

# Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus      Minutes of Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018

## Present

Paul Henstridge; Anne Adams; Graham Dawson; Sally Turnbull; Els Pearse; Rachel Mallaband; Sue Pennington.

Matthew Morgan attended for item 10.3.

## 1. Apologies

John Spence; Helen Kirk; Georgina Hulse; Paul Duffield; Janet Hoyle; Paul Bedwell.

## 2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 12th September 2018 were agreed to be accurate and signed by the chair.

## 3. Outstanding Matters Arising not on the agenda

### Meeting of 24/09/15

3.4 Els to sell scores gifted by Tony Pickles' wife on ebay. On going.

### Meeting of 11/01/2017

6.3.1 John to collect next of kin details from chorus members. Partly done.

### Meeting of 26/10/2017

5.1 Paul B has started to investigate selling remaining Christmas CDs. He was asked to find new outlets eg Cathedral shop, Millennium Gallery on the evening we sing there. CNC bookshop.

These actions have now been taken over by Rachel Mallaband. (see 6.3)

7.1 Graham is continuing the process of transferring assets to the CIO and closing down the SPC charity.

12.1 Paul B will take over responsibility for the SPC area of the Classical Sheffield website.

13.1.2 All trustees are continuing to seek volunteers to take over as Membership Officer.

### Meeting of 06/02/2018

5.2 Paul B has arranged for the new logo to be used on all print materials. Other materials ongoing.

7.3.2 Graham will submit changes in the constitution to the Charities Commission after the AGM.

12.1 Paul B will progress a publicity strategy in and around the city advertising Georgina's music reading sessions.

### Meeting of 10/05/2018

4.1 Paul H has written to members of the Friends scheme to ask them what they want from the scheme.

4.2 Paul H will consider seeking "ambassadors" eg Dan Jarvis.

5.2.1 Paul B will replace stationery items in the drop box to include the new logo.

5.2.2 Anne has acquired a prototype name badge featuring the new logo.

6 Paul B will plan a publicity campaign for Georgina's music reading workshops.

8 Paul B has revised the chorus biography and developed a version for concerts outside Sheffield. He will circulate the 2 alternatives.

#### 4. Replacement of Membership Officer

James Oliver has agreed to take on the new role of Concert Manager starting with the After Hours concert on 30<sup>th</sup> November.

Matthew Morgan offered to distribute the weekly update to members.

Darius has offered to keep the attendance records up to date.

Significant other duties mainly associated with the members' database include:-

- organising re-auditions,
- subscription paid/unpaid lists,
- creation of membership cards,
- seating plans.

There has still been no offers to take over this part of John's job. Paul Henstridge offered to take it on in the short term until a more permanent solution is found. He will fulfil these Membership Officer's duties in addition to his Chairman role in the first instance but this is seen as an emergency fix only.

There was agreement for Darius' suggestion that the MAR system be more relaxed. Currently when people know they cannot make a particular concert there is a dis-incentive to attend any rehearsals and an important learning opportunity is lost. The default position should be that members attend every rehearsal. Paul H will ask Darius to speak to the chorus about this new ethos. Paul H will also speak to voice reps about the new system which will require them to be more proactive in encouraging attendance.

#### 5. AGM

The agenda for the AGM was formally approved. The Annual Report was also approved. This report was written in a format which assured approval by the Charity Commission as well as being informative to members.

Decided there is not time to organise a proper presentation at the AGM to long standing members so this will be done when arrangements are in place.

Donald Watts, Hilary Olson and Christopher Wren have each completed 50 years of membership and will receive bound scores of their favourite works. Els, Paul H and Sally will ascertain the choices.

#### 6. Marketing and Publicity

6.1 Publicity for this season's concerts.

No progress reported.

Anne offered to take on the most urgent tasks.

6.2 Publicity for the music reading workshop. No progress reported.

6.3 Sale of CDs. No progress reported.

Rachel will work on this.

#### 7. Governance

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7.1 Graham reported that the transfer to the CIO is progressing. It will be completed when the gift aid is finalised.

