



## THE ROYAL SCOTTISH PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION

### Precis Report of the 90th Annual General Meeting

Zoom Video Conference on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021 @ 11:00am **Version: Final 1.1**

The RSPBA Annual General Meeting (AGM) as notified to the Members in pursuant of Article 42 was held on **Saturday 13th March 2021** at 11:00am as an online ZOOM meeting.

This year the online format was chosen to allow the meeting to be interactive.

Attendance was open to the Band Secretary (Member) or their Proxy of a Band where the Membership Fees have been fully paid.

The Zoom session will be opened at 10:30am with attendees being placed in the waiting room. Attendees were asked to join the meeting with their video enabled, but no audio off, and prefix their name with the Band Number and Band Name, e.g. "2345 HQ P's & D's John Hughes". Those representing multiple Bands needed only specify one Band. The Chat function was enabled for all.

### Background

The meeting followed the Agenda below to consider the relevant Detail and Reports contained in the Order Paper circulated to the Members.

1. President's welcome to Representatives
2. Chairman's Remarks
3. Apologies
4. Standing Orders and Appointment of Tellers
5. Minute of previous Annual General Meeting
6. Chief Executive's Report
7. Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet and Financial Statement.
8. Finance Insurance and Maintenance Committee Report
9. Standing Orders and Steering Committee Report
10. Auditors' Report
11. Marketing and Media Committee Report.
12. Music Board
13. Education Officer's Report
14. Adjudicators Panel Management Board Report
15. Proposed Changes to Standing Orders and Rules and Articles of Association
16. Election of Office Bearers
17. Any Other Competent Business.

## Attendance

The conference was attended by the President G Ussher, the Chief Executive Officer (retiring) I Embelton and the members of the Board of Directors:

A McGeoch, A Faulkner, B Niven, I Finlay, J Hughes (Chairman), J Gibb, K Crothers, K Reilly, K Robertson, L Ronaldson, M Brown-Scott, M McCrindle, N Greeves, P Brown (Vice Chairman), P McAndrew, S Smith, W MacGregor.

In attendance to support their standing committee reports were J Wilson convenor of the APMB and P Whelan Education Officer and convenor of the Pipe Band College.

## Progress of the Meeting

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if everyone could check that their band name and number was on their information, and to please put mics on mute.

## President's welcome to Representatives

The association President George Ussher welcomed every Member to the meeting at the end of a difficult year for everyone. He thanked all office holders (Band, Branch and Association) who have prepared for this meeting. He hoped for a good meeting and success to all for the year ahead.

There was then a short period of reflection where Members were asked to be silent and spend a moment to remember those who have passed since our last AGM.

## Chairman's Report for RSPBA AGM 2020/2021

Well, what a year 2020 turned out to be. We were presented with challenges unlike anything we have had before in our 90-year history. As we are all very much aware, these are unprecedented times, and the Board are doing all they can to steer the Association through the challenges.

### OSCR

Early in the year we were contacted by the Office of Scottish Charities Regulator (OSCR) in relation to an issue raised over the handling of the headquarters building refurbishment. Having provided OSCR with all of the information that had been shared with the Membership since the AGM in March 2016, and details contained in various minutes of the Directors meetings, OSCR determined that the charity trustees had demonstrated decisions were made in the best interests of the charity.

They also asked the Board to consider how they could enhance the level of transparency of decisions made, so since March of 2020, the Board has been diligent in documenting each decision taken, and the Precis minutes of these Board meetings have been shared publicly on our RSPBA Website.

This information has been picked up by many in our member bands, but also other interested parties, and the information contained in the minutes has spread even further afield.

### RSPBA 2020 AGM

In March, the Board took the decision to postpone the AGM scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> March 2020, due to the escalating coronavirus situation. The decision to postpone was taken after the Board of Directors considered in detail the advice of both local and national government agencies, in order to minimise the potential health risk to our membership.

The AGM was rescheduled to June and held online. All bands in membership were contacted and asked to cast their votes online. Only critical business was discussed with all proposed amendments to the Rules and Articles postponed until this AGM.

