

Scottish Brass Band Association
Executive Committee Meeting No 6 – 26th June 2011
Howden Park Centre, Livingston

1. Welcome and Apologies

The President opened the meeting at 10.30am.

Present:

George Burt (President), Peter Fraser (Vice President), Tom Allan (Secretary), Raymond Thomson (Minute secretary), Alan Edmond (Development Officer), Mark Bell, Carrie Boax, Robert Burns, Brian Deans, John Gilmour, Richard Kidd, Damian Martin, Lynsey Paterson, Julie Sanderson, Andrew Smith.

Apologies:

Jennifer Fox, Steven Gray, Robert McCorkell.

2. Minute of Executive Committee Meeting of 22nd May 2011.

This was accepted as an accurate record, proposed by John Gilmour, and seconded by Robert Burns.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Development

Re-formatted Rules

The Minute Secretary was thanked for his work so far. The next version will be distributed for consideration, and will be divided into Rules and Procedures. The final draft will be available at the next meeting, in good time for the AGM.

External Liaison

The next meeting of UK BBA was due to be held on 2 July, with the National Associations and the Regional Committees of England all present. However, Kapital Promotions has unexpectedly withdrawn its support, contrary to all assurances received over the evolution of the venture. The Executive agreed that SBBA should attempt to make further progress, as UKBBA was the best way forward for banding in the UK.

Annual Census

All Youth Bands have made a return. Nine contesting bands have still to make a return, plus most of the non-contesting bands.

SBBA Office

No update.

Banding Year

A parallel paper proposing a sequencing of events during the banding year is currently being prepared. Once that is considered, the dates of the banding year will be discussed. All of the proposals will be presented to the Executive in time for decisions to be made prior to the AGM.

5. Financial Report

Treasurer

A Treasurer is still being sought.

Accounts

The President gave a verbal report on the accounts. The nature of the losses on events indicated that all future events will have to be properly budgeted. A budget for the Scottish Shield was presented, indicating a minor shortfall. This would be acceptable, but we cannot proceed on the present basis. Fuller forensic details will be presented at the next meeting.

Grant Funding

At a meeting with Youth Music Initiative, SBBA was invited to apply for funding until 2012. We will ask for the maximum amount. The application form has fewer questions, but requires more complex answers. It had been suggested that we apply for Foundation Organisation Status: this would mean regular funding without having to apply annually, which is essential for long term development. However, the Chief Executive of Creative Scotland has indicated that this funding is not for us. Having examined the criteria for Foundation Organisations, SBBA disagrees and will pursue this vital funding. The Chief Executive agreed to attend the next NYBBS concert on 6 August, and it is hoped that his point of view will alter.

6. NYBBS

From 1 June, SBBA has assumed responsibility. A meeting will be held shortly to discuss the relationship between NYBBS and SBBA. There still has to be a disbursement of the residual general funding of SAMA.

7. Area Associations

It was reported that a very useful meeting had taken place, the Minutes of which had been distributed.

Funding and Support

The West of Scotland Association was still unclear about its funding situation. A full accounting on the financial situation regarding all Area Associations will be presented at the next Area Associations meeting in August.

8. Education/Youth

Education Committee

The Convenor reported that 49 Information Packs had been sent out regarding the Youth Championships, and these had stimulated a lot of interest.

Disclosure System

The Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Certificate is now for the person rather than the institution, and will, ultimately, simplify the situation.

Youth Development Project

Among the items in a most interesting Report, the Committee was delighted to hear that the formation of a junior band in Kinlochleven is at the point of completion. This success was paralleled in Dalmellington, Fife and Edinburgh. The Development Officer also reported that SBBA is now officially helping the Tredegar Band to set up a new youth project in Wales. The Committee was also pleased to be told of the presentation of Life Membership Medal to John Gilmour, member of the Executive

Committee and Chair of the SBBA Education Committee. It was alarming to note that some Education Authorities have withdrawn from HITS and that many Music Service Managers are in the process of obtaining leaving packages. A letter of thanks from one of the Scottish representative in the European Youth Brass Band was read out.

9. Publicity and Communications

Website

The Creative Scotland logo is now on the website. It was agreed to set up a Facebook page and to remove the Brass Band Week section.

Publicity

SBBA desires more coverage in the non-specialist press, and this will be discussed with the Press Officer.

10. Events

West Lothian Festival

This is running smoothly, and the Technical Rehearsal facility has worked well.

2011 Scottish Open and Scottish Shield

Scottish Open

The band from Belfast has withdrawn. 16 bands are now confirmed, and 3 further bands have expressed an interest: however, only 17 bands will perform. A budget will be created and examined.

Scottish Shield

Plans for the Scottish Shield are proceeding.

2012 Scottish Championships

Nothing to report at present.

2014 European Championships

This is now less than 3 years away. The process of funding applications connected with the 2014 Commonwealth games and Homecoming events begins in July. It has been identified as a designated signature event by the Scottish Government as part of the Homecoming Scotland 2014 programme. We will get in touch with the Culture Secretary for confirmation within the next month.

Contest Dates / Events Calendar

- Perth Concert Hall has been booked for 9-10 March 2013 for the Scottish Championships. .
- The Northern Counties Solos/Ensembles contest and Workshops will be held on 5 and 6 November.
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11. Registration

Nothing to report. 1746 players are active on the Register.

12. AOB

Conciliation

A band is experiencing factional infighting and both sides have engaged lawyers. SBBA has expressed a wish to assist through conciliation. Should any Committee

member be approached with regard to the situation, this should immediately be reported to the Executive.

Life Membership

This will be conferred on Ian Ross of Broxburn and Livingstone Band, and on Michael Cubbon of Langholm Band.

2012 European Championships

We will find out in July whether one of the two eligible bands will decide to participate.

Medals for Area Associations

SBBA can arrange to purchase medals in bulk for participants in competitions.

2012 Brass in the Park

An invitation will be given to Macclesfield Youth Brass Band.

13. Dates and Venues of Future Meetings

14 August, at the Howden Centre, Livingston (to be followed by the Area Associations meeting)

2 October, at the Howden Centre, Livingston

22 October, AGM, at the Howden Centre, Livingston

Raymond A Thomson, Minute Secretary

5 July 2011