

Scottish Brass Band Association
Executive Committee Meeting No 4 – 25 March 2012
Howden Park Centre, Livingston

1. Welcome and Apologies

As the President was abroad on business, the Meeting was chaired by the Vice President.

Present:

Carrie Boax (Vice President), Tom Allan (Secretary), Karla McPherson (Treasurer), Raymond Thomson (Minute Secretary), Andrew Duncan (Development Manager), John Hamilton (Sponsorship Officer), Grant Brown, Robert Burns, Neil Cross, Alan Douglas, Nicola Douglas, Peter Fraser, John Gilmour, Steven Gray, Richard Kidd, Damien Martin, Anne Murray, Robert McCorkell, Alan McLaren, Lynsey Paterson, Julie Sanderson, Andrew Smith, John Todd.

Apologies:

George Burt (President), Jennifer Fox, John Martin,

2. Minute of Executive Committee Meeting No 3 of 12 February 2012.

After minor alteration this was accepted as an accurate record, proposed by Robert McCorkell, seconded by Alan Douglas.

3. Matters Arising

Alleged Assault

Further to the report of the alleged assault, a communication has been received from the alleged assailant giving a completely contradictory account. The Committee felt that it could make no further progress in this matter.

Band Dispute Conciliation

This is still on-going.

4. Development

Section Restructuring

The three proposals regarding restructuring and possible promotion/relegation mechanisms were discussed. After a vote it was clear that the **restructuring of the sections did not have sufficient support** and it was decided to retain the *status quo*. A second vote indicated that **promotion and relegation based on play-offs did not have sufficient support** and it was decided to retain the *status quo*. Other possible promotion/relegation mechanisms should be developed.

5. Financial Report

Accounts

The figures to hand are:

Bank of Scotland General Account	£ 3,812
Bank of Scotland Youth Account	£ 314
Youth Music Initiative Account	£15,254

We are still due £11,000 from Creative Scotland for 2010 and 2011 YMI projects.

Grant Funding

Details of YMI funding for the Access and Excellence Project 2012 were distributed and explained. The total budget was £123,000 and the award from YMI was £89,700. We have also submitted a bid worth £87,000 to Creative Scotland to set up and provide

administrative support. This is addition to the Access and Excellence Project and will put us more in line with similar organisations. This led to a discussion about the possible relationship between a professional administrative team and the present volunteers.

Sponsorship

The Sponsorship Officer reported that 11 bids have been submitted to various Trusts, and that presentations have been made to a further 9 companies and Trusts. There will shortly be a presentation to the Carnegie Trust. There has been £500 cash sponsorship for the West Lothian Championships. A donation in kind of display boards has been received and corporate banners will be produced. There is the possibility of accommodation at Eurocentral. Negotiations with Perth Concert Hall have proved fruitful, and there will be meetings with Councils to try to get sponsorship for contests held in Perth. 11 full presentations have been scheduled for next month. The Sponsorship Officer feels that headway is now being made, helped by now having accounts for last year.

6. National Youth Brass Band of Scotland (NYBBS)

56 applications have already been received for the Summer Course (30 July – 4 August). The renowned orchestral conductor Bram Tovey will work with all three bands during the course. The band will give a concert during the Aberdeen International Youth Festival, and the final concerts will be presented by Alistair Hutton and Rose Johnson. It is hoped that NYBBS will take part in a performance of “Escape” at Celtic Connections 2013. The NYBBS rehearsal in the Borders was very successful and interest has been expressed for NYBBS regional bands in other areas.

7. Area Associations

Grant Brown was welcomed. Area Association business was deferred to the afternoon meeting.

8. Education/Youth

Education and Youth Committee

The Committee has not met since the last Executive meeting.

2012 Youth Championships

All information has been updated for presentation to, and approval by, the Education and Youth Committee. Ticket prices for the public will rise to £10 and £8. Band and helpers' tickets will be £2 and £5. All bands have to be registered by 28 October.

Child Protection

We appear to be on a slow turn-around because of the priorities set by the Child protection authorities. The SBBA Child Protection contact has indicated a desire to relinquish the post and a volunteer was sought. The Vice-President and Secretary will visit the Child protection Services in Stirling.

Youth Development Report

Two new bands, Dynamica (East Kilbride) and Penicuik Youth Band have joined SBBA, and Gorbals Youth Band has had its first rehearsal. The development manager proposes to carry out a survey to establish the full extent of funding for youth brass bands over the past five years, enabling our youth bands to use the information to access the fullest range of funding. There have been meetings with various Heads of Music services, a highlight of which was in Fife where a new “contract of co-operation” will be drawn up between youth bands and the Authority, and tutors of Fife youth bands will have the opportunity of shadowing an instrumental tutor for a day. With regard to training, we anticipate 25-30 attendees for the Conductors' Training Weekend. Plans to have a training weekend for youth band tutors are being explored. It was agreed to have aspiring adjudicators shadow

contest adjudicators and build up their expertise. There will be a development blog on the SBBA website.

9. Publicity and Communications

Website

The Grading Tables have been added, and sponsors' links will be updated.

Publicity

We need to make a decision on stands and banners, and an estimate will be obtained. The Publicity Officer will be invited to attend Executive meetings.

10. Membership and Registration

Figures

There are 1838 contesting players and 55 contesting band, 60 Youth bands, and 15 non-contesting bands. There were 27 x £40 registrations received prior to the Championships.

Exceptions to, and breaches of, SBBA Rules

None.

11. Events

2012 Scottish Championships

The event made a loss of £4000: the Events Committee will discuss how to cover future losses. 43 bands bought players' tickets, less than last year.

2012 West Lothian festival

10 June. Adjudicators will be Ray Farr and Alan Fernie.

2012 AGM

Sunday 28 October, venue to be confirmed.

2012 Scottish Open

24-25 November (2.00pm start). The Vice-President is the main organiser. It will be an "Own Choice" contest with 3 adjudicators and an Open Adjudication.

2012 Scottish Shield

Sunday 1 December in Perth Concert Hall. The top 6 bands from sections 1-4 will be invited. Sponsorship for the event would be welcome.

2013 Scottish Championships

9-10 March 2013 (8-9 March in 2014) in Perth Concert Hall.

2014 European Championships

The President has produced detailed spreadsheets for this, and preparations must now become more focussed. As there is still no solid confirmation of government funding, the matter is becoming urgent.

Contest Dates/Events

Band of the Year: Contests from Nov-December 2011 will be included in 2012 to take account of the new banding year.

Whitburn Youth Contest: 19 May

Northern Counties Contest: 27 May

Irvine and Dregthorn Slow Melody Contest: 27 May

Land o' Burns: 25 August

Brass in the Park (perhaps): 8 September

12. AOB

Life Membership

This will be granted to:

James Bogie (Tullis Russell)

John Benzie and Clark Wallace (Granite City)

13. Dates and Venues of Future Meetings in 2012

3 June The Howden Park Centre, Livingston

19 August The Howden Park Centre, Livingston

7 October The Howden Park Centre, Livingston

AGM *Sunday 28 October: Venue to be confirmed*

Raymond A Thomson, Minute Secretary

29 March 2012