

HENLEY CHORAL SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at d:two, Henley-on-Thames at 8.45pm on Monday 10th October 2016

Susan Edwards (SE) as chair opened the meeting.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Bernard Carter, Louise Earl, Carol Kelly, Meg Ashby, Fran Bodenham, Jocelyn Lynch, Lesley Smith, Hannah Roper, Emma Beasley, Sally McEwan, Rosemary Woodroffe, David Bennett, Bob Whitchley, Peter Ashby, Felicity Bazell and Romey Poston .

2 Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting

The minutes were approved: proposer Mike Hails; seconder Paul Clayden.

3 Chairman's Report

The chair gave the following report for the past year and thanked the large number of members who contribute to the running of HCS:

Chair's Report October 2016

I'm pleased to present this report for the past twelve months. I will be looking backwards, thanking the very many people who contribute to our thriving and vibrant choir community and looking forward to some possible new developments.

Two choirs, six or seven performances, workshops and social events have all been part of a very busy year. Last year, for the first time, we put on two Christmas concerts. These concerts proved to be very successful in so many ways and we look forward to repeating the success this year. Our March concert was Ben Goodson's final concert with us. After some initial trepidation on my part, it turned out to be a splendid occasion, a full HCS choir: the wonderful Lea Singers (another of Ben's choirs) supplied the semi-chorus; a band of 50 +; three terrific young soloists and everyone in HCS loving every minute of singing the glorious music. You all did a fabulous job in publicity, selling tickets, putting a programme together, organising transport and raising a very generous amount of sponsorship and this proved to be a rip-roaring send-off for Ben.

We were also occupied during this time with interviewing and selecting a conductor to cover us for the summer term. Tom Edwards proved to be a popular, reliable choice and with the help of his tutoring, HCS delivered a delightful summer concert of truly beautiful music by French composers. The HYC completed the season with Tom with a magnificent performance of Alfie Hay's charming songs as part of the Henley Music Festival. If you missed this concert, you missed a real treat. Do support their performances: they are really terrific, life enhancing (ore about HYC later).

By the time the summer season ended we had appointed Peter who, I'm confident to say, has quickly proved to be a popular choice and we hope, Peter, you will be with us for a long time. We look forward to learning to sing better, to extending our repertoire, having fun and providing our audiences with enjoyable concerts involving a range of music.

Our spring workshop was a 'come and sing' Gerontius at Trinity church where the warm welcome contrasted with the temperature that Saturday. A busy, efficient team lead by Jenny

Fleming and Angela Law ensured that there was an impressive attendance, some coming from afar away as Kent! Felicity did a splendid job making sure all visitors had music and a host of master bakers produced the delicious array of cakes I now associate with HCS functions. Not only was this a great day musically but enhanced our reputation as a bunch of friendly capable singers and who provide excellent cakes!

None of our activities would be possible without an army of willing volunteers who spread the word, prepare venues, make tea, clear up, buy the wine, hire glasses, run the bar etc. Last Christmas I started to list everyone who had been involved in the Christmas concerts but stopped when I had over 60 names. It is a real strength of the Society that so many people volunteer or are happy to say 'yes' when asked. Obviously no one wants to sit here while I name everyone (do you?) but here are few of the many. In most cases, I am naming the task lead but there is always a band of other people helping in most tasks. As with last year, I am starting with Voice Reps.

Voice reps All our reps, **Meg Ashby, Jenny Wager, Jana Hutchins, Judy Greenwood, Bernard Carter and Paul Clayden** play a vital role ensuring that communication circulates around the membership. I would also like to thank **Andrew Hawkins** and **Francis Piesse**, who along with lots of other things they do for the choir, are always willing to stand in as bass and tenor reps. The reps should be our first point of contact; they keep records of payment, attendance, who is going to sing at concerts etc. You will notice that they are often doing lots of other tasks. Thank you for all the work you do.

All our communication is via email and it is vital that every member has access to email or has someone who can reliably pass on the communications. From time to time I send an email to everyone via the voice reps. I know most of you appreciate their work but I have been told by more than one person that 'I never read your emails'. I leave this with you!

Treasurer: Yolanda Goldthorpe has now completed her first year as Treasurer and has been an absolute delight to work with. During the year Yolanda has also worked alongside Sally looking after the HYC accounts as well as the HCS's. At time this has been complex but we hope the new HCS account for HYC money during the coming year will make things easier and more transparent. Always efficient, always timely and with excellent judgement, we are extremely lucky to have Yolanda looking after our finances. Can I also thank **Mike Hails, Nigel Grundy and Arthur Weir** who are part of this team.

