

Scottish Brass Band Association
Executive Committee Meeting No7 – 15th August 2010
Howden Park Centre, Livingston.

Present: George Burt (President), Peter Fraser (Vice President), Tom Allan (Secretary), Andrew Smith, John Todd, Robert Burns, Mark Bell, Jennifer Fox, Steven Gray, John Gilmour, Brian Deans (WOS), Alan Edmond (Development Officer), Nicola Douglas (SBBBA)

1 Apologies: Philip Lodge, Lynsey Patterson.

Resignations received from Kenny Crookston and John Muir
SBBA still require a minute secretary, Jennifer Fox agreed to take notes for preparation of minute of today's meeting.

2 Minutes of meeting No 6 - 27th June 2010

Due to the fact that we have no minute secretary at present it was felt that this minute was too brief and more information should be included in future.

With some spelling corrections the minute was approved, Proposed MB, second JT

3. Business Arising

There was no business arising.

4 Development Committee

George Burt reported that he was still in the process of reformatting the layout of our rules to make them more user-friendly, they are currently 26 pages.

Two new items would be added covering the responsibilities of SBBA and of our member bands/organisations.

The completed document should be ready for comments by the next meeting.

5 External Liaison

George Burt, Peter Fraser, Tom Allan and Allan Edmond attended the Brass Band Summit meeting in Birmingham on 3rd July. All agreed it was a good meeting with representatives from all major UK organisations in attendance. A steering group was formed, George Burt and Alan Edmond agreed to become members. The group will be chaired by Stan Lippeatt from the Adjudicators Association. Although all members of the steering group were self appointed at this stage, it was agreed they would form the working party to take the group forward. Concern was raised regarding the number of members with commercial interests.

The next meeting will be in Birmingham on 5th September, George and Alan will attend. British Bandsman and 4barsrest have agreed to report on all group meetings.

6. Annual Census

Still have difficulty getting information from youth bands, agreed we should try to survey bands at this year's Youth Championships in Perth.

7. SBBA Office

Alan Edmond tried to make contact with Gordon Connolly from WLC before to-days meeting with no success.

Peter Fraser suggested it's time we looked at other options he feels an office base for SBBA is long overdue.

It was reported that Clydebank Band have been granted planning permission for a new centre that would include office and museum space for SBBA, also accommodation and meeting rooms. SBBA has been asked for a letter of support for the project. Although this was 3-4 years before completion, it was agreed the project was worthy of our support.

George Burt would write to West Lothian Council requesting a meeting to discuss office accommodation in the area.

8 NYBBS

Alan Edmond reported that he had attended the last meeting of SAMA (Scottish Amateur Music Association), they have been responsible over the past 50 years for the organisation of the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland summer courses. SBBA watch with interest in future developments, a meeting takes place in October regarding funding. SBBA are committed to supporting NYBBS and thanks go to Neil Cross for his work.

9. Financial Report

Treasurer, Gerry Simonis had e.mailed the financial report to all members before the meeting. The report was moved and accepted by the members present.

£10,000 has been forwarded to Perth College who will administer the Conductors Course taking place with the final part being completed as a residential weekend in October. Gerry has indicated he will continue as treasurer for the present, but he does insist the Executive continue to actively look for someone before March 2011. It was agreed after some discussion because of the extra tasks and comprehensive Accounting procedures required with SBBA accounts, that the honoraria for this position should be increased to £1000 per annum.

Grant Funding

YMI Funding of £62,000 is now in place for 2010/11. There was some concern regarding future funding with changes taking place at Scottish Arts Council, SBBA may need to seek alternative funding to continue their Youth Development Programme.

A recent application for funding for the new commission from Simon Dobson was unsuccessful, a letter was presented giving a number of reasons, but they said our application did not fit the criteria, George Burt agreed to try to find out more information from SAC.

10. Area Associations

Secretary, Tom Allan had received an e.mail that Stephen Gray who was trying to organise an AGM as a number of the previous committee had resigned, Mark Bell agreed to assist. If an AGM can be arranged soon then SBBA would appreciate having a representative attend SBBA meetings.

West of Scotland Association also need a new Chairman and Secretary and are actively looking for someone, they also need an AGM as soon as possible. Tom Allan will to assist in the organisation of the meeting and the Solo & Ensemble for youth, possibly end of October.

Two grant applications received from Borders and Northern Counties Associations, East of Scot and West of Scot, still to submit applications.

Still many issues regarding support from member bands, possibly look at the number of bands in each area. This may be discussed at the AGM in October, with the possibility of a paid position to chair and develop area associations, may try with the area associations in East and West of Scotland.

11. Education and Youth Committee Report

It was reported that one band has outstanding payment for 2009 Youth Championships for tickets and entry, total £170. Agreed that this would need to be paid before entry could be accepted for this year's event. Local authorities would be invoiced through the Heads of Services where a school band was involved.

