

SOUTH WEST BRASS BAND ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBER BANDS HELD ON SUNDAY 26 MARCH 2017 AT THE OKEHAMPTON CONSERVATIVE CLUB OKEHAMPTON COMMENCING AT 1030 HOURS.

1/17 PRESENT: Raymond Kingdon (Chairman), John Woods (Vice-Chairman), Brian Elliott (Secretary/Registrar), Keith Gibbs (Treasurer), John Croker (Minutes Secretary), Frances Calver (Trophy Officer), Executive Committee – Alan Gears, Gilbert Taylor, Robin Teague.

Bands represented: Appledore, Bideford Town, Bodmin, Holsworthy, Honiton, Okehampton Excelsior, Soundhouse Plymouth, South Molton Town, Tiverton Town.

2/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Sue Richards (President), Gillian Rogers (Committee member) Bands: Exeter Railway, Sidmouth Town, Weston Brass.

3/17 MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING held on Sunday 3rd April 2016 were approved and signed as a correct record.

4/17 MATTERS ARISING. None

5/17 TREASURER'S REPORT.

- (a) Current bank account £10,275.19 pence
- (b) Savings account. £8006.02 pence
- (c) Membership. 47 bands out of 62 have paid their subs. 15 still not paid reminders sent
- (d) 2 applications for membership. North Somerset Community Brass
Devon County Youth Brass. To be discussed at next Exec Committee meeting.

6/17 CONTESTS

- a) **Weston-Super-Mare.** John Woods reported that last year the contest was postponed and this year as well, because the Winter Gardens are being developed by Weston College Law Academy. The ballroom is being retained and refurbished with a lot more facilities. This should all be completed by September. There will be a review in July to see what facilities are available. We expect to use the old ballroom completely revamped. A contest date has been set for 14th May 2018 . He pointed out it would be great to get more support from South West. Photos are available of the ongoing work.
- b) **Exmouth Festival Saturday 2nd September 2017.** Secretary reported that the Pavilion and gardens are booked. Two adjudicators this year. David Hirst for music and Darren Hawken MD of St Dennis for entertainment. Following a question from Bideford delegate, the points will be combined but there will be a separate award for best entertainment.
- c) **71st Annual Championships Saturday 4th November 2017.** The Riviera Centre is booked although the licence agreement has not been received yet. The Adjudicators will be Graham Jones Ex Military and Steve Pritchard-Jones.
- d) **Annual Championships. Discussion from the floor.** Question about points being awarded . The Association is guided by NATIONAL Rules and points were abandoned 5/6 years ago. The Tiverton delegate asked if we would consider Own Choice for all sections suggesting that more bands would enter if they chose their own music. This was proposed by Tiverton and seconded by Bideford. Bodmin counter proposed that music should be chosen which did not involve too much percussion particularly for 4th section. Tiverton then set an amended proposition for 4th section only to be Own choice. Following an indecisive vote Robin Teague (Committee member) proposed that we have across the board own choice for this year only to see how it went. John Woods suggested this was a good year to try as Weston contest was not taking place. Following a vote of 7 for and 2 against it was decided to go

ahead with own choice for all sections. Brian Elliott pointed out that Youth and Training bands would be open adjudication. Last year the two European Adjudicators thought this was first class. Open adjudication for all sections? No.

7/17 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

(1) Review of Brass Workshop, Saturday 11th and 12th February 2017

- a) **Registration.** 88 were registered with two percussionists . Thanks to Emily and Clive.
- b) **Music.** That ordered is on the way.
- c) **Tutors.** They did enjoy it. It was the first one of that type that David Childs had done and he thoroughly enjoyed it.
- d) **David Childs.** The Bodmin delegate was disappointed by the way he jumped on one of the players which caused that player to leave early and lose his confidence. After all that player had contributed towards the tutor's salary for that weekend. Although a general apology was forthcoming none was made to the player concerned. John Woods suggested that in future years we should brief tutors on what was expected.
- e) **Music too challenging?** Different views. There to learn.

(2) To approve the date and venue for the Mid-Winter Brass Workshop 2018

This will be on 10th -11th February 2018 at West Buckland School. The fee will be very similar. We have been going there 9 years and the fee has only gone up £150. We are trying to get a trio of tutors from Cory band for next year.

- (3) Suggestions for other workshops.** A percussion workshop as it was cancelled last year because Adrian Evans was not well. Conductor's workshop also mentioned.

8/17 COUNCIL OF WEST OF ENGLAND BRASS BAND ASSOCIATIONS.

John Woods Chairman of the Council reported that a meeting was held the previous day. Grading tables would be going out shortly. Tiverton Delegate said that he was concerned about lift facilities. One of their players did not arrive on stage . Is there another way she can join them on stage? John Woods reported that a number of requests were made on the day and there is a designated lift operator. He apologised for the error and was not aware of the issue on the day. In future names for the lifts should be given at the draw. He will take this forward.

9/17 ASSOCIATION'S FUTURE. To be discussed at AGM

10/17 ANY OTHER BUSINESS None

11/17 NEXT MEETING. To be held in conjunction with the 2018 Annual General Meeting.