



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

### Minutes from Branch Meeting Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2012 in Glencarse Village Hall

**1. Chairman's welcome:**

Paul opened the meeting at 7.05 pm and welcomed everyone.

**2. Presence and Apologies:**

**Present:**

Paul McAndrew, Gary Mair, Irene Black, Gillie McNab, Neil Myles, Nigel Kellett, Bruce Cargill, Barbara Stronach, Ian Campbell,

**Apologies:**

Jim Mills, Valerie Russell, Teresa Walker

**3. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting:**

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Jun-A3	Send a specific message to Pitlochry asking if they would consider adding a RSPBA adjudicated DM contest alongside their existing DM display contest. Again this would make it possible for Drum Majors to take part in the Branch Championship.	Gary	<b>CLOSED.</b> Gary spoke to Secretary, next meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> March. Offer still on the table to go along. Plans for a supermarket in adjacent field giving rise to additional concerns. Combine with October A1.
Jun-A4	Report to be sent to Angus Council to show how the grant money given has been spent.	Gary	<b>CLOSED.</b> Report sent in Dec. No feedback
Jun-A5	Finalise and test the Excel compiling sheets prior to Crieff	Nigel	<b>OPEN.</b> Nigel will try and complete by next meeting.
Jun-A9	Discuss with potential instructors possible dates and format for the suggested Workshop Day	Paul	<b>CLOSED.</b> Action combined with Dec-A3
Jun-A10	Write to all Mini-Bands trophy winners to remind them to return trophies one month prior to the event or bring to the RSPBA AGM	Gary	<b>CLOSED.</b> Reminder went out 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan.
Sep-A9	Go ahead and re-plate the damaged Crieff trophy (Mill Hills Cup) as long as existing engraving will still be clearly legible	Paul	<b>OPEN.</b> Cup probably still with trophy company. Paul will confirm to go ahead
Oct-A1	Call Pitlochry Games committee to ask if possible to attend one of their next meetings to discuss options for inclusion of branch bands in future contests	Gary	<b>OPEN.</b> Offer still open, this action to include Jun-A3 action going forward.
Oct-A3	Request judges' fees from all Branch contests for 2011. (Strathmore, Crieff & Pitlochry)	Gary	<b>CLOSED.</b>
Oct-A7	Write to HQ to say if the PDQB education courses are going ahead, we would like to hold one here.	Gary	<b>CLOSED.</b> Action now combined with Dec-A3
Oct-A9	Bring up the question of whether Juvenile Side Drumming in the World Solo Drumming can be competed by Grading category, in a similar fashion to the new World Tenor contest.	Paul & Bruce	<b>OPEN.</b> No suitable occasion has arisen yet to discuss this.
Oct-A14	Review feasibility of running a new Pipe Band contest in Kinross now that we know the date of 12 <sup>th</sup> May (to combine the event with the Half Marathon and Feel Good Fair) is a theoretic possibility.	Nigel	<b>OPEN.</b> Check Police presence + insurance. Ian to ask for donation for a trophy.
Dec-A1	Ask all local bands to write in to express support for re-introducing a Highland Games and Pipe Band contest in Dundee	Gary	<b>CLOSED.</b> Gary has tried to get hold of the councilor named in the article, or the Lord Provost, or the Lord Provost's secretary. No luck so no point in asking Bands to go on a wild goose chase.
Dec-A2	Attempt to confirm prize money for Kinross contest by end January	Nigel	<b>CLOSED.</b> This is hard going, but we have enough already to confirm that the contest will go ahead.



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Dec-A3	Review PDQB course options with a view to holding one in the Branch	Bruce Gary	<b>OPEN.</b> The Education Officer starts on 1 <sup>st</sup> March (Patrick Whelan) This action now combined with Jun-A9 and Oct-A7. Once in place contact PW to take this action forward.
Dec-A4	Mention to the Campus the few points for improvement, and also to ask for a price for next year	Nigel	<b>OPEN.</b> Nigel will do this at same time as booking Campus for Nov 24 <sup>th</sup> .
Dec-A5	Offer a set of the trophy photos to the RSPBA Historic Group	Gary	<b>CLOSED.</b> They have replied that there are no facilities for storing archive materials
Dec-A6	Review if possible to add a secondary base to the Solo Drumming trophy which is now completely full of names	Paul	<b>CLOSED.</b> The damaged trophies from the Branch solos are in for repair and will be fixed and should give us another 30 days Neil will put them on-line, along with current holder.
Dec-A7	Write to committee members not present and ask if they still wish to serve on the committee	Gary	<b>CLOSED.</b> Teresa and Isobel will be withdrawing from the committee

**Other matters arising:** The newly-revived Fife Branch held an AGM recently which was well attended. They will be reinstating the Fife Mini-Bands competition (in November) so we will indicate to them when our Branch Solos will be taking place (decided Sat 24<sup>th</sup> November as of this meeting) to try and avoid a clash.

#### 4. Approval of previous minutes:

**Approved:** Bruce  
**Seconded:** Barbara

#### 5. Correspondence:

- Email received from Ian Campbell regarding Carnoustie Gala day. Plans are well advanced for this.
- 8 players have been released from Mains of Fintry Pipe Band
- Grant McIntyre (6/8 Boys Brigade) wrote in to ask if there had been any progress on the matter of PDQB qualifications.