7.2 Privacy Policy for General Data Protection Regulations deferred to next meeting.

7.3 Finances remain healthy. Details in the Annual Report.

8. Review of Recent Concerts and Events - No business required.

9. 2018-2019 Forthcoming Performances / Recordings

9.1 After Hours Concert 09/11/18

Lack of publicity is a serious problem. (see 6.1) All other matters are well in hand. The rehearsal will be 5.00pm to 5.45pm.

Paul B will check the cost for a one-sheet hand out giving information about the music.

There will be a flyer. Paul B to organise.

SPC will cover additional staffing costs.

Rachel will put it on Facebook.

It was noted that there will be additional costs owing to the need for 2 split rehearsals. £120 per rehearsal.

Paul H will collect the rostrum and music stand from KES.

9.2 Christmas Concerts 15/12/18 - No further information.

9.3 Christmas Electives

Planning is on-going for each of these events.

Millennium Gallery 05/12/18 (Georgina)

St Luke's 09/12/18 (Rachel Copley) Repertoire to be as planned for last year when it was postponed.

Railway Station 19/12/18 (Paul H)

Tickhill 20/12/18 (Rachel Copley) Daniel Gordon to play.

Decided to send any profit to Alzheimers UK

Rachel will speak to Chris Wren re possible publicity outlets.

Graham has drawn up a budget for this concert.

Kelham Island (Donald Watts) - Not doing it this year as Donald is unavailable.

9.4 Visit to Bochum 08/02/19

19 members intend to go. Graham has the arrangements in hand. He was thanked.

9.5 Classical Sheffield Festival Weekend 10/03/19

Our concert is now to be in the CH Ballroom. Time tba on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Singing for approx 50 minutes. Women composers including a Lili Boulanger piece. Piano accompaniment with Rachel Fright.

A group of women from SPC will sing at the Classical Sheffield launch on 15th November.

9.6 Bach B Minor Mass 06/04/19

Paul H will ask Darius for a date for the all-day Saturday rehearsal as members have been asking about this.

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Paul H will recommend at a future rehearsal that members consider using the choral line note learning CDs.

Very important this concert is sung especially well.

### 9.7 Holy Face 09/06/19

Paul Bedwell will investigate the possibility of linking cheap Holy Face tickets to the purchase of Christmas concert tickets on a buy one get one cheaper deal. (Maybe a voucher in the Christmas concert programme.)

Anne suggested encouraging young brass players to come perhaps by offering a short meeting with band members before the concert.

The concert will also include the Wilby Organ / Brass concerto. Nicholas Childs to conduct. Since the meeting it has been confirmed that Darius will play the organ.

Decided to use SIV ticketing. Anne to arrange.

## 10. Future Planned or Possible Performances / Recordings

### 10.1 Visit to Bochum Autumn 2019

The date for this has now changed to the weekend of 30<sup>th</sup> Nov / 1<sup>st</sup> December. No news on the music. Since the meeting Darius has confirmed he is unable to go on these dates.

10.2 We have been asked to sing on a recording of Rutter's Gloria by / with Black Dyke to be recorded in autumn 2019.

### 10.3 Christmas Concerts 2019 - No further information

### 10.4 Messiah (self-funded)

Date is 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020 at 3pm. City Hall and Black Dyke are booked. Agree we also book the CH ballroom for a party after the concert. Likely to use 2 of the soloist from the Perigneaux concert.

The French Choirs will also sing 2 solo concerts including one at Buxton which Matthew will help to organise. Bochum chorus also to be invited. Graham will ask if they also wish to sing in other concerts. Decided we should ask the chorus well ahead of the visit to think about offering to host visiting choir members.

### 10.5 Verdi Requiem 02/05/20

Not yet confirmed. It will be in the City Hall and include another choir.

### 10.6 Mahler 8<sup>th</sup> 20/06/20

Wrexham Symphony Orchestra in the Bridgewater Hall Manchester. The orchestra funding arrangements include provision of choral scores.

## 11. Officers' Issues/ Reports

11.1 Decided to celebrate long-standing membership after each 10 year period starting from 50 years.

11.2 Issues raised by officers. - None

11.3 Issues raised by members via reps. - Altos reported intrusive humming from other parts when they are listening to their individual part. Paul H will ask Darius to request they desist.

## 12. Correspondence - None

## 13. AOB

At a future meeting we need to consider the provision of alternative / additional storage for music as Howard's garage is full.

Date of Next Meeting - TBA