



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

Minutes from Branch Meeting Sunday 4th May 2014 in the Glencarse Village Hall

1. Chairman's welcome:

Paul opened the meeting at 7.05 pm and welcomed everyone to this, the third meeting of the year. Paul also extended official congratulations to Craig Weir (Arbroath RBL) for winning Young Scot of the year.

2. Presence and Apologies:

Present:

Paul McAndrew, Gary Mair, Nigel Kellett, Gillie McNab, Jim Mills, Stewart Findlay, Bruce Cargill, Irene Black, Paul Winter (standing in for Ian Campbell)

Apologies:

Ian Campbell

3. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting:

Actions from minutes in 2013

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Sep-A3	Suggest at next Director's Meeting that Jason Lafferty be authorized to publish any Open event summaries along with the regular grades from minor contests. (Band's actual grades would be shown in the same way as when playing up)	Paul	OPEN. (Not mentioned at last 2 meetings) Paul to bring up at next again meeting (not at last one due to mini-bands)
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, still to get missing dates added

Actions from 2014 Meeting No 1 / January

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Jan-A1	Request feedback from all branch bands regarding branch solos in Dundee (location, competition format, facilities) Also to ask all bands for new photos / up to date info on bands	Gary	CLOSED. Only formal feedback was from Brechin. Kinross discussed it at Committee meeting but no objections to new format. Perth. Discussed further under AOB below.
Jan-A2	Try and locate possible options for additional archiving	Gary	CLOSED. Gary has spoken to Dundee Central Library but limited progress so far. Another option is just to put it all with Perth. New action below
Jan-A3	All to provide a couple of photos of bands for latest updates	Neil	CLOSED.
Jan-A4	Gary to write to Jim Campbell to request potential assessment days (e.g. Sundays) between now and end April.	Gary	CLOSED. Done, still to get formal feedback. Re-opened under a new heading below.

Actions from 2014 Meeting No 2 / March

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Mar-A1	Gary to contact Perth Library to give them minutes up to a year from now	Gary	OPEN
Mar-A2	Gary to talk to Creative Scotland about possible funding for October School	Gary	OPEN. Been in touch with Creative Scotland, waiting for feedback on funding streams
Mar-A3	Gary to talk to Craigie High School and Outreach for tutor training on Sunday 21 st September, and also Branch Solos on Saturday 15 th November	Gary	CLOSED. Date provisionally booked
Mar-A4	Apply to fund a trophy for the UK Championships, request Grade 1 or any other Grade	Gary	CLOSED. The Branch Trophy has been allocated and is believed to be Grade 4A



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4. Approval of previous minutes

Approved: Bruce Cargill

Seconded: Jim Mills

5. Correspondence:

- Gary has been liaising with Creative Scotland for funding for the October school, still trying to find a common week or weekend
- Also liaising with Jim Campbell for the Outreach education program, provisionally set for Sunday 21st September
- A very nice thank you card received from Barbara who purchased a patio set with the gift vouchers. Gary read it out to the committee

6. Treasurer's Report:

Irene presented the Treasurer's report to all present. (Separate report, data remains confidential)

7. Director's Report:

- Paul reported as follows:
 - Not much to report as Paul was officiating at the Mini-Bands instead of attending the meeting, approximate understanding of main issues as follows:
 - New proposals made for World Solo Drumming as outlined in the Music Board report below
 - In 2016 all the Majors are up for renewal at the same time. Some concern just in case not enough bids are received.

8. Music Board Report:

- Bruce reported as follows:
 - Looking at splitting N/J bands into A and B, with the same playing requirements as Grade 4A and 4B. Idea is to have it in place for next year
 - From 2014 the word 'MAP' will be removed from the list of tunes
 - Grading changes. 4 bands upgraded in last few weeks, one of which is American. 101 Northumbrian 3B to 3A. Augharan - Irish band gone from 4B to 4A to 3B in last few weeks. City of Newcastle from 3B to 3A.
 - World Solo Drumming. 2014 same format as 2013. Proposals for 2015 include adult pre-qualification contests around the country and world. 4 in the UK (25 places), 2 in Ireland (9 places) and 2 in Canada (6 places). One potential drawback is how to attract drummers to attend these pre-qualifiers.
 - The 3 year trial of International Solo Tenor Drumming is up for review. One proposal is that the age groups are harmonized with those of snare drumming.
 - One proposal from the Branch is to change the World Solo Drumming to a 2 day event but otherwise not change the format.
 - A MAP instruction course was run in the GWOS branch. 21 bands initially signed up in September and attended the first session. 16 of those bands' Pipe Majors and Leading Drummers attended the follow up in January, but only 1 band agreed to attend the final tune review so the course was cancelled. Discussion around whether we would get the same effect if running in this branch. Some debate about winter poor attendance, exams, also the speculation that maybe there was some issue with the course itself. The bands who signed up will be consulted to find out what feedback they have.

9. Website Report:

1. No website report as Neil was absent.
2. Question from Alyth. On the branch website the Alyth Secretary name has been changed but not the email address. Gary to request Neil to make the change



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10. AOCB:

3. Nigel. Loch Leven (Kinross) contest taking place this Saturday 10th May.
 - Jim Mills will kindly be contest chieftain for the day
 - Fundraising all in and acceptable. Programme is finalized and currently at the printers (in good time this year). Road runners are also contributing significantly to the programme costs
 - An event banner and street march diversion banners have been ordered, new for this year
 - Street March will be going from the Myre football field up to the Station Road roundabout at the Co-Op store.
 - Kinross Newsletter carries the event on the front page
 - Adjudicators are Robert Mathieson (piping), William Black (drumming) and Heather Finlay (DM's).
 - 21 bands entered so far with 35 entries not including the probably Open contest. (currently showing as Grade 1, but no Grade 1 bands) 7 DM's including 2 juveniles. Now
 - Tayside Contracts will be running a BBQ from lunch time in addition to the canteen food. Discount BBQ vouchers will be available for purchase if sold with a programme.
 - 3 stewards will be operating including Gary
4. Irene. Bit of congestion at the door at the Mini-Bands/Trios. Would be worth having 2 separate tables, one for registration and the other for payment and raffle. Canteen also definitely needs more help.
5. Paul.
 - Glamis (Strathmore) again will have no beer tent. OK to bring alcohol in, but there is no licence.
 - Education. October workshop, would it make sense to do as a weekend in the first instance instead of a week. General consensus is yes for a weekend only to start with.
 - Carnoustie contest. Some clarity needed from Carnoustie Pipe Band as to whether funding will be in place for the contest. Gary will liaise with Carnoustie to work out what's happening.
6. Gary.
 - Letter received from Neil Myles tendering his resignation as branch committee member as of 18th March. But he will continue as webmaster until such time as a new manager is elected. He will also help out with contests as required.
 - Letter received from Perth & District Pipe Band raising a number of issues regarding communication with Branch bands, disciplinary procedures, constitution and branch policies. The various points were discussed at length.
 - Gary to reply to Perth & District with the committee views on each issue.

11. New Action Items

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Due By	Status *
May-A1	Put correct email address for Alyth Secretary in their band entry on the Branch website	Neil	June	NEW
May-A2				
May-A3				
May-A4				

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

12. Next meeting: Sunday 5th October, 6.45 for 7.00 pm start. Also the AGM will be Sunday 2nd November.