Delegates attending AGM/Conference on 24th October would get an update on Child protection issues, another breakout session would be organised.

Youth Development Officer report attached.

12. Publicity

The website is now fully operational and up to date. It was suggested that we should consider a search section, although all sections of the website are well indicated on home page, it was felt a search window may assist.

A number of adverts have been included in the band press and event programmes for the Festival of Brass Weekend, also our Brighthouse Gala Concert. Posters and leaflets would be available at the start of October.

13. Events.

West Lothian Festival – Another successful event and congratulations to Whitburn on their win. Thanks also to all bands that took part and introduced many new innovations to entertain the audience, in particular to Kingdom Brass for the efforts they went to present and entertaining programme.

It was suggested that it might be useful to all bands taking part to offer rehearsal facilities on the afternoon of the event, especially if power point and other innovations were being used. It was agreed we would talk to West Lothian Council regarding this facility.

Brass Band Week – 13th November/21st November – SBBA will look at possible contributions to bands to events taking place that week, although many of them will be involved in rehearsing for the weekend. Peter Fraser indicated that we need a co-ordinator for the Brass Band Week and Mark Bell agreed to assist.

Scottish Shield and Scottish Open and Gala Concert – 12 bands will take part in the Shield event each playing an own choice test piece and as with the Scottish Open, there will be three adjudicators in the open adjudicating separately, Results would be announced at the end of the Gala Concert.

The Scottish Open Test Piece.....'and when the river flows'.....will be sent to the bands early September.

As there will be a lot of tuned percussion in the new commission. it was also agreed to set aside an area backstage so that bands taking part could check out percussion supplied on the morning of the event, provided it was not being used in the Shield contest.

Scottish Youth Band Championships – 41 bands have been sent information, with a closing date for the 1st October it's anticipated that we will have a high entry in the Youth Championships.

All tickets must be ordered and paid for before the event. On the day, tickets for this event will only be available from the Perth Concert Hall Box Office.

Solos & Ensembles 5th /6th February 2011 – Alan Edmonds to check out adjudicators from Besson and report back.

Scottish Championships 2011 26th/27th February – All arrangements in hand for this event in Perth Concert Hall. Sections would be 2,4,3 on Saturday and 1st and Championships on Sunday.

Adjudicators – David Reid and Lt. Col. Graham Jones Championship Section
Melvin White and Stan Lippeatt 1st Section
Peter Bassano and Graham Jones 2nd Section
Stan Lippeatt and David Reid 3rd Section
Melvin White and Peter Bassano 4th Section

14. 2012 Scottish Championships

With the amount of funding support we have received from Fife Council in the past, it was felt we should aim for Glenrothes Halls for 2012. In the past the venue has been ideal for our needs and the staff have been particularly helpful, more importantly we had no complaints from bands regarding the venue.

15. European Championships 2014

Alan Edmond reported that the event was on track and would go ahead. Meetings have taken place with the Scottish Government and Event Scotland team and all is

very positive, they would like to include our event as part of the Homecoming Scotland 2014 programme. Meetings will be arranged in the months ahead with Perth Council and other funding bodies.

Thanks go to Kingdom Brass which has agreed to represent Scotland at the 2011 European in Montreux, Switzerland and we wish them well in their quest for funding. Alan Edmond suggested that with all the funding problems of taking a band to the European, maybe the time has come to form an All-Star composite Scottish band and try to obtain National Funding to attend this event.

16. Registration and Events

Registrations down slightly since last meeting but no problems to report.

Borders Slow Melody contest on 3rd October and they request a delegate to attend, This is the same day as the next Ex.Meeting.

Northern Counties Solo and Ensemble Contest on 16th November

17. Any Other Business

It was reported that Nigel Durno had organised another very successful Scottish Brass Band Golf Championships with a number of visitors from England. Any profits from this event go to the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland. It was noted that there were a lack of trophies for this event and SBBA have agreed to provide the appropriate trophies and medals.

It was with sadness we heard of the death of Peter Wilson. Peter started his playing career with the Salvation Army in Airdrie and went on to be principal Euphonium of CWS Glasgow. He then started conducting and had a successful time with Kirkintilloch and Broxburn bands. His talents lay also in organising events and he was responsible for a number of events in Glasgow, Cadbury Towers and Royal Albert Hall where for a time he was in charge of the National Championships. For a number of years he was also Editor of the British Bandsman and was still contributing a week before he died. Peter Fraser attended the funeral in Chorley Wood.

Coalburn Band have invited HRH Princess Anne to open their new Band Hall in September, President George Burt has been invited to attend.

18. Next Meeting Sunday 3rd October in Perth

