

The Boys' Brigade

East Antrim Battalion

Minute of the Executive Meeting

2nd February 2010 in 1st Raloo Church Halls

1. **Welcome & Opening Devotions.** The President, Mr. Drew Buchanan, M.B.E, occupied the chair, welcomed everyone and conducted our opening devotions.
  
2. **Attendance & Apologies.** Present were D. Buchanan, S. Lindsay, J. Brown, K. Hogg, A. McDowell, D. Hoy, G. Armstrong and F. Picton. Apologies were received from Rev. C. McClure and M.McAdoo.
  
3. **Minute of previous meeting.** The Minute of the previous meeting had been circulated with the notice of the meeting and the President asked if all was in order. The Minute was confirmed and signed.
  
4. **Section Matters.** ( A ) Anchor Section – Colouring competition P1.2 won by Adrian Donald 2<sup>nd</sup> Carrick and P3/4 won by 1<sup>st</sup> Ballylinney . There had been a poor turnout at the Carol Service and 1<sup>st</sup> Greenisland had won the NID Fun & Games Final. ( B ) Junior Section. 1<sup>st</sup> Larne were 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Quiz Kids NID Final. Good Unihoc competition with increased numbers. In Young Musician of the Year Joe Parkes 6<sup>th</sup> Carrick won the competition with Matthew Edgar of 8<sup>th</sup> Carrick coming 2<sup>nd</sup>. There had been a problem in the 5-a-side football competition where a company turned up which had not submitted an entry. Other companies had been refused permission to take part as they had not submitted an entry by the closing date for entries. The Executive are happy to support the decision of the J.S. Council. ( C ) Company Section There had been good entries for the competitions played recently. There was only one entry for the C.E. Exam. Secretary to remind all companies.
  
5. **Company Visitations** Stephen Lindsay and Gillian Armstrong had visited 4<sup>th</sup> Carrick and found that they were going well despite the lack of Officers (8AB and 10 between JS and CS). The President had visited 1<sup>st</sup> Carrick who were meeting in the Baptist Church halls all sections seemed to be working happily. Several visitations were planned for March.
  
6. **Training Issues.** (a) **Battalion** S. Lindsay reported the second Skills course was running at 1<sup>st</sup> Whitehead. He really needs some young officers to help staff this course and could

this be mentioned at the next combined councils course. **(b)** NID – Challenge Plus does not seem to be taken up across Northern Ireland; Skills for Queen’s Badge Training Committee have set out new guidelines for this course; An overnight element has now been included in the President’s Badge regulations ( this may be a Company activity/a weekend away)

7. **Finances** The Treasurer reported that 4 companies had not paid dues on time. They had been contacted and 1 is still outstanding. The Sanford Room at Rathmore needs some redecoration and it was proposed by Gillian Armstrong and seconded by Stephen Lindsay that £500 be sent to allow this to be done.
  
8. **Discussion on “The way ahead for our Battalion”** We reviewed the actions points from the NID meeting. Secretary and President to meet after Easter to look at NID plan and to bring suggestions to the next Executive which would formulate our plan for the next couple of years. With regard to the Battalion Church Parade it was suggested that the Secretary write to all Company Chaplains inviting them to attend the Parade.
  
9. **Any other business.** ( a ) 1<sup>st</sup> Carrick would be happy to host the Officers’ Dedication Service in their new church – proposed date Sept 26<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm.  
( b ) Joint Councils at Ballyclare would have a speaker from Christian Aid who would speak on the disaster which had hit Haiti.  
( c ) E-Zine from NID could have a bigger circulation among the Battalion if the officers who signed up for our Battalion e-zine would agree to receive the NID one. President to contact e-zine members.  
( d ) President is preparing a recruitment leaflet suggesting we seek to get 125 new recruits.
  
9. **Benediction.** There being no further business the President conclude the meeting by inviting all to stand and say The Grace together.

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**date** \_\_\_\_\_