



Choir Committee Meeting

Minutes

Monday 2nd October 2023

Present - John Mallinson (chairman), Steve Flynn (secretary)
Steve Davies (Treasurer), Derek Holman, Chris Dempster, Steve Petrie, Paul Morgan

1. Formalities –

Apologies for Absence

Approval of Previous Minutes

Approved - Paul

Seconded - Chris

Chairman

2. Correspondence and Matters arising

Secretary

- **Mrs Sunderland Music Festival 2024**

Following our meeting with **Ann Talboys, the Festival Administrator**, in July the Festival Committee have incorporated a new category for Local Choirs. The winners will appear at the Gala Concert on the final Saturday of the Festival, the 24th of February. This was a suggestion made to Ann and approved by the Mrs S Committee. The Local Choirs Class will be earlier the same day. Dorian is happy to MD.

Closing date for entry is mid-day on Saturday November 4th.

A proposal to enter this class will be put to the Choir at a rehearsal after the Town Hall concert.

- **Don Valley Festival Syllabus published**

Sunday March 24th

The day after B&R concert at the Town Hall – see below.

The Choir will not be entering this Festival in 2024.

- **Choir Piano**

Richard has measured the Roland FP30X.

We think, with a little cannibalising/replacement of the foam interior, it will fit into our existing case. The Committee decided to purchase the piano – a donation to Choir funds via EasyFundRaising makes the transaction even sweeter. Delivery Thursday 5th.

- **Ribble Valley Music Festival**

Completely out of the blue, the Choir have received an invitation to appear at this Festival. The Festival runs from March 2024 to Christmas 2024(!) at many venues in the Ribble Valley – that's Clitheroe, Guisburn, Trough of Bowland, etc. We will suggest a concert format like Bridlington and a date in June to October, excluding August.



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Minutes (cont)

3. Concerts

Derek

- **Town Hall**

As usual, we need a final push on our tickets sales.

The Rehearsal Schedule has been circulated – and will be circulated again before Saturday. Critical time is **3:30pm at the Town Hall** ready to sing.

The Town Hall concert has become more problematic every year and has continued to be so in 2023. Refurbishment of the interior/exterior of the building is limiting our changing facilities and causing late changes to room assignments. We will NOT have the same changing rooms as in previous years and access to some of the facilities will not be until 5:00pm. Be prepared for changes on the day!

- **Birkenshaw Festival, Friday 20th October**

A successful site visit by John and Derek on Monday. The venue is excellent, and we already have a potential audience of 100. Max is 150.

- **Christmas Concerts**

Arrangements at all three venues are in hand. Our guests at New Mill are **Opus 3**.

- **Brighouse & Rastrick Band spring concert.**

Update from meeting held with all stakeholders on Wednesday 27th September.

Concert Date – Saturday 23rd March, 2024

Rehearsal – Sunday March 10th, 2024 – New Mill Church

Theme – ‘A Celebration of Great British Music’

Bands – Brighouse and Rastrick, Hepworth

Choirs – Gledholt, Colne Valley, New Mill

Concert format for Choirs

Two Joint Items in each half – British composers

Four items chosen ...

Gwahoddiad, Morte Criste, Great is thy Faithfulness
(Dan Forest), Benedictus (Carl Jenkins)

Mass Band/Choirs Joint Items

I Vow to thee My Country
Jerusalem

Conductor – Ian McElligott (B&R)

Note – Dorian and Emma will NOT be required at the concert.



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Minutes (cont)

- **Elizabeth Brown's Wedding.**

Adam's daughter Elizabeth is following her sisters' excellent good taste by inviting the Choir to sing at her wedding next year.
Saturday 13th July 2024.

4. Choir Development

A sub-committee has been formed to bring together the many ideas that have circulated in the Choir, particularly since the Peterborough conference earlier this year.

Paul, Alan Hicks, Steve Petrie and David Thorpe are pooling their talents, expertise and experience to prepare a strategy for the Choir's future. This will take a few months to complete and will involve other members on an ad-hoc basis. Please give them all the support they deserve if you are asked for feedback.

Paul Morgan

5. Finance

Steve presented the preliminary Profit/Loss accounts for 2022/23. The Choir's financial position is healthy. We will review the future of the Town Hall concert after Saturday.

Steve Davies

6. Membership

In the last few weeks several members have expressed concern about the absence of Dan (Griffiths). We are happy to confirm that he is OK and we hope to see him at rehearsal in the near future.

Chris Dempster

7. Website and Choir Communications

Nothing to report.

8. Social Events

Nothing to report.

John Clay

9. AOB

Chairman

10. Date and time of next meeting

November 6th, 7:00pm

Chairman