



## Brass Band League Meeting Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020 Laganvale Bandroom, Stranmillis

### Chairperson

Allan Davison

### Attendees

David Leonard (Dungannon), Jeanette Morton (Dungannon), David Johnston (Laganvale), Stephen Kennedy (Comber), Allan Davison (Third Carrickfergus), Paul Kirk (Downshire), Catherine Dodsworth (Wellington), Tim Glover (Third Carrickfergus), Bill Clements (VP/1<sup>st</sup> Larne), Graham Garrett (Laganvale), Amber MacLennan (CWA)

### Apologies

Alan Hunter (VP/1<sup>st</sup> Old Boys), Jonathan Sharpe (1<sup>st</sup> Old Boys), Nigel Brodison (Ballyduff), Chris McGookin (CWA)

Allan Davison welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by those who were present.

### Correspondence

Mostly contest related. Rose Grant from the Heart of the Glens Festival in Cushendall had been in contact looking for a band – email sent to bands. NIBA advised currently having problems with registration – Rodney McCabe to be contacted to make sure it won't affect contests.

### Treasurer's Report

Stephen Kennedy reported that the balance bank account balance was £5646.90 – money had been going in most days for affiliations, solos and ensembles and Brass in Concert. 1 affiliation due – band to be contacted. 19 affiliation fees paid so far.

### Solos & Ensembles

Owen Farr's flights paid by BBL as Besson not replying to emails. Malone Church have advised that BBL unable to use the room upstairs for warm-up and case storage – facilities available in the Choir and Minister's room attached to the church. Executive to work out logistics and bands to be advised of change. Draw and approximate timings for the day emailed to bands. Piano tuner organised for 14<sup>th</sup> Feb. Charles Fyffe accompanying all juniors in the 15 and under class and

below – advised he's happy to accompany those in the 17 and under if they can provide him with the music beforehand.

### Brass in Concert 2020

Friday night bands confirmed as Enniskillen Royal Grammar School, Churchill Silver Band, St Mary's Silver Band, Temp Silver Band, Ballyreagh Silver Band and Murley Silver Band. Event to start at half 7 the same as the previous year.

Arrangements for Gary Davies' all sorted.

The BBL pleased to see the return of St Mark's Silver Band to the contest.

Warm up rooms booked and Murley agreed to leave stands in band room. Stands for college to be organised. Bands to advise about who they're using as compere.

### Spring Festival 2020

Paul and Amber went to meet Bob Quick at the Strule Theatre 25<sup>th</sup> Jan. Hall looks great – it seats 400 people and gallery on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor available for cases. Good cafe and bar available. Registration to be in the corner of the lower foyer with bands entering stage right and waiting in dressing rooms before going on stage and exiting stage left. Warm-up room available at tech across the footbridge – Bob Quick to provide a map and some people to usher people between the buildings. Car park available for bands across from the tech. Tickets – same as done in Strabane previously. BBL to sort out Owen's accommodation on the Saturday night. Theatre needs to be cleared by half 6. Bob looking in to where the adjudicator's box can go. Bob also running an event on the Friday night with Owen, Churchill Silver and Omagh Academy. Entries to be sent to bands Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April and draw to be performed at the next meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

### AccessNI

Island Centre have advised that we need to have an Education Authority licence to perform there – according to the information available this also involves chaperones for all participants under the age of 16. Contacted AccessNI and Volunteer Now for information. Research being done behind the scenes to find out more.

### **Festival of Brass**

Island Centre have also advised that all electrical equipment to be PAT tested – to be organised closer to the time. Flute Band Association running an event there in February so going to see whether they need a licence from the Education Authority. Bill Clements advised that the rehearsal room used by the flutes may not be suitable and there may be issues moving the bands around – Executive to investigate.

### **Any Other Business**

Allan Davison and Amber MacLennan had a meeting with Stephen Cairns and Colin Wasson who organise the international tattoo in the SSE arena. They are struggling as the whole tattoo seems to be centred around one part of the community. Due to this they are looking to make it the Four Points Festival and run it over a two-week period. A package is being put together at the moment for all the events and they were wondering if we would be interested in running an event with them. It could be run in the Spires centre as an entertainments contest. Original date of the last Saturday in August was proposed but a lot of bands would have players involved in Black Saturday. Next date would be 5<sup>th</sup> September during the matinee performance of the tattoo prior to the evening show. Colin advised they could swap tickets for people if they had already bought them for the matinee. He also advised they would provide a music adjudicator – possibly the band master of one of the bands. Affiliated bands to be asked their opinion and then another meeting with Colin to be arranged.

Colin and Stephen also advised of a possible massed band event along with their featured singers to take place Sat 20<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – this would have to be agreed to by the end of April. This would be paid for by the Tattoo with BBL acting as facilitators. BBL to talk more with Colin.

Tim Glover advised that the Spring Festival clashes with two of Third Carrick's principle players going to Palanga to take part in the European Youth Brass Band (EYBB) and could anything be done to facilitate extra guest players. Allan Davison advised that the contest is run under the NIBA rules that the BBL unfortunately can't change. The band would have to submit a proposal to the secretary of the NIBA 28 days before the AGM so the proposal could be sent around all the bands prior to voting at the AGM. The BBL would then comply with the NIBA ruling.

There being no further business, Allan Davison brought the meeting to a close.

Next council meeting to take place on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 3pm in Laganvale Bandroom

### **Upcoming Contest Dates**

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February  
BBL Solos & Ensembles Competition

Friday/Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
Brass in Concert

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2020  
BBL Spring Festival

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2020  
Festival of Brass

### **Other Events**

Laganvale & Guests in Concert  
Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm  
St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Belfast