

EAST KILBRIDE PIPE BAND COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 18th February 2025 at 1930hrs

ATTENDEES

- Fraser Dallas, Band President (FD)
- Craig Herbert, Pipe Major (CH)
- Robert McDonald, Pipe Sergeant (RM)
- Bill Fraser, Leading Drummer (BF)
- Neil Cameron, Treasurer (NC)
- Lyn Jones, Minute Taker (LJ)
- Thomas Cumberland Quartermaster (TC)
- Richard Kerr, Secretary (RK)
- Jenna Brown, Fundraising (JB)

Apologies

- Ian Milne, Chairperson (IM)

INTRODUCTIONS

Band President welcomed everyone to the meeting held on Tuesday 18th February in person at 1930hrs.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

Minutes from the last Committee Meeting were agreed by attendees

ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Action 01-1709 (Open) – Learning Strategy to be put on the website. CH to liaise with Marie MacLeod.

Update 2611 Meeting - Will be added to the website this week.

Update 1802 Meeting - closed

Action 13-0804 (Open) – One grant was submitted to Arnold Clark. Update on further grants to be provided at next meeting.

Update 1709 Meeting - LK sent FD some information on grants. Some of them require a business plan, we need to come back to this as there is work to be done when submitting grants and the Committee also need to decide what they want to bid for.

Update 2611 Meeting - still open.

Update 1802 Meeting – still open

Action 14-0804 (Open) – Not yet completed. RK will produce a questionnaire for the whole band to complete. The results will be discussed at the next meeting.

Update 1709 Meeting - Still open and hoping to be ready for the AGM to hand out to everyone in hard copy.

Update 2611 Meeting - handed out but hasn't been analysed yet. Update to be provided by RK at the next meeting.

Update 1802 Meeting – Poor update on the survey which in itself speaks volumes. Only 4 responses received. Closed.

Action 03-2307: CH to follow up and provide an update at a later date. This relates to the chanter practice at local schools.

Update 1709 Meeting – Still open. Work in progress.

Update 2611 Meeting - Still open. Work in progress.

Update 1802 Meeting - Still open. Work in progress.

Action 04-2307: Complete inventory of uniform and kit needs to be presented at the next Committee meeting. RM has offered to assist BH with this.

Update 1709 Meeting – Although an inventory of surplus stock has been produced there needs to be an inventory captured of what every band member holds. This can be passed to the next Quartermaster who will be appointed at the AGM in September.

Update 2611 Meeting – to be passed to the new QM. TC is aware of this.

Update 1802 Meeting – has been passed to the new QM but still outstanding.

Action 06-2307: Mini band charges to be discussed by all at the next Committee meeting.

Update 1709 Meeting – Still open and CH is looking to put up the price next year and is working on this via the agent.

Update 2611 Meeting - Still open.

Update 1802 Meeting – Prices were increased for Oran Mor gig. Closed.

Action 09-2307: FD to share roles and responsibilities of the Committee which will be adopted for the next meeting.

Update 1709 Meeting – Still open. FD discussed the roles and responsibilities and will circulate the document to everyone.

Update 2611 Meeting – FD to circulate document prior to next meeting.

Update 1802 Meeting – FD to upload onto Members Facebook page and all members are to look at their roles and responsibilities and update as appropriate. Changes can be suggested via the post on Facebook and can then be incorporated for the next meeting.

Action 02-1709 Currently not all tutors are being paid so decision was made to pay the piping tutor £20 per night. This will be noted at the AGM.

Update 2611 Meeting – Discussion surrounding making a payment to the piping tutor. Agreement reached to purchase a Quaich to be engraved with “With Thanks from East Kilbride Pipe Band” and a bottle of whisky. LJ to organise.

Update 1802 Meeting – Quaich was presented. Closed.

Action 06-1709 BH to provide LJ with a list of spare drums so that they can look to sell them via social media.

Update 2611 Meeting – Nothing yet received. Still open.

Update 1802 Meeting – Still open, action passed to TC to provide inventory to LJ.

Action 07-1709 BH to dispose of the hose that he has in stock and no longer needs to account for them.

Update 2611 Meeting – In progress.

Update 1802 Meeting – Action passed to TC. Still open.

Action 08-1709 Discussion around the cost of kit that is held by band members. FD to circulate a checklist of kit and bring to the AGM so that band members are aware of what they are holding.

Update 2611 Meeting – In progress. FD to send checklist to new QM.