268 Bands received a notice regarding the convening the AGM, with majority confirming receipt of the notice. 97 Bands responded with their proxy submissions. Any questions which accompanied the proxy vote were presented to the meeting but not debated. Each member who submitted a question received a direct response prior to the report of the AGM being published on the website.

### Major Championships 2020

A series of decisions were taken by the Board, in association with the relevant promoters, regarding the 5 major championships. The decision to cancel each of the championships were taken as timeously as possible, as the picture was changing on a daily basis. However, it was felt that the safety of all involved was of primary importance to the Association and its partners, so as the global pandemic continued, it became necessary to cancel all five major championships. This is first time in our history we had cancelled one major championship, never mind all five.

As the year continued, and following a great deal of work from the WSD Sub Group of the Music Board to look at alternative options, it became clear that the World Solo Drumming and International Juvenile Tenor Drumming Championships would also have to join the list of cancelled events. The venue became unavailable to us and the continued restrictions on indoor events made it impossible to find a suitable replacement.

### Major Championships 2021 & Beyond

As we start 2021, the Coronavirus position is not much better, and still presents a number of challenges. In order to be prepared for some of these, we have pulled together a working group under the RSPBA Vice Chairman, Paul Brown, to look at what we might be able to do in 2021 and beyond. This working group is made up from all of the standing committees across the Association, so Adjudicators, Music Board, Directors, and even Promoters. We are also getting some direct input from the Scottish Government through Event Scotland, as they already have input to a number of our major championships.

As you are aware, and in agreement with the relevant promoters, we have taken the decision to cancel the first three Major Championships of 2021.

At this point in time, we are still working with the promoters of the Scottish and Worlds to see what can be achieved, but we are wholly dependent on the Government restrictions being relaxed to such an extent to let us proceed.

We are currently in discussion with Lurgan and Inverness regarding the 2022 and 2023 season, and already have contracts with Dumbarton and Glasgow for 2022 and beyond.

We will however, be looking for a new promoter for the British Championships in 2022 and beyond, and this activity will commence in the next month.

### Association Finances

There is no doubt that this has been a difficult year for many, if not all of us, and it's not over yet. The loss of our five Major Championships, and the restrictions imposed because of Covid-19 has clearly had a major effect on the financial position of the Association.

We have managed to keep going by attracting some funding and by tightly managing our costs, including putting the office staff on Furlough since 1st April. However, we still needed to meet the general overheads and fixed costs, as well as the balance of staff costs which fell outside the furlough scheme.

We have managed to secure the following funding during 2020 and 2021 to support our fixed costs:

- £10k from the Governments Business Support Fund,
- £14.5k from the Corra Foundation Fund
- £7.5k from Glasgow City Heritage Trust

This funding combined with the band subscriptions and contributions from our Championship promoters has delivered the financial position you see reflected today in the order paper.

We have also availed ourself of the Governments Bounce Back Loan Scheme to the sum of £50k which is free for the first year, and have recently been advised that we have been successful in receiving a grant of £27k from Visit Scotland Pivotal Event Business Fund.

### [RSPBA Website](#)

The Board have started the process of considering a refresh of the existing website. A request for an Expression of Interest from anyone who wished to be considered was posted on the website and several enquiries were received. A number of these were progressed to Request for Proposal stage, and a preferred supplier has been selected. However, due to the current situation, we have delayed the start of this refresh until we can secure sufficient funding to deliver it effectively. Our current provider has kindly agreed to continue to support our existing solution.

### [Chief Executive Officer](#)

In August, the Board received notification that the CEO would be retiring at the end of November. However, in light of the current situation, Ian has kindly agreed to remain within the organisation to assist with the transition.

Ian has intimated to the Board that the role of the CEO has changed substantially over the years, and especially since the move to a Company Limited by Guarantee which, due to the Corporate Responsibility that comes with being a Company Director, has necessitated the Board of Directors to take a more active role in the running of the organisation.

