

Minutes of MRCO Annual General Meeting 14th October, 2021. 8pm.

Meeting conducted via Zoom

Attendees: Interim-Officers: Mike Rudge, Thure Etzold, Melinda Rigby

Members:

Gina Holland, Beck Laxton, Mike Cole, Anna Chaudhri, Metta Lukesch, Peter Cross, Lorna Whittle, Teresa Barnes, Filipa Fonseca, Mike Rudge, Janet Walker, Robin Fairey, Michael Copley, Edmund Potter, Beate Pauschmann, Liz Huelin, Gary Stephenson, Carol London, Mercedesz Milner, Matthew Butler

Apologies: Tim London, Rachel Drysdale, Fiona Harrison, Sue Cross, Vic Morris, Frank Jacot

Teresa made an opening statement about her resignation.

Mike Rudge thanked Teresa for everything that she has done in developing the orchestra. Anna C seconded this.

Agenda

1. [Confirmation of quorum and explanation of who the officers are currently](#) (Mike Rudge)
2. [Apologies for absence](#)
3. [Agree minutes from last meeting](#)
4. [Outstanding actions and matters arising from last meeting](#)
5. [Presentation of financial report and questions](#) (Thure)
6. [Approval of the accounts](#)
7. [Presentation of the new constitution](#) (Beck)
8. [Members vote on the proposed new constitution](#)
9. [Election of officers](#)
[Chair](#)
[Treasurer](#)
[Secretary](#)
10. [Subscription rates for 2021](#) (Treasurer)
11. [Discussion of working groups, ensembles, groups and sections: how MRCO has adapted to Covid](#) (Melinda)
12. [Any other business](#)
13. [Close meeting](#)

Supporting documents can be found by following this [link](#) on our website.

1. It was confirmed that a quorum was present and explanation given of who the officers are currently.

2. Apologies for absence

Tim London, Rachel Drysdale, Fiona Harrison, Sue Cross, Vic Morris, Frank Jacot

3. Agree minutes from last meeting

The minutes were accepted by majority vote.

4. Outstanding actions and matters arising from last meeting

None

5. Presentation of financial report and questions

Opening balance £2431.55

Closing balance £1908.61

Cost mainly rent for St Pauls (£2k for the year)

2 investments - shelters during lockdown and useful for future events

Loss £532

We now have more members so we are in financially good shape.

6. Approval of the accounts

Anna C proposed to approve the accounts

Liz H seconded approval

Meeting voted to unanimously approve the accounts

7. Presentation of the new constitution

Beck presented the proposed new constitution, it allows us to be very flexible, because it's been kept minimal.

Gary thought it was flexible and useful

Beate thought it did indeed allow flexibility

8. Members vote on the proposed new constitution

Beck pointed out that the world is changing so fast that we need an organisation which can respond to this.

Thure explained that we have had some difficulty considering what a member is.

Beck suggested that a member is anyone who pays a subscription.

Janet - Klezmer has some members who do not want to come to orchestra

Thure - flexible for those who can't afford, everyone should pay something

Michael proposes that he pays a pound to be a member

Thure advised payments in kind also accepted in Michael's position

Anna - we could have different categories of membership, there could be day members.

Gary - proposed that Michael has an honorary lifetime membership

Beck - as long as members can negotiate on rate due to income issues, then this should cover everything rather than different membership classes

Edmund - what is the insurance premium, what does it cover

- Point is if can't define a member, can't tell if officers are covered by insurance

Filipa - agree with subscription idea but cannot come each Sunday. Agree with flexibility.

Beck - Beck proposed item 4 change to:

The termly subscription for members will be decided by the officers and approved by members at the Annual General Meeting. Some members may pay a subscription per rehearsal. Anyone who pays a subscription is a member.

From: (Previous copy: 4. The termly subscription for members will be decided by the officers and approved by members at the Annual General Meeting.)

Mike - we are likely to have so many variations on this that we are likely to get into difficulty unless we leave it flexible

Beck proposed revised item 4.

Subscriptions for members will be decided by the officers and approved by members at the Annual General Meeting. Anyone who pays a subscription is a member.

Mercedesz - if someone doesn't come for a term and doesn't pay for that term, would they still be a member?

Beate - could there be welcome information, maybe on the website

Beck - yes this can be on the website

Thure - I archive those who are not current members, they can rejoin at any time and their profiles are recovered from the archive.

VOTING: 22 participants

VOTES accepting new constitution - 21

VOTES against - 0

Those abstaining - 1

Therefore the "new" constitution was approved.

9. Election of officers

Chair

Janet proposed Mike Rudge as Chair

Peter Cross seconded the nomination of Mike Rudge as Chair

No other nominations. Mike Rudge is unanimously elected Chair

Treasurer

Michael Copley proposed Thure as Treasurer

Beate Pauschmann seconded Thure for Treasurer

No other nominations. Thure Etzold was unanimously elected Treasurer

Mike Rudge thanked Thure for the wonderful website

Secretary

Liz Huelin proposed Melinda as Secretary

Lorna Whittle seconded Melinda as Secretary

No other nominations. Melinda Rigby was unanimously elected as Secretary

10. Subscription rates for 2021

Thure - St Pauls currently offers a good rate, however it could increase. Thure proposes to leave the subscription at £55.

Michael - other groups charge £55, we don't have to hire music. However the hall costs may go up. Recommend leaving at £55 and giving concession.

Thure - if we end up with surplus funds we could look to buy instruments

Mike/ Michael - example tunable timpanis

Thure - we have had to buy bass drum, Michael would like a tenor drum purchased

Proposal - to keep subscription of £55 termly membership.

There were no objections and this proposal was approved.

11. Discussion of working groups, ensembles, groups and sections: how MRCO has adapted to Covid

3 update reports for these areas verbally given and held in the GoogleDrive accompanying these minutes

12. Any other business

No other business

The meeting was closed by the Chair.

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