Update 1802 Meeting – Closed.

Action 09-1709 Discussion around kit that is being held in storage as the costs associated with this are £91 per quarter. The band need to understand what can be sold and what needs to be kept. FD to work with BH, BF and CH.

Update 2611 Meeting – Not yet resolved. Still open.

Update 1802 Meeting – Still open.

Action 01-2611 FD to provide links to view accounts. They will be read only.

Update 1802 Meeting – Closed.

Discussion surrounding band fees and the band account which runs from 01 Sep – 31 Aug. Fees are therefore due on 01 September and will be due as follows:

- Oct
- Jan
- Apr
- Jul

Action 02-2611 Constitution will need to be updated with regards to fees. CH to action prior to the next meeting.

Update 1802 Meeting – Need to be raised with the Band. Still open.

Action 03-2611: NC to raise this at a band and as of January we will look for a quarterly payment schedule as per above.

Update 1802 Meeting – Closed.

Action 04-2611 – Where band members are late or don't pay fees, NC will raise with the band member directly and escalate to the PM or LD as appropriate.

Update 1802 Meeting – Closed.

Action 05-2611 – FD has produced a Budget and will provide to the Committee at the next meeting.

Update 1802 Meeting – Closed.

Action 06 – 2611 – Payment has still not been received for Remembrance Day. NC to advise CH by 11 December if this is still outstanding.

Update 1802 Meeting – Closed.

Action 07-2611 Items need to be moved to the Guide Hall and once that has been completed, TC will complete an inventory. Update required at the next meeting.

Update 1802 Meeting – Still open.

Action 08-2611 TC to inventory what kit is held by band members including sizes of clothing. Updated required at the next meeting.

Update 1802 Meeting – Still open.

Action 09-2611 The Fundraising Committee or at least one representative are requested to attend the next Committee Meeting.

Update 1802 Meeting – Closed.

Action 10-2611 CH to get a rough ballpark figure for buses.

Update 1802 Meeting – CH provided figures. Closed.

Action 11-2611 RSBPA membership needs to be updated and it may be that IM has to go to the Association direct and get people removed.

Update 1802 Meeting – still open.

Action 12-2611 CH to organise a cheque for £400 to present to the Legion as a goodwill gesture. Look to present this in January and ensure that there is some publicity surrounding this for the EKPB website and social media pages.

Update 1802 Meeting – Due to a leadership change at the Legion this has not yet been done. Still open.

Action 13-2611 - LJ to produce a Safeguarding policy by the next meeting.

Update 1802 Meeting – Still open. LJ to produce before the next meeting.

STATUS OF ACCOUNTS

Band accounts are healthy with a balance of £8204.51 as at 18th February and there has been a push for fees to be paid as per previously agreed schedule.

PIPE MAJOR & LEADING DRUMMER REPORT

Website is now being run by Graham Morton.

PM Report

I'll start with a run through of housekeeping membership numbers and I will collate with Fraser, Ian and Richard later. We have taken on a few beginners in both corps in the last few weeks. Sadly

though since the last meeting we have lost one piper and 2 tenor drummers. Marie, Denise and Sharon have all stepped back from the band due to personal health reasons. I publicly thank them for their efforts and wish them well for the future. None of the above have indicated they left to join another band and I hope once their health issues ease they may return in the future.

Neil and John have now taken on a tutor role for the Monday nights which I thank them for. This gives us 4 piping tutors teaching 9 beginners, which really helps spread the load with tuition. We have split the beginners up with each tutor now teaching beginners who are at the same learning stage. This really helps with teaching and galvanises the students to get the most out of the Monday nights. We need to now do the same with the side drum tuition asking Corp members to step up when required to help spread the load from Bill.

Band wise we have had a busy few months since our last committee meeting. Both corps worked hard learning the corporate sets and those who managed along to Crossbaskets on Hogmanay done well. The competition work on chanters is underway but still needs more attention to detail from a piping perspective. The Corp tend to revert back to old habits at times either not listening to each other or playing phrases without care which tells me they aren't yet comfortable with how I require the set to be played. At times it can take 20 minutes (sometimes longer) of driving the standards needed to hammer home each week what I'm looking for. I'm now at the stage each member should be hitting the required standard each and every time they play the set, first time, every time.