So as a Board we need to consider what is required, and just as importantly when it is required. However, until we have some degree of clarity on this current pandemic, the impact of recruiting a senior member of staff needs to be considered in this context.

### [Conclusion](#)

After the best part of 20 years on the Board, nearly half of which as Chairman or Vice Chairman, I have decided it is time for me to take a step back and retire from the Board.

I would like to thank the Headquarters staff for their help and support during my time on the Board, and a special thanks to our Chief Executive, Ian Embelton, who has transformed this organisation in his time here, and will be sadly missed.

Can I also thank all of our Directors, both past and present, as well as our Officials, Stewards, Compilers, Standing Committees, and Adjudicators, who all give of their time willingly, and without whom we could not deliver our events. My special thanks to our Vice Chairman, Paul Brown, whose help and assistance has been invaluable over the last year especially.

I wish the Association all the very best for the future and hope that we will soon see ourselves back to some form of normality that we can all meet again on the grass.

John B Hughes  
Chairman of the Board of Directors  
The RSPBA

## Apologies

The following apologies were noted by the Chairman.

- In preparing the Order Paper David Frith had been omitted from the table of Honorary Life Members on Page 48 of the Order Paper. An updated version of the Order Paper would be produced.
- Stewart Orr RVM, Director for the Lothian, and Borders Branch could not attend due to work commitments.
- Band Number 265 Dornoch would not be attending the meeting.

## Standing Orders and Tellers

The Chairman confirmed that, invitations to attend the AGM had been sent to the Secretaries of 187 Bands. There are 9 Members that could cast the vote for 3 Bands and 10 Members who could vote for 2 Bands. This would be 19 voting Members with 47 votes if they all attend the meeting. The association had received 8 completed Proxy Forms.

Voting during the AGM was taken as notified to the Members in their invitation, **“one band one vote”**.

- Those Members representing a single Band, will be asked to cast their vote using the Zoom Poll functionality. A screen will be displayed requesting you cast your vote “For” or “Against” the motion, those wishing to abstain need do nothing.
- Members in attendance who need to cast multiple votes will be asked to cast their votes by using the Chat function to send a vote message to the designated TELLER. Those wishing to abstain need do nothing. The chat message would be of the form “2 for, 1 against” or “0 for, 2 against”. The Teller will have details of those entitled to cast a multiple vote and the number involved to ensure the votes presented are valid.

The results will be determined by the combined total of the voted “For” or “Against” on the zoom poll and chat.

The co-host (Paul Brown) would initiate the zoom Poll for those Members who could cast a single vote. A Teller (Kathleen Robertson) was set up within the Chat to capture the details of Members who needed to cast multiple votes.

The results of the zoom Poll would be shown to the Members, and Kathleen reported the summary of the Multiple votes cast over audio. The numbers were combined before the final result of the Poll was confirmed.

A test was undertaken to obtain the number of Members in attendance at the meeting and the Number of votes that could be cast.

| Poll | Chat | Total |
|------|------|-------|
| 37   | 23   | 60    |

It was requested that one person should speak at a time when invited by the Chairman. Those wishing to speak should use the zoom ‘Raise Hand’ function or Chat with the Host to indicate they wish to be heard.

The Members present were asked to consider the Standing Orders for the AGM, which were unanimously accepted.

## Report of previous Annual General Meeting

The precis report of the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting was published on the RSPBA Website as a News Item dated 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020. Key details of this meeting were available on page 3 of the Order Paper.

## Chief Executive's Report

The report from the Chief Executive is as presented on page 4 of the Order Paper.

To accept the report from the Chief Executive.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 55  | 1       | 54       | Pass      |

## Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet and Financial Statement.

The Chief Executive as honorary Treasurer presented the Balance Sheet and Financial statement, which is as presented on pages 9 to 13 and 17 to 37 of the Order Paper.

