

Scottish Chamber Choir
Minute of the Annual General Meeting

26 September 2022 at the Dean

1. Present:

Members of the Committee, Musical Director, and 24 choir members

2. Apologies: Jeremy Nicoll, Alison Fraser, Neil Dawson, Roy Ledsham, George Burgess, Mary Godden, Graham Drew.

3. Minute of the last Annual General Meeting

The minute of the Annual General Meeting of 27th September 2021 were unanimously approved as an accurate account.

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairs' report

Julie Morrice presented the report of the joint Chairs, which had been previously circulated. She paid particular tribute to the work of the Musical Director during a very challenging season (because of the Covid pandemic); and thanked the members of the Committee for their work, highlighting the contribution of those members who were standing down this year, and also those who, although not on the Committee, continue their invaluable work editing programmes, maintaining the website, and maintaining the choir's social media presence.

Under this item a report on publicity from Stéphanie Robin (Publicity Officer) was noted. The importance and quality of her work over the past season was commended by all members.

5. Presentation of Accounts (2021-22) and Treasurer's report.

A summary statement of the accounts of the Scottish Chamber Choir for the period 01/07/2021-30/06/2022, and a report from the Treasurer, had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Despite losses on concert revenue, the Choir had achieved a surplus of over £5,000. This was primarily due to a delayed Gift Aid payment being

received during the year. The Treasurer was not therefore recommending any change to subscription rates, despite significant increases in costs (for example for rehearsal space) expected in the current year.

One member asked for clarification of the cost of rehearsal venues quoted in the accounts. Another member asked if there could be a more detailed breakdown of the costs and income of each concert in future statements.

It was agreed that this statement of accounts be formally adopted, and the Treasurer's report noted.

6. Report from the Musical Director

Iain McClarty introduced his report which had been circulated in advance. He reviewed the three concerts in the 2021/22 season, commenting on the high standard achieved (particularly in the performances of Parry's *Songs of Farewell*) and the significant improvements in listening and intonation achieved in the Easter concert. He also reflected on the impact of the pandemic, but had been heartened by the positive response of Choir members to the difficulties and disappointments. He had been excited by the Choir's discussion of future repertoire, in the workshop so well led by Milda Zinkus, and looked forward to a more diverse range of composers and musical styles in future programmes.

7. Election of Office bearers for Season 2022/3

Julie Morrice and Brian Kerr will continue as co-Chairs

Marjorie Lobban will be Treasurer

Valerie Holehouse will continue as Librarian

Catherine Hadshar will be Rehearsal Secretary

Alison Fraser will be Membership Secretary

John Halliday will be Concert Secretary

Alastair Wilson will be Committee Secretary

Stephanie Robin will continue as Publicity Officer.

All members expressed their appreciation of the work done by the Committee during the past year (particularly those who are stepping down) and to those who have volunteered to join the Committee.

8. Any other competent business

- Procedure for the loan and return of loaned music

Valerie Holehouse explained a change to the procedure whereby members would, in future, be asked to sign for receipt and return of music lent to them by the Choir.

- A suggestion from the Committee that provision of some refreshment (for a small charge) at the rehearsal break was warmly received. (This service had been suspended during the Covid restrictions. Two volunteers (at least) would be required. Amy Wilson volunteered to be one of those. A proposal that such a service be reintroduced was supported in a vote by 19 of those present.

BK 27/09/2022