



# New Mill MVC

## 2023 AGM Minutes

New Mill Club  
Tuesday March 7<sup>th</sup> 2023  
7:00 pm

### 1. Formalities –

#### Apologies for Absence

Dave Walker  
John Clay  
Alan Greaves  
Dave Thorpe  
Trevor Davison  
Chris Dean  
Ian Day  
Doug Shuttleworth

#### Approval of AGM 2022 Minutes

Approved – Emidio Zamberlan  
Seconded – John Middleton

### 2. Chairman's Report

The Chairman thanked the Committee for their work during the last year. Particular thanks due to the Secretary for the years work and commitment to the Choir.

The Choir is indebted to Robert and Ray for their work as Choir Librarians. Our Back Catalogue of Music in the Library, upstairs at the Club, is a credit to their organisational skills.

Barry Meeres has continued his role as 'Transport Manager'. Everything the Choir needs when we are performing a concert is collected and delivered to the venue in a timely fashion. Thanks Barry.

The Music Sub Committee – Section Leaders plus Dorian – completed the mammoth music selection process last summer. More than 60 songs were assessed and reduced to a final four for the Scarborough Workshop.

Our Music Team are a great asset to the Choir. Emma accompanies to a consistent high standard and Dorian is an ever-present! He has missed only one rehearsal, for COVID, since taking up his role with us!

We have had an enjoyable trip to London and have a trip to the Yorkshire coast planned for this year. Bridlington will not disappoint!

The Don Valley Festival is nearly upon us where we will meet up with old friends from Bolsterstone, our only rivals this year!

The Peterborough Conference raised many questions and things to think about for our Choir. We will evaluate how we adopt some of the ideas raised. There is much to consider!

Chairman



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### 2023 AGM Minutes (continued)

This summer sees us launch 'Ten for the Town Hall', a recruiting project with a difference. Let's make it a success.

#### 3. Secretary's Report

Secretary

The role of Secretary is busy, there's something new every day, but there is always something that is amusing and stimulating. There is a huge pool of talent in the Choir and pub afterglows are always enjoyable. The Pickled Pheasant on Friday will be a great night, snow permitting.

The committee will welcome Steve Petrie to it's ranks this year. Steve is already contributing to the workload and will be a sound addition to the team.

The Secretary delivered a sober 'worst case' scenario of what may happen over the next two or three years. We could easily be reduced to 40 or fewer active members. At that number the Choir is not viable financially and we would struggle to keep our professional music team. That would be a tragedy.

That is why 'Ten for the Town Hall' is so important so let's all get behind it. It can be a great success and we can all have a lot of fun making it work.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report and presentation of Accounts

Treasurer

We have had a shortfall in our net concert income the last two years due principally to Covid 19 and our flagship, but loss making, HTH concerts. We need to promote or take part in more fee paying/profit making concerts going forward to bridge the gap between our annual operating costs and membership income. The Choir made a net surplus last year but this was solely due to legacy costs arising from the London weekend having been paid and accounted for in earlier years.

We have a declining and ageing membership, but we are holding our own at the present and the recent new members have been a welcome (and relatively youthful!) addition. Our intention is to break even or generate a modest surplus year on year and maintain our reserves to cover eighteen to twenty-four months of known operating costs estimated at £20-25K. We should acknowledge the services of our Independent Examiner Alastair Smith who generously provides his services gratis and in lieu of this the Choir makes a modest annual donation to a nominated charity of his choice.

#### 5. Musical Director's Report

Musical  
Director

Well, it's been another busy year. The highlights for me (and I think for the choir in terms of performance) were the trip to London (to sing at Southwark Cathedral), the Town Hall concert with Sir Willard White, and the



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### 2023 AGM Minutes (continued)

New Mill Christmas concert, with our guests the Holmfirth Café Orchestra. We had a productive and fun weekend in Scarborough, with the new pieces well received by choir members, along with plenty of 'after-glow', and pints of sea air!

There have been some tough times as well, with members' personal health issues and the sad, and sudden loss of John Horne. But as ever, the choir rallies round to offer help and support to all those who need it.

In the year ahead, we have plenty of performances to look forward to, including the Don Valley Festival later this month, Bridlington Priory in September, and the Town Hall in October, sharing the stage with Hepworth Band and Denby Dale Ladies' Choir.

I would like to thank Emma for her excellent expertise and support, John, Steve, and the committee for all the work they do, all year round, to keep the choir thriving, and to the members, who make Tuesday evenings such fun!

#### 6. Election of Officers

The Chairman gave a vote of thanks to Stephen Broadbent for his five years of service to the committee.

Nominations to the committee for 2023-24 have been proposed and seconded by Choir Members.

Name	Role	Proposer	Seconder
John Mallinson	Chairman	T Dean	Chris Dean
Steve Flynn	Secretary	Andy Johnston	Chris Dean
Steve Davies	Treasurer	Jack Bex	Ray Thompson
Derek Holman	Concert Secretary	Richard Green	Geoff Gill
John Clay	Social	Selwyn Hill	Bob McCartney
Paul Morgan	Wardrobe	Tom Ashworth	Tom Ashworth
Fred Sims		Charlie Turner	Philip Hardcastle
Chris Dempster		Dave Millward	Robin Wray
Steve Petrie		Derek Holman	Steve Flynn

The above were voted onto the committee en-bloc.

#### 7. AOB

- The post of a Promotion Secretary was proposed.
- The perennial issue of the 'Green Jackets' was raised.
- Has the committee considered running the Town Hall concert in the afternoon? Yes, it has, but there is no clear evidence that this would

Chairman



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(continued)

result in improved ticket sales.

### 8. Meeting Closed – 7:33pm

Chairman