- Donations income is mainly comprised of the Corra Foundation donation of £14,500 and a Glasgow City Council donation of £10,000 (and £455 of other small donations).
- Catering and venue hire costs are made up of costs/expenses relating to the Music Board, Adjudicators management board and Adjudicator's training group, basically expenses from individuals within these groups at the start of 2020 (looks like almost all of these costs were incurred in Jan and Feb 2020, as would be expected) for travel, accommodation and similar expenses that would have been incurred. Costs for outreach project and other PBC education delivery, some carried forward from 2019.
- Premises renovation costs are made up of the £14,100 retention creditor in relation to the building renovation. (This money is withheld from the contractor by RSPBA in case of any minor defects/snagging works with the renovation). The remainder of the premises renovation costs largely comes from a £1,000 invoice from Pottie Wilson and a payment to DWF of £2,349.
- General expenses are largely made up of payments made to Patersons for dancing & DM plaques, and medals (6 invoices from Patersons totalling £3,335)
- Miscellaneous expenses are made up by two payments to the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations for membership fees.
- expenses Metro Cup New York
- we had to pay full staff wages Jan, Feb.

Band 761 Closkelt asked for clarity about money in the bank.

£157,874. We have received a number of grants during the year that have helped in the running of the association £73,173, the Band subs £62,000, Event Scotland £27,000 and we have made use of the Governments Bounce Back Loan Scheme £50,000. The association like all businesses have costs to meet to pay for the lease of equipment, and services such as Telephones, Insurance, IT Infrastructure and Heating as well as staff salaries.

To accept the report from the Treasurer.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 54  | 1       | 53       | Pass      |

## Finance Insurance and Maintenance Committee Report

The Finance, Insurance, and Maintenance Committee report can be found on page 5 of the Order Paper.

To accept the Finance, Insurance, and Maintenance Committee report.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 57  | 0       | 57       | Pass      |

## Standing Orders and Steering Committee Report

The Standing Orders and Steering Committee report can be found on page 7 of the Order Paper.

To accept the Standing Orders and Steering Committee report.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 55  | 0       | 55       | Pass      |

Band 761 Closkelt asked are only votes cast counted should we count abstentions?

The Chairman stated only votes “for” or “against” are considered.

## Auditors’ Report

The Auditors’ Report can be found on pages 14 to 16 of the Order Paper.

To accept the Auditors’ Report.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 50  | 0       | 50       | Pass      |

## Marketing and Media Committee Report.

The Marketing and Media Report can be found on page 8 of the Order Paper.

To accept the Marketing and Media Report.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 55  | 0       | 55       | Pass      |

## Music Board

The Music Board Report can be found on pages 5 and 6 of the Order Paper.

To accept the Music Board Report.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 59  | 0       | 59       | Pass      |

## Education Officer' Report

The Education Officer's Report can be found on page 7 of the Order Paper.

To accept the Education Officer's Report.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 52  | 0       | 52       | Pass      |

## Adjudicators Panel Management Board Report

The Adjudicators Panel Management Board Report can be found on pages 5 and 6 of the Order Paper.

To accept the Adjudicators Panel Management Board Report.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 54  | 0       | 54       | Pass      |

At this point the chairman thanked the Education Officer and the APMB Convenor for attending in support of their committees reports and stated they could leave the meeting if they so wished.

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE STANDING ORDERS AND RULES / ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

The first three motions were Ordinary Resolutions. A resolution is successful where it is passed by a majority of over 50% of the votes cast, by those present taking no account of abstentions.

The following twelve motions were Special Resolutions. A resolution is successful where it is passed by a majority of 75% and over of the votes cast, by those present taking no account of abstentions.

### OR1 - 2021 Pipe Band College, page 38 of the Order Paper.

**Rationale for Change** - The Board of Director representation on the standing committees of the association was overlooked when preparing the 2018 amendment for the structure of the Pipe Band College, this amendment is to rectify this. We have also appointed a Principal of Pipe Band Musicianship.

To accept OR1.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 55  | 0       | 55       | Pass      |

### OR2 - 2021: Arrears of Fees, page 39 of the Order Paper.

**Rationale for Change** – A definition of how a band ceases and regains membership of the RSPBA, this addition is to explain how 3.3 is applied in this situation.