#### 6. Treasurers Report:

Irene presented the latest figures  
[figures confidential – available in a separate document]

#### 7. National Council Report:

Paul reported as follows:

- Reminder, for the AGM the only people eligible to vote are the Band Secretaries or proxies registered officially. AGM will be on 10<sup>th</sup> March.
- New proposals have been made for changes to standing orders and rules
- The 2 day World's event could cause clashing problems for both Perth & Crieff games. This will be addressed with these games by the RSPBA
- Membership scheme. At the first meeting back after the season a presentation is to be made on individual memberships rather than by band.
- North of Scotland Branch have been asked to come into line with the rest of Mainland UK and not hold separate Grade 4A and 4B competitions.
- 2 bans have been issued to RSPBA members
- An extension has been granted for bids by councils for the remaining 3 majors.



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- Pipe Band magazine. The RSPBA have finished binding all previous issues of the magazine. Now an App is available for the magazine, users just need to click on the College of Piping app to get the magazine.
- Competition dates all now confirmed. Unfortunately, the Edinburgh (Ingleston) competition has moved to the same date as Crieff, 19<sup>th</sup> August. Some debate as to whether the distance between the two events is over the required 50 miles or not. Nigel to check and advise.
- Bus passes for the Worlds now reduced from £40 to £20. Band members in uniform will no longer need a ticket/wrist-band, but all other members/or accompanying visitors will need to pay to enter.
- Prize money for majors is increasing, and a list of amounts was passed around for interest.
- Mr Allan has been voted an Honorary Life Member
- Paul has submitted himself for re-election next year
- It has been advised that the mandatory retirement of adjudicators at 75 does not contravene equal opportunities legislation, as they are volunteers rather than employees. However, this would have to apply equally to all RSPBA volunteers.

#### 8. Music Board Report:

Bruce reported as follows:

- Gradings approved at last meeting
- Stockbridge 4B to 4A by request
- Chorley staying where they were, no longer wishing to be re-graded
- Craigmount High School from Juvenile to 3B by request due to over-age players
- Scotia Glenville requested an international grading of Novice Juvenile, approved
- Johnstone requested from 3A to 3B. Denied, as still a solid nucleus of pipers and drummers from original band
- Kileen requested Grade 2 to 3B. Awaiting confirmation that players have been lost. Pending
- Boness in have been graded to Grade 3B following an assessment.
- The 2 day Worlds will trial in 2013 and take place on the Saturday and Sunday. Bruce outlined the rough plans for the Committee, which will be formally presented at the AGM.
- There will be a working group on future MAP tunes. Branch Grade 4 bands are invited to submit any preferences for tunes, arrangements, etc.

#### 9. AOCB:

- **Branch Mini Bands.**
  - It was decided to keep the entry fees the same. Also match the playing requirements to the first Major for Grades 1 to 3. Grade 4 will play normal “minor” march selection. No need for more adjudication pads, we have plenty.
  - Contact Mr Lynch for prize giving, plus local suppliers of food-stuffs, etc
  - No ruling on having pipes up leading up to Mini-band performance, so fine to allow it
  - Should we offer certificates for places? Decided we could possibly play this one by ear
- Perth & District are hoping to have a 4B “Development” band, no issues as long as all players are correctly registered in the right band at least 2 weeks prior to any contest
- **Website matters** (Neil)
  - “Donate Now” button. These services are now chargeable, and this is made clear
  - Neil mentioned the “Drop Box” free data storage facility if bands are interested for safe data backups.
  - Neil also ran through the Website history so far and provided a 4-page print-out of all news items
- **Possible tattoo.** Ian mentioned that there is some interest to bring a tattoo to the branch area, and this generated some discussion that St Johnstone’s ground, McDiarmid Park, would be a logical venue. There was a previous tattoo once in Forfar which sold out, but was never repeated.
- There was also some discussion that there are two Queen’s Diamond Jubilee events planned, one at Glamis Castle on 20<sup>th</sup> May (the day after the Scottish) and one in Perth on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. (for which bands can apply)



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**10. New Action Items**

<b>Mtg-Act</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Due By</b>	<b>Status *</b>
Feb-A1	Request grant funding for two tents for adjudicators	Nigel	March	New
Feb-A2	Create Loch Leven contest entry form from the Crieff form	Gary	March	New
Feb-A3	Gary to write back to Grant McIntyre indicating that an Education Officer is taking up post on 1 <sup>st</sup> March. Also give some information on the PDQB qualifications. There is a PDQB website.	Gary	March	New
Feb-A4	Gary and Paul to arrange to go up to Forfar Academy to review arrangements for Mini Bands	Gary / Paul	April	New
Feb-A5	Nigel to send something in to Barbara for a magazine article on the Branch Championship	Nigel	12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	New
Feb-A6	Neil to put photos of all Branch trophies and shields on the website, along with the current holders	Neil	April	New
Feb-A7	Check what police presence is required for Loch Leven contest	Nigel	March	New
Feb-A8	Review if there are any trophies available locally to Carnoustie for donation to the Loch Leven contest	Ian	March	New
Feb-A9	Check to see if there could be any further trophies donated for the Mini-Band competition, (specifically Nigel & Gary to pursue a couple of options)	Nigel / Gary	March	New

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

**11. Next meeting:**

**Sunday 11th March 2012, 6.45 pm for 7.00 pm start**