch Secretary.

8. Director's Report: Paul McAndrew reported as follows -

- As of April 2018, the Pipe Band Magazine shall cease publication. It will be replaced by News items on the RSPBA website.
- Pitlochry Highland Games have been informed that with effect from 2018 Games, they must fall in line with all other competitions namely to make the event open for any band. The Games Committee have been informed that this is a requirement to having a competition license granted. All other typical competition protocols must be followed i.e. publication of Draw etc. Paul McAndrew shall contact the Games Committee to offer assistance in preparation of an entry form.
- Individual pipers are being asked if they would be willing to participate in an event being held at 0600 on Sunday November 11th 2018 to commemorate the end of the Great War. The organisers of the event are asking pipers to play "When The Battle's O'er" at 6am – the time that the Armistice of Compiegne was signed – at a location of your choice. Further detail and registration is available through <http://www.collegeofpiping.org/join-battles-oer/>
- As previously noted, Pitlochry Highland Games are required to alter the status of their pipe band competition on games day from "invitation only" to "open to any band" by completion of entry form. Paul McAndrew shall contact the Games' Committee to offer assistance in preparation of an entry form.
- Architect's drawings of RSPBA HQ refurbishment were provided. Work is anticipated to commence 1 May 2018 and the project is estimated to take 10 months.



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- A significant number of changes have been approved to qualifying and playing requirements for the World Solo Drumming Championships. Changes include no automatic pre-qualifying; there will be heats at pre-arranged events e.g. Kingdom Thistle Solos on 10th march or competitor can compete on the day to qualify for finals; there will be no crit sheets for adults in semi-finals and finals; playing requirements change for Hornpipe and Jig to give equal weighting between H/J & MSR; Order of play in the Final will be drawn; adjudicators have option to confer during performance.
- AGM – order papers will be published 10 days prior to the AGM being held on Saturday 10th March. All Branch bands are encouraged to either attend AGM or to notify RSPBA HQ that their vote by proxy is being taken by the Branch Secretary (and to advise the Branch Secretary how they wish to vote).
- At the 2018 AGM, Gordon Hamill will step down as Chairman. The current Vice Chairman, John Hughes, has been proposed as the new Chairman with Paul Brown, Director North East England being proposed as new Vice Chairman.

9. Education

- Close of 50 players participated in the 2017 PDQB (SQA) study programme arranged by the Branch with examinations being held in December 2017. Results and SQA certificates are now making their way directly to individuals.
- Dates for the 2018 programme have been set and will be published to all bands in due course.
- The Branch will once again sponsor the piping, snare and tenor novice sections winners from the November 2017 Branch Solos to attend Glasgow 2018 Summer School.
- Any comments or queries relating to education should be forwarded to Paul McAndrew or Gary Mair.

10. Media Report:

- **Branch Website:** Gary Mair will take an action to remind all bands to please check their details including grading information on the Branch website and to highlight any changes necessary.
- **RSPBA Magazine:** No update however it is noted in the Director’s Report that the PB magazine will cease publication as of April 2018.
- **Branch Facebook page:** Stewart Findlay provided information (via email) advising that Facebook “likes” were now hitting 1,131 which is a significant increase over the past 12 months. Information continues to be shared regarding relevant solo contests, Branch contests, local events and recruitment posts with relevant parties being tagged. Requests by bands for information onto the Branch Facebook page can be made either directly to Stewart or via the Branch Secretary.

11. AOCB:

- Dundee Outdoor Contest 13th May – work with Dundee City Council continues however dues to demands for Market Traders Licensing application and hurdles encountered therein, the 2018 event will have no traders present.

12. Action from Minutes in October 2017

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Oct-A1	Minibands contest – Orkney Pipe Band to perform last to take in to consideration any travel delays. 04.02.18 – Online entries now available; awaiting Orkney entry.	GM	CLOSED
Oct-A2	Dundee Contest – awaiting confirmation of 2018 event from Dundee City Council, including update on grant application. 04.02.18 – online entry now available.	PMcA GM	CLOSED
Oct-A3	2017 event cancellations – Gary Mair to write to bands who are entitled to refunds.	GM	OPEN
Oct-A4	Gary Mair to write to the RSPBA HQ to request Grade 4A and 4B splits for 2018 season at Branch competitions. 04.02.18 – letter submitted to RSPBA HQ; MB approval confirmed	GM	CLOSED



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	at February '18 meeting.		
Oct-A5	Any band wishing to be considered for regarding should write to Bruce Cargill prior to 18.11.17 (ideally by the Monday prior to this) in advance of the next Music Board meeting. 04.02.18 – MB confirmed no requests received.	ALL	CLOSED
Oct-A6	Board minutes to be made available online on Branch website.	PMcA	OPEN
Oct-A7	Branch SCQF tutor training – Gary Mair to share grid to Branch bands 04.02.18 – Action completed.	GM	CLOSED
Oct-A8	Gary Mair to provide details of Branch SQA programme to Sarah Rathbone. 04.02.18 – Action completed	GM	CLOSED
Oct-A9	Summer school – Irene Black to send Gary Mair Paypal receipt link for refund query. 04.02.18 – Action completed.	IB/GM	CLOSED
Oct-A10	Education – what do members want to see in terms of Education in the Branch? 04.02.18 – Action completed	ALL	CLOSED
Oct-A11	Branch website – Badenoch and Stathspey details to be added. Nicola Liddell to follow-up with Sarah Rathbone. 04.02.18 – Action superceded by new action item combining A12 & A13 below.	NL	CLOSED
Oct-A12	Branch website – ensure all bands are sitting in the correct pages as per recent regradings.		CLOSED
Oct-A13	Branch website – all bands requested to ensure their details are showing accurately. 04.02.18 – Action Closed	ALL	CLOSED
Oct-A14	Branch calendar to be updated online. Details of all calendar dates to be circulated to members. 04.02.18 – Action completed	PMcA/ GM	CLOSED
Oct-A15	AGM 2016 minutes to be circulated. 04.02.18 – Action completed	GM	CLOSED
Oct-A16	Annual Fees due. 04.02.18 – several bands not yet paid however annual fees will be automatically deducted at time of first competition entry.	ALL	CLOSED
Oct-A17	Branch solo trophies to be returned at AGM meeting. 04.02.18 – Action Closed	ALL	CLOSED

