

**Scottish Brass Band Association**  
**Executive Committee Meeting No 2 – 13 January 2013**  
**Howden Park Centre, Livingston**

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

The President welcomed members to the first meeting of 2013.

**Present:**

George Burt (President), Tom Allan (Secretary), Robert Burns, Alan Douglas, Nicola Douglas, Peter Fraser, John Gilmour, Steven Gray, Damien Martin, Lynsey Paterson, Julie Sanderson, Sarah Saum, Andrew Smith, John Todd.

**In Attendance:**

Andrew Duncan (Development Manager), Raymond Thomson (Minute Secretary).

**Apologies:**

Carrie Boax (Vice-President), Neil Cross, John Hamilton (Sponsorship Officer), Karla McPherson (Treasurer), John Martin, John Muir, Robert McCorkell.

**2. Minute of Executive Committee Meeting No 1 of 10 November 2012.**

This was agreed: proposed by Andy Smith, seconded by Steven Gray. (Secretary's note: Karla McPherson submitted her Apologies for the November meeting)

**3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. Development**

**Development Committee**

The Committee has not met since the previous meeting. They will recommend a development strategy for bands, and will examine ways of modifying and streamlining the Registration systems.

**External Liaison**

There appear to be some difficulties in England. The English federation is now known as Brass Band England.

**Questionnaire and Census**

With only 23 Senior Bands having replied, the SBBA Questionnaire and Census has drawn a poor response. Some details are still awaited from the Youth Band census, and RDOs will try to move this forward.

**5. Financial Report**

**2010-2011 Accounts**

These have now been approved by OSCR.

**2011-2012 Accounts**

These have been completed by the Book-keeper for examination by the Treasurer: they will then be sent to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

**2012-2013 Accounts Spreadsheet**

The organising principles of the spreadsheet were explained to the Executive. It was noted that £17,000 sponsorship funding from Besson and Geneva Instruments is anticipated this month, and that Band Supplies has yet to make a payment. Some important events have made a loss: the losses on the Open and Cup/Shield are almost equivalent to the prize

fund, and this could be attractive to a sponsor. However, we must look at other ways to support these events. The spreadsheet layout would allow a precise analysis of the various elements year on year. The Treasurer has indicated that there will be less pressure on her time in 2013. Thanks were expressed to the Book-keeper, Sharon Turnbull, who has done sterling work in getting the accounts into order.

## **Grant Funding**

### **European Festival of Brass:**

- We have submitted a bid (£42,000) to Creative Scotland and been awarded £37,000.
- We have submitted a bid (£40,000) to Event Scotland and expect a response this month.
- Perth and Kinross Council will donate £20,000 towards the Festival and also provide street banners and an exhibition to run in Perth Museum throughout 2014.
- The application for funding of £9000 for the commission of the Test Piece has been successful with £8,100 being awarded (this is 90% funding and SBBA adds the additional 10%). The composer is Rory Boyle who hopes to have the piece, "Muckle Flugga", available at the end of October 2013.
- A new professional quality trombone from Geneva Instruments will be given to the composer of the Section B Test Piece.

### **Other Applications**

- Bid for £100,000 to the Youth Music Initiative for the SBBA Youth Development Programme. There will be a decision at the end of February.
- There is a NYBBS application for £40,000. A decision is expected in March.

### **Other Matters**

- The expected presentation to Andrew Dixon of Creative Scotland was cancelled due to his resignation. SBBA is therefore arranging meetings with personnel at other management levels within Creative Scotland in order to obtain permanent funding through Foundation Status.
- John Hamilton is still actively seeking sponsorship for SBBA.

## **6. National Youth Brass Band of Scotland (NYBBS)**

- The SBBA strategy paper for NYBBS has been agreed by all parties.
- A key element of this is the creation of a NYBBS Board to give it status and gravitas. The composition of the Board was explained to the Executive. As the initial tasks will involve the reorganisation of NYBBS, it was agreed that Tom Allan should be the SBBA Executive representative. It was suggested that Lynsey Paterson should also be involved in some way.
- The Easter course will be 2-4 April at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (who are providing premises free of charge) with Philip Harper as conductor.
- The summer course will be in the first week of August: NYBBS will be at Perth College campus, the Reserve Band and Children's Band will be at Stirling YMCA with rehearsal facilities nearby. The end of course concert will be in Perth Concert Hall on 10 August, and some details have still to be finalised.
- NYBBS will perform at Celtic Connections on 19 January. The first rehearsal has gone well and representatives of Creative Scotland have been invited. Some catering details are still to be finalised and it was agreed that expenses can be paid to the players. The NYBBS banners will be used.
- Andrew Duncan will meet with Gavin Reid of BBCSSO to discuss possible collaborations such as Proms in the Park.
- The President asked for possible alternatives to the name of the "Reserve" band.

