

Walsall Symphony Orchestra (Charitable Incorporated Organisation Reg. No. 1173311)

Trustees' Report – from the AGM held online via Zoom on Monday 30th November 2020

Introduction

The meeting was chaired by Chris Edwards and Zoom arrangements handled by Ian Sumner.

This report covers the period to date from the previous AGM which was held on 2nd December 2019.

The orchestra's accounting year is from 1st September to 31st August.

Trustees and Committee

At present, the orchestra has five Trustees: Ian Sumner, Sheila Bailey, Caroline Moore, Ros Jacom and Chris Edwards.

The committee comprises these five Trustees plus Clive Allsopp as Music Director and committee members Jane Taylor and Joy Askew.

During the year there were three meetings:

- Committee meeting on 29th January
- EGM on 10th February
- Committee meeting via Zoom on 2nd November

Concerts

Four concerts were planned for 2020 but, of course, were all cancelled.

The spring concert was due to be held at St Barnabas' Church, Erdington on 21st March. This was at an advanced stage of organising with promotion of the concert in the local area well-underway.

Our summer concert was due to be held at Aston Parish Church as part of their 800th anniversary celebrations. Plans were at an advanced stage with repertoire determined and music sources identified.

Dates were also agreed with St John's Church, Walsall Wood for a concert this October, and with All Saints Church Streetly for a December Christmas concert.

Once normality has returned, we would intend to be in touch with these venues with the hope of resurrecting these concerts.

Orchestra numbers

Up to 31st August we had 32 paid-up members. This compares to a membership of 35 last year.

This is an appropriate moment to remember two previous orchestra members who very sadly passed away during the year.

Katie Franklin played principal second violin until she left the orchestra due to house relocation in 2018. Tragically, at such a young age Katie passed away in May of this year.

Some of you will also remember Joanne Richards who played first violin and on one occasion deputised as orchestra leader in a concert when Carol was unavailable. Joanne passed away in October.

Other activities

Nothing to report.

Changes to Trustees and Committee members

Ian Sumner has kindly volunteered to become Chairperson, which is great news given that we have been without someone in this role for several years.

It is also very good news that Rosemary Cripps has volunteered to re-join the committee as a Trustee and to take up the job of Secretary.

Finance

Total funds at the end of our financial year amounted to £9028.71 over the orchestra's three accounts. This is up from £8288.85 at the beginning of the year, so we are showing a profit of £739.86 although we have to remember that this was only based on two terms.

The breakdown of income and expenditure relates to room hire, conductor fee, insurance, music/printing and concert expenses for two concerts and a charitable donation to Katie Watkins' memorial fund.

Our income was made up of subscriptions, gift aid, venue contributions from concerts and bank interest.

We made a profit of £129 on the Townswomen's Guild concert and £90 on the St. Mary and the Angels concert. Both of these were based on the venues paying a fixed fee for performing with them taking ticket and refreshment money. This seems to be a more certain method of not making a loss.

As in previous years, Andrew Birkbeck conducted an independent financial review free of charge, so our thanks for his continued support.

Resolution: to amend the Governing Document of WSO to permit an extension to a trustee's term of office

This Resolution has arisen as a consequence of Ian Sumner becoming Chairperson at the point when he is required to stand down as a Trustee, having completed the three-year term. The orchestra's Governing Document requires Chairperson, Secretary or Treasurer to also be a Trustee.

The Resolution allows for an amendment to the Governing Document, permitting a Trustee's three year term to be extended until their term of office as Chairperson, Secretary or trustee is completed.

The Resolution was proposed by Ros Jacom and seconded by Jane Taylor and the vote unanimously carried.

Election of Trustees and Officers

1. Election of Trustees

In accordance with the Governing Document, Ian Sumner, Caroline Moore and Ros Jacom offered themselves for re-election.

Rosemary Cripps offered herself for election as a Trustee.

The election was proposed by Caroline More and seconded by Joy Askew and the vote unanimously carried.

2. Election of Officers

(i) In accordance with the Governing Document Caroline Moore offered herself for re-election as Treasurer.

The re-election was proposed by Jo Knight and seconded by Jane Taylor and the vote unanimously carried.

(ii) Ian Sumner offered himself for election as Chairperson.

The election was proposed by Norma Mills and seconded by Ros Jacom and the vote unanimously carried.

(iii) Rosemary Cripps offered herself for election as Secretary.

The election was proposed by Jo Knight and seconded by Joy Askew and the vote unanimously carried.

8. Any other business

Chris referred to the communication that Sheila had received from Queen Mary's Grammar School stating that the school wished to empty their cellar where music was stored that had originally been bequeathed by Chad Jackson (founder / conductor of what is now WSO). This music was the property of QMGS but never used by the school. Several years ago WSO made visits to catalogue and extract music that the orchestra might use, retaining this music on a loan basis.

There was some discussion and Chris agreed to write to QMGS.

Sheila took the opportunity to mention that she would be leaving the orchestra in due course and the position of librarian would then become vacant.

The orchestra registered their gratitude and thanks to Sheila for all that she had done for the orchestra over many years.

The formal meeting was then closed

Chris Edwards
Secretary
9.12.20

1st September 2019 - 31st August 2020

Account Summary

MoneyMarket	Balance 31.08.19	5571.26	Interest	45.68	Balance 31.08.20	5616.94
Deposit Account	Balance 31.08.19	1415.08	Interest	2.22	Balance 31.08.20	1417.30
			Statement nos. 345-356 inc.			
Current Account	Balance 31.08.19	1302.51				
	Income	3427.63				
	Expenditure	2735.67				
	Balance 31.08.20	1994.47				
Total funds at 31.08.20		9028.71	5616.94	1417.30	1994.47	

Expenditure breakdown	2019/20	500 2 terms only	1395	Conductor	Music hire/purchase	Insurance/PRS/societies	Concert expenses (deps, soloists)	Concert expenses (printing, venues)	Other (Charity Katie)	50.00	2685.67
Income breakdown	Subscriptions (30 paid up)	2070.00	0.00	Tickets/refreshments/raffles	Coffee money	Gift Aid	Venue contribution	635	3377.63	691.96	Profit/loss

Accounts reviewed by Andrew Birkbeck

24/10/2020