Band 761 Closkelt spoke against this motion as at this time of economic devastation when bands are unable to raise funds and get together.



The SOSC Convenor in reply responded that this was current office practice, and this motion was to document what is currently implemented within the rules. The SOSC are to consider the views expressed by the membership.

To accept OR2.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 26  | 30      | -4       | Fail      |

**OR3-2021: Meeting (GM) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) Standing Orders, page 39 of the Order Paper.**

**Rationale for Change** - These points were originally included in the RSPBA National Council Rules (1.35 to 1.53) and make reference to the management of a General Meeting (GM) and Annual General Meeting (AGM)

To accept OR3.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 55  | 0       | 55       | Pass      |

**SR01 – 2021 Championship List, page 40 of the Order Paper**

**Rationale for Change** - The championship list has not been maintained since the introduction of the UK Championship. To be flexible, the statement needs to be generic and avoid the need to list all the events the organisation operates both now and, in the future, whilst maintaining our registered titles.

Band 761 Closkelt rational makes complete sense. We organise all major pipe band championships in UK run under RSPBA rules, is it right to drop UK?

The SOSC Convenor in reply responded that championships had been held abroad in the past such as Belgium.

To accept SR01.

| For | Against | Majority | 75% | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----|-----------|
| 53  | 3       | 50       | 42  | Pass      |

**SR02 - 2021 Grammar, page 41 of the Order Paper**

**Rationale for Change** - Minor change, grammar is incorrect.

To accept SR02.

| For | Against | Majority | 75%   | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-------|-----------|
| 57  | 0       | 57       | 42.75 | Pass      |

**SR03 – 2021 Competition Allowance, page 41 of the Order Paper**

**Rationale for Change** – To attempt to be open and transparent about the expenses paid to Directors and Volunteers for duties undertaken at minor and major competitions.

Band 761 Closkelt This band cannot support this motion: custom & practice – doesn't make it open and transparent- we should have detailed expenses paid to all directors, not the level of detail given in the articles of association. The CEO responded that all expenses are included in balance sheet.

Band 741 City of Newcastle the wording is weak as it says attempt, could you remove the word attempt?

SOSC Convenor asked what clarity would be required, such as stating what fees are, the Chairman added it would be useful to undertake that discussion at a board meeting.

Band 222 Moybrone wonders if the Charities regulator is aware of the directors payment?

The Chairman replied that the Fee is Championship official payment.

Band 761 Closkelt again in light of member 222 comments at Championships the Directors not acting as Directors/ Trustees doesn't add up. If worker/director all championships are the company business so no directors should get a fee.

The SOSC Convenor replied that the issues raised would be taken back to board / branch

Band 751 Kilbarchan OSCR need to clarify if director on duty or not?

Band 761 Closkelt in reply stated NI officials don't get paid for any of our {Branch} competitions.

The Vice-Chairman stated he believed the list of Fees / Expenses were made public, they are sent to all branches when they are changed. He suggested that this motion was withdrawn, reviewed and brought back next year.

The CEO pointed out that on page 32 of the order paper you can see the fees paid out. OSCR receive a copy of the report.

Band 761 Closkelt the rational of change doesn't match.

The SOSC Convenor withdrew the proposal.

To accept SR03.

| For       | Against | Majority | 75% | Pass/Fail |
|-----------|---------|----------|-----|-----------|
| withdrawn |         |          |     |           |

**SR04 - 2021 Members Voting Rights, page 42 of the Order Paper.**

**Rationale for Change** – To provide clarity that the Member (Secretary of a Band) can assign a proxy as per Article 61, this addition is to provide clarity on the proxy's right to talk on a proposal, as well as proxy voting rights, as long as they are a registered member of the RSPBA and how proposals are presented to the Annual General Meeting by Bands/Branches

Band 761 Closkelt will support this motion and encourage all bands to vote for this amendment.