## **7. Area Associations**

- The East of Scotland Association is still not operating, and Alan McLaren has agreed to try to get this started.
- The Associations will each get £1000 this year.
- It was agreed to keep the Borders and Northern Counties Associations website pages live at present: it may be possible for access codes to be given to Area reps in order to update their pages.
- Brass @ the Bards will be held on Sunday 24 March.

## **8. Education/Youth**

### **2012 Youth Championships**

- This was very successful, although some Senior Bands appeared to use over age players and bring players in specifically for the contest. It was suggested that we raise the age for the Premier bands in line with the thinking in other areas.
- It was proposed that there is a full weekend for the Youth Championships in 2013, with a view to opening up the Premier and Senior Sections to English and foreign bands. This would be a major step up for the Championships and could be a pilot for a revival of the European Youth Championships. It was agreed that the Events Committee should look at this in depth.

### **Education/Youth Committee**

This is not as vital as was previously, and it was agreed to look at the status of this committee later in 2013.

### **Child Protection**

This is still progressing.

### **Youth Development Report**

As well as the information provided earlier in the meeting, the Development Manager also reported that:

- New bands are being planned in Shotts, Nairn, Stornoway and Bathgate.
- A full programme of SBBA Workshops has been organised for 2013, including an exciting Band Management course.
- He had attended the Albert Hall to hear Carnoustie and District Youth Band give an excellent account of themselves.
- He will attend a meeting in Wales to discuss liaison issues and to give a presentation about SBBA's progress.
- It has been suggested that we approach the Glasgow 2014 Cultural programme Open Fund to commission 6 Commonwealth composers to compose 6 short pieces to be performed by SBBA bands during the European Festival of Brass. It was agreed to submit an application.
- 2 RDOs have resigned due to other work commitments: possible replacements have been suggested.
- It is clear that politicians are being attracted to our events because of our success.

## **9. Publicity and Communication**

### **Website, etc.**

Putting Championship results on the Facebook page attracted over 700 hits, and has been an extremely successful pilot.

### **Publicity**

The Publicity Officer submitted a report indicating a marked increase in media interest. There is a realisation that SBBA press releases are important because of our promotion by the Scottish government. Good links have been made with individual TV and radio

producers and some SBBA officials have been interviewed for radio. STV has done a programme on Perth Junior Band. The SBBA branding has been firmly established. The Scottish arts establishment now accepts that brass bands are part of Scotland's heritage.

## **10. Membership and Registration**

### **Membership and Registration Figures**

1834 members. Heartlands Whitburn is a newly-formed 4<sup>th</sup> section band, and there is a suggestion that a new Inverclyde band will submit papers for entry to the 4th section. Dunaskin Doon appears to be on the point of folding. In the light of these uncertainties, it was agreed to postpone the Championship Pre-draw at the Solo and Ensemble Championships.

### **Exceptions to, and breaches of SBBA Rules**

None reported

## **11. Events**

### **2013 Besson Solo and Ensemble Finals**

There are no entries as yet, and the final details were clarified.

### **2013 Scottish Championships**

Stan Lippeat has been suspended by the Association of Brass Band Adjudicators. It was felt that continuing with his appointment as an adjudicator could reflect badly on SBBA, and it was agreed to seek another adjudicator.

### **2013 AGM**

This has been provisionally booked for 20 October at the Howden Park Centre. Other possible venues will be approached.

### **2014 European Festival of Brass**

A special meeting about this will be scheduled as soon as Carrie Boax is available. We will have a table and representatives at this year's Championships in Oslo. There will be a meeting with European officials at the Scottish Championships. It was noted that this meant that more Executive members should make themselves available for stewarding.

### **2014 Scottish Championships**

It was agreed that this would be added to the Agenda, and that we should be planning and booking at least 2 years ahead.

### **2015 Scottish Championships**

There is nothing booked yet, and up-to-date costs for other venues will be sought.

### **Contest Dates / Events Calendar**

None.

## **12. AOB**

Members were asked to note the passing of Mrs Anna Denholm, wife of Alex Denholm, an Honorary Vice-President of the Association.

Dysart Colliery Band has written to indicate that they are still seeking the return of instruments from their dissolved Junior Band (see minute No 2 of January 2012). It was agreed to respond, pointing out some errors of fact in their letter and that the precise nature of their complaint needs to be clarified.

## **13. Dates and Venues of next meeting**

Sunday 24 February in the Howden Park Centre

**Raymond A Thomson, Minute Secretary**  
**16 January 2013**