

Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus

Minutes of 83rd Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 19th November 2019 at 8.30pm

King Edward VII School

107 members present

1. Apologies for Absence

Rachel Mallaband; Bill Smyllie; Kate Arrowsmith; Bill Best; David Mortimer.

2. Minutes of the AGM of 2018 were accepted as an accurate and true record of the 2018 AGM and signed by the chair. Proposed Georgina Hulse, seconded Steve Terry. Unanimous vote.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

None.

4. Update on the change from an Unincorporated Charity, (UC) to Charitable Incorporated Organisation, (CIO.)

Graham Dawson (Finance Officer) reported that the move to the CIO is almost there. HMRC disarray and money laundering processes have caused delays but the gift aid calculation, and therefore the move, is now almost complete. Graham was thanked for his work on this issue.

5. Trustee Annual Report 2019

Graham mentioned the new accounting package he has sourced and is now using. It has several advantages over the old one including that it will calculate gift aid. He reported that accounts remain healthy and recommended that the subscription rate should remain the same at £134 with concessions also as before. There was a unanimous vote in favour of this recommendation.

Anne Adams (administrator) reported that the chorus has been successful in meeting its objectives. Ticket sales were lower than the previous season but the programme was probably less appealing. We need to work harder at selling tickets.

The Making Music organisation has given an excellent report of our website. It particularly liked the members' area with its links to current music and to Choraline. Anne suggested that we all make more use of the website.

A vote was taken to agree adoption of the 2019 Annual Report. Proposed Magdalene Lake, seconded Peter Miles. The vote was unanimously in favour.

7. Election of Officers and Members' Representatives to the committee

Having been proposed and seconded in accordance with procedure, the following Officers and Members' Representatives were elected unopposed.

Nominee	Position	Proposed	Seconded
Anne Adams	Administrator	Christopher Lockett	Rosemary Anderson
Graham Dawson	Finance Officer	Alan Anderson	Allan Lacey
Paul Duffield	Transport Officer	Sue Pennington	Dick Williams
Russell Eagling	Marketing & Publicity Officer	Anne Adams	Louise Dawson
Marianne Grayson	Membership Officer	Richard Salt	Ben Stone
Paul Henstridge	Chair	Lynn Vincent	Ranjan Sen
Georgina Hulse	Education and Outreach Officer	Nerissa Kisdon	Felicity Goodliffe
Helen Kirk	Social Events Officer	Diane Dalby	Roger Stead
James Oliver	Rehearsals and Events Officer	Jeff Green	John Spence
Sue Pennington	Minutes Secretary	Sally Turnbull	Paul Duffield
Sally Turnbull	New Members Officer	Pat Hall	Steve Terry

Els Pearse was thanked for her work as Librarian for over 12 years. There was warm applause as her work in this important role was recognised. The role is currently vacant. Els suggested that the work could be shared.

Paul Bedwell was thanked for his work as Marketing and Publicity officer. Russell Eagling who is taking over from Paul was also thanked.

Richard Salt has resigned from his position as Making Music rep and Jim Monarch has agreed to take it on. Both were thanked.

Members' Representatives

Members' Reps may serve no more than 3 consecutive years. The following were elected:.

Nominee	Position	Proposed	Seconded
Anne Burleigh (1 st yr of 3)	Member Rep	Ann Garbett	Jo Payne
Allan Lacey (1 st yr of 3)	Member Rep	John Harvey	Richard Pike
Ben Stone (2 nd yr of 3)	Member Rep	Marianne Grayson	Katie Owen

There is 1 vacancy.

7. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Richard Pike was thanked for his work and he agreed to continue. He was duly appointed as Independent Examiner with agreement from members.

8. Chairman's Remarks

Paul Henstridge (chairman) thanked the chorus for staging good performances. Some of the concerts this season have included challenging music. He also thanked the committee.. Paul paid particular tribute to Anne Adams and presented her with flowers amid cheering from the members.

9. President's Remarks

Rachel Copley (president) thanked the committee for their significant work behind the scenes in enabling concerts in a variety of venues and musical styles. She mentioned that music can influence, unite, and inspire and bring joy to singers and listeners alike.

Rachel paid fulsome tribute and thanks to John Spence for his 12 years of service as Membership Officer. She picked out his contribution to IT systems, his work in staging concerts and the use of his distinctive speaking voice.

On behalf of the chorus, and accompanied by cheering, Rachel presented John with a gift of a Waterford Crystal decanter and glasses.

In his reply John mentioned there had only been 2 other Membership Officers in addition to himself since he joined the chorus in 1982. He said it had always been a pleasure to do the job and gave best wishes to Marianne his successor.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.