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Version: Final 1.1

Page 10 of 15

To accept SR04.

| For | Against | Majority | 75%   | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-------|-----------|
| 54  | 0       | 54       | 40.50 | Pass      |

**SR05 - 2021 Change of Branch Director, page 42 of the Order Paper.**

**Rationale for Change** – This would allow a branch to change their director within a three year period.

To accept SR05.

| For | Against | Majority | 75%   | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-------|-----------|
| 52  | 1       | 51       | 39.75 | Pass      |

**SR06 - 2021 Election of members of the Board, page 43 of the Order Paper.**

**Rationale for Change** – This change is to ensure that all the members of the Board of Directors including the Chairman and Vice-Chairman not just the Branch Representative are governed equally, also to alter the number of registered bands a branch requires to nominate a member(s) to the Board of Directors.

To accept SR06.

| For | Against | Majority | 75%   | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-------|-----------|
| 57  | 0       | 57       | 42.75 | Pass      |

**SR07 - 2021 Remove Ladies Committee, page 44 of the Order Paper.**

**Rationale for Change** – This committee has not been in place for a number of years, however it is mandated in the articles of Association, the Board has the power to set up committees as per Article 105.

Band 761 Closkelt agree and would be voting to support this motion. Any committee established in the future should be all inclusive and be gender neutral.

To accept SR07.

| For | Against | Majority | 75% | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----|-----------|
| 56  | 0       | 56       | 42  | Pass      |

**SR08 - 2021 Dissolving Committees, on page 45 of the Order Paper.**

**Rationale for Change** – This would give the Board of Directors the ability to dissolve a committee if it is no longer relevant to the organisation.

To accept SR08.

| For | Against | Majority | 75%   | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-------|-----------|
| 57  | 0       | 57       | 42.75 | Pass      |

**SR09 - 2021 Committee Powers, on page 45 of the Order Paper.**

**Rationale for Change** – The key objectives of a standing committee is set out in the Standing Orders and Rules, where sub-committees are established for a particular purpose and have their own Terms of Reference / Process document that is approved by the Board.

To accept SR09.

| For | Against | Majority | 75%   | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-------|-----------|
| 57  | 0       | 57       | 42.75 | Pass      |

**SR10 - 2021 Resolutions, page 46 of the Order Paper.**

**Rationale for Change** – This is to provide some examples of how resolutions may be applied in each category.

To accept SR10.

| For | Against | Majority | 75%   | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-------|-----------|
| 55  | 0       | 55       | 41.25 | Pass      |

**SR11 - 2021 Representation, page 46 of the Order Paper**

**Rationale for change** – The insertion of headings would allow the relevant sections to be broken into more easily readable sections.

To accept SR11.

| For | Against | Majority | 75%   | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-------|-----------|
| 55  | 0       | 55       | 41.25 | Pass      |

**SR12 - 2021 Quorum Size**

**Rationale for change** – The quorum for a GM and a Board of Directors meeting seems very low when compared to the previous National Council Rules. Previously 1.79 One third of the National Council shall form a quorum. For reference the current Executive Committee is made up of - the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Conveners of the Finance, Marketing and Media, and Standing Orders and Steering Committees and two other Directors (7 in Total)

Band 222 Moybrone the question of BoD quorum being only 4 directors minimum

Band 761 Closkelt felt the wording was unclear. Using an example of 17 directors at the moment 50% would be 9 directors, as the numbers go down the minimum that could progress business would be 4, then after this the company would need to consider wind-up.

To accept SR12.

| For | Against | Majority | 75%   | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-------|-----------|
| 53  | 0       | 53       | 39.75 | Pass      |

The Chairman recorded a note of thanks to the SOSC members for their hard work. The SOSC Convenor will submit changes to Companies house (then OSCR) for approval, the updated documents will not be made available online until approval has been received.

Band 222 Moybrone said that this had not been an easy task since the request was made by the NI branch, it has taken time to do a difficult piece of work, well done the SOSC Convenor (Paul McAndrew) and his team.

### Nomination for Chairman

Kevin Reilly has been nominated as Chairman having been proposed by the Glasgow West of Scotland and North of England Branches, as detailed on page 48 of the Order Paper.