* **Status** should be “New”, “Open”, “Closed” or “Cancelled”

13. New Action Items

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Feb-A1	Dundee Outdoor Contest – GM to continue to liaise with Dundee City Council (DCC). Arrangements required for parking, bus parking, re-submission of Applications excluding trade stands, toilet facilities at High School Of Dundee,....etc	GM	OPEN
Feb-A2	Consideration for Adjudicators Review Panel to publish annual review report.	PMcA	OPEN
Feb-A3	Check to be made regarding wording on paperwork for Stewards in terms of declaration of “volunteer” (as opposed to “employee”)	PMcA	OPEN



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Feb-A4	Gary Mair to remind all bands to check Branch website details for band information accuracy including grading.	GM	OPEN
Feb-A5	All bands to be encouraged to attend RSPBA AGM or alternatively to permit proxy voting	GM	OPEN

14. Next Branch Meeting Date(s):

Branch Meetings

11th March
29th April
7th October
2nd December

AGM

4th November

The meeting closed at 21:45pm.

APPROVED



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ARCHIVED ACTIONS

Actions from minutes in December 2015

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Dec-A1	GM to review wording of potential intro of rules in line with comments received from Perth & District. Draft rules circulated by GM 30.11.16. 12.3.17 – insufficient time to discuss at previous meeting. PMcA summarised Constitution states rules to be avail on website; once adopted this will be made available online. Proposed by Bruce Cargill, seconded by Gillie McNab.	Gary	8.10 CLOSED – uploaded online with branch rules

Actions from minutes in December 2016

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Dec-AA3	Perth Games 13.8. 17 – awaiting conf if event will go ahead as a contest or with guest bands only. GM to approach new Games Secretary to seek clarification; everyone keen to see this contest remain. 12.2.17 – PMcA noted the 2018 event due to fall on the day before the Worlds. 12.3.17 – GM submitted online enquiry to Games website; awaiting response. Ali Bryce advised of recent meeting outlining proposal to run similar event to last year (no comp).	Gary	CLOSED. Event did not go ahead. 2018 event to take place at an alternative venue (Perth Racecourse).
Dec-AA4	Inclusion of additional column on branch contest spreadsheet to include Major results for comparison exercise. Action Gary Mair to progress spreadsheet update and do a measurement for this year's results. 04.02.18 – Branch Championships shall only comprise of minors held within Branch area.	Gary	OPEN 8.10 – purely as an exercise to see if we wish to pursue for 2018. 04.02.18 - CLOSED

Actions from minutes in April 2017

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Apr-A1	Guidance expected to go online for prescribed tunes.	BC	CLOSED
Apr-A2	World solo drumming qualifier – PMcA to follow-up with Paul Brown re. dates and proposals for 2018. 8.10.17 update – Paul McAndrew confirmed event had moved to Kingdom Solos; awaiting confirmation of a date (usually last Saturday in March or first Saturday in April – awaiting venue availability confirmation from Paul Brown). 04.02.18 – date confirmed as 10 th March 2018 at Lochgelly High School	PMcA	CLOSED
Apr-A3	Child Protection – RSPBA guidance to bands update. 8.10.17 – original action to be closed and new action to be opened under 'Safe Guarding' to include vulnerable adults. 04.02.18 – RSPBA Chief Executive has now signed-off policy; RSPBA website now has link to Disclosure Services, an umbrella body processing Disclosures applications and PVG membership.	PMcA	CLOSED



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

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Apr-A5	DPA Branch fund-raising concert – confirmation of date, establishment of working group and general update on progress. 8.10.17 – No further progression due to lack of venue to date; Fife Police opting to go to Bucksburn contest instead as we were unable to firm up a Saturday date. Paul McAndrew expressed wish to revisit for 2018 with a different band (around a Grade 1 band not necessarily in the Branch), and look to develop a juvenile concert band. Nicola Liddell stated it was Perth and District Pipe Band's 125 th year next year so would be keen to see them involved. Paul McAndrew to review dates and approach bands thereafter on shared profit basis. 04.02.18 – “Closed” as too many other commitments during 2018.	PMcA	CLOSED
Apr-A6	AGM (5.11.17) arrangements. 8.10.17 update – venue: Glencarse, 6.30pm for 7.00pm (6pm committee meeting to take place prior to AGM). 04.02.18 – AGM took place as planned at Glencarse	GM/P McA	CLOSED
Apr-A7	Summary of Mini -band contest feedback on formation etc.	GM	CLOSED – to be discussed under 'correspondence'

APPROVED