I hope we can play as many competitions as we can this summer once the standards are met. Right now both Bill and myself feel 2nd half of the season is a more realistic target to get back out from early July onwards. However this could be sooner which will really depends on players in both corps being ready to take that leap. Let's discuss this matter further in AOCB!

LD Report

Major Concerns

- Attendance at practice
- Not being up to date with music
- Lack of experienced drummers
- Only 2 snares and 1 bass
- No functional tenor section

The above points make progression as a functional drum corps difficult and frustrating.

Learner Program

Learners at various stages of their development. This can be very difficult to manage by one person especially when a 1:1 session is required to spot and fix any bad habits forming.

Need to recruit experienced players.

Action 01-1802 BF to cost up having a side drum tutor although it would need to be the right person. Report back with costs at the next meeting.

INVENTORY REVIEW

TC now has the folder of equipment from BH. This is currently being digitised and once complete himself and RK will do a stock take and have a centralized stock area.

To keep everything unique, TC is looking to getting semi-permanent stickers to add to equipment.

Timescales are still to be determined but potentially meeting on 15 March to do a stock check which will include equipment that is held in storage and equipment that is with players. Recommended that TC does this in person and doesn't rely on people telling him what he has.

Action 02-1802 Update on the stock check to be provided at the next meeting.

Action 03-1802 TC to confirm that past members have fully returned all of their kit. This needs to be checked for Marie, Iagan and Ruairidh MacLeod and Denise Reid.

Reminder that kit should not be issued until the person is considered a playing member of the band.

FUNDRAISING/ENGAGEMENTS

Engagements

- 8 February - Mini Band Corporate Gig at Oran Mor
- 29 March – L&B Indoors at Livingston
- 8 May – VE Day at RBL
- 11 May – Gourrock
- 24 May – Dollar Academy
- 1 June – Girvan
- 14 June – Lesmahagow
- 21 June – Ayr
- 12 July – Ingliston (UK Championships)
- 19 July – Renfrew
- 26 July – Dumbarton (Scottish Championships)
- 2 August – Dundonald
- 10 August – Perth (European)
- 16 August – Glasgow Green (Worlds)
- 23 August – Rothesay
- 30 August – Cowal
- 9 November – Remembrance Parade
- 30 November – Busking (Morrisons)
- 31 December - Crossbaskets

Discussion centred around when the Band would be looking to compete in the 2025 Season and the proposal is to start from July onwards at Renfrew.

CH would be looking to hire buses for Dumbarton, Perth and possibly Rothesay.

Action 04-1802 Members need to be given notice of what the band are working towards. (Lesmahagow in June for the Gala Day and then Renfrew in July)

Action 05-1802 Bus prices are £550 for Dumbarton and £750 for Perth. CH to understand the T&Cs for hire as it might be that they need to be booked and any deposit required would be lost if they were not used due to non-competing.

Fundraising

Action 06-1802 Quiz Night booked on 25th April at 1900hrs at the Royal British Legion but it is not in the Function Suite. It will be £8 per adult and £5 per child aged 10 and above. Maximum of 80

tickets can be sold. Maximum of 6 in a Team. Food will be offered and will be organized by the fundraising committee. There will be a raffle as well. This needs to be promoted now.

Discussion around hosting a ceilidh but if the band wants to sell alcohol someone needs to have a license. Looking at a date in November but don't have a firm date in mind at the moment. More information around holding a license needs to be gathered.

Action 07-1802 More information around holding a license needs to be gathered. JB to provide information for the next meeting.

AOCB

Action 08-1802 Discussion centred around the Drum Corps and could we use an existing member to provide tuition. CH and BF to speak to Iona about doing this.

Discussion held around locking in a recruitment window for people joining the Band.

Action 09-1802 Discussion around an Honorary Membership of the Band. Agreed that £60 would be the fee for this.

Action 10-1802 Grace period for the band is currently one month. Agreed that this needs to be changed and potential members will be charged after the second lesson.

Action 11-1802 Fees are still outstanding for some band members. NC will chase the non-payers and then inform either the Pipe Major and/or Leading Drummer.

Action 12-1802 Kim Allan has expressed interest in being a Drum Major. What support can she be given from the Band? BF has a contact who may be able to help.

Discussion around busking involving more members who aren't yet ready to compete but could help out at busking. Dates include 22 or 29 March and 31 May.

Action 13-1802 CH to firm up dates and communicate to the band.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 1st May 1930hrs, 41 Napier Crescent, Strathaven, ML10 6XU