To elect Kevin Reilly as Chairman.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 54  | 0       | 54       | Pass      |

### Hand Over of Office

The new chairman took over control the meeting. Kevin thanked John on his retirement from post for his hard work, finishing with “it won’t be long till your back.”

### DIRECTORS FOR ELECTION

The Chairman put each director up for election for consideration by the Members.

To elect as director P McAndrew Dundee Perth & Angus.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 51  | 0       | 51       | Pass      |

Band 11 Kirkcudbright asked for some clarification. GWS have 27 bands paid out of 56 bands, surely, they shouldn’t have 3 directors.

The Vice Chairman thought it could be that the director was nominated based on those who paid last years fees. If bands don’t pay this year in Nov, they may not be able to elect/ nominate a director.

Band 761 Closkelt congrats chair in regard to Vice-Chairman fees to be paid for next year, Closkelt paid their fees 2019 for 2020 and were not invited to last years’ AGM, Band 11 Kirkcudbright is quite right to raise this issue suggest we look at bands.

The SOSC Convenor will look at the application of the articles involved.

To elect as director S Smith Glasgow & West of Scotland.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 43  | 2       | 41       | Pass      |

To elect as director W MacGregor London & South of England.

| For | Against | Majority | Pass/Fail |
|-----|---------|----------|-----------|
| 54  | 0       | 54       | Pass      |

## DIRECTORS AS APPOINTED 2019/20

| 2019          |                            | 2020         |                            |
|---------------|----------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| J Gibb        | North of Scotland          | K Reilly     | North of England           |
| I Finlay      | Dundee Perth & Angus       | R Niven      | North of Scotland          |
| M McCrindle   | Ayr, Dumfries & Galloway   | K Robertson  | North of Scotland          |
| L Ronaldson   | Northern Ireland           | N Greeves    | Glasgow & West of Scotland |
| A McGeoch     | Glasgow & West of Scotland | A Faulkner   | Northern Ireland           |
| M Brown-Scott | Lothian & Borders          | W K Crothers | Northern Ireland           |
|               |                            | S Orr RVM    | Lothian & Borders          |
|               |                            | P Brown      | Vice-Chairman              |

## 2021 AGM AOCB

Band 165 Altnaveigh Memorial. The band would encourage the use of technology to improve /enhance piping going forward. Their own band was having workshops with young members. Players are not getting the exposure with no competitions. Some bands are going under, it should be noted that Covid 19 recovery funds have supported the use of technology and would implore the MB and BoD to look at these alternatives if contests continue to be cancelled.

Band 893 McDonald Memorial. When will we issue an announcement on the running of the Scottish/ Worlds? The Chairman reported that there is a meeting with the Promoters next week.

Band 761 Closkelt raised a point of order regarding how the alteration to Worlds Drum Major 's format was brought about; they were made aware in the 2019 worlds programme that here would be a semi final and final. It was requested that this be keep in line with rules?

Band 899 Coalburn I.O.R. We did not get refund last year when the AGM was cancelled. Would the continued use of Zoom be better and more productive, and result in BoD cost savings? The Chairman in reply reported that video conferencing technology is being used and will continue to be used going forwards by all committees.

Band 899 Coalburn I.O.R. There are two majors that might still run, in consideration of foreign bands not being able to attend, it would be wrong to call the event the Worlds, consider moving another championship to the August date?

Band 761 Closkelt the member {899} is right. We have taken through the NI Branch some steps to look at playing requirements, suggestion to be taken to the MB. There were no meetings in the period Nov- Jan. We are sitting discussing this in March, with no confirmation of any RSPBA run contests do we have a plan B?

Band 165 Altnaveigh Memorial Technology can help to keep expenses down, however the AGM is the parliament of the association, it would be a terrible loss to remove the experience of face-to-face meetings.

## Meeting Close

The chairman thanked all for attending and the meeting ended at 13:21pm

Paul Brown  
Vice-Chairman