Publicity: Emma Beasley does a great job throughout the year producing stunning advertising materials, programmes and tickets, liaising with the local press to get great press releases and so much more. **Cath Reynolds** is part of this team. She looks after our website, writes the press releases and, I suspect charms editors into giving us great coverage. Many thanks to you, Cath. **Judy Greenwood** works on putting the programmes together and **Toni Aitkin** persuades businesses around Henley to advertise in our programmes, raising over £2,775 last year for HCS. There is also a large band of people who distribute fliers, posters, put up banners and so on. Our thanks to you all and ... extra help is always appreciated.

Librarian: Felicity Bazell deserves so many thanks for all the time and agro involved in ordering music, selling some scores, loaning others and dealing with late returns. Please, please help things run smoothly by responding to requests about our scores. **Jana** provides great back-up and helped the smooth issuing of music in September.

Ticket Sales: Jan French regular runs one of the most important tasks of the Society – selling tickets for our concerts. This is a massive task, for which many thanks. We will shortly be discussing providing some tickets on-line. This will be in addition to those sold by Jan, so obviously it will need careful monitoring. **Cath** assures me it is possible and fairly straightforward. Watch this space.

Membership Secretary: Wendy Hawkins remains in my mind as Mrs Henley Choral Society – the founder and continuing supporter, helper and advisor to me and so many others. In addition, she is the first port of call for new members, gives advice, manages front of house for our concerts and is one of the driving lights of the Youth Choir. We all owe you a really big thank you, Wendy.

Secretary to Friends of Henley Choral Society: Arthur Weir has taken on this very important role, looking after our Friends and ensuring they all have plenty of notice of concerts as well as keeping them up to date with our news. Many thanks to Arthur for all this work.

Staging: so many people contribute to the storage, removal, erection and dismantling of our staging. **Francis Piesse** quietly gets on with ensuring that the staging is securely stored, is always there for the stage building, dismantling and re-storing; **Bernard Carter** can be relied on to round up a gang of basses (and tenors) to help with the stage building; **Nick Richardson, Ian Tiffin, Peter Ransom, Hugh and John Legh** are among the many who are now so good at this job because they have done it so often! Many thanks guys. Where would we be without you!

Social events: Fi and Sally have played a large part in organising after concert junkets and are there to help clear up at the end. This year massive thanks go to **Alexandra Hodgson** who was a most gracious and generous host of our summer party. It was a lovely occasion, in a beautiful garden with the usual scrummy food. A great occasion for choir members to meet Peter, our new conductor.

In naming people I am aware that this is not a comprehensive list and there are many more who do so much for the Society. I have not mentioned HCS members who have been running a most fantastically successful youth choir. That follows.

However, there are two people I haven't mentioned, **Fi Harding** and **Sally Clark**, neither of whom will continue in their present roles after this evening. It has been a joy to work with them, always cheerful, always collegiate, real troopers. Sally is not able to sing with us at the moment but will continue to help with the Youth choirs. Sally, thank you for supporting me and the committee over the last two years. Thank you for your work as soprano rep and for helping with so many social events. We will miss your pre-concert task lists but hope we can look forward to your early return!

Fi, I am pleased to say that although you are relinquishing the role of Secretary to HCS, we plan to keep you on the committee providing a close link with the Youth Choirs. Fi, thank you for being such a wonderful Secretary to the choir for over six years. You think ahead, get stuff done, always so supportive ... and fun! You are doing a wonderful job with the youth choir and I am sure the choir is not only very proud of what you are doing but also would really like to show their appreciation and thanks.

Two other very important people are **David Smith** and **Peter Asprey**. Thank you **Dave** for sticking with us, playing like an angel and helping us get out notes – not to mention timing, right. **Peter**, we are thrilled that you are now directing us. We love your ideas, your rehearsals and look forward to achieving great things with you as well as having fun along the way.

Finally, looking forward:

1. I remember from our choir survey of members that the reason most people gave for why they joined HCS was to improve their singing. We aim to continue to develop our singing through workshops, practice, advice, to extend our musical repertoire and to think how we can improve our singing development.

2. Since the adoption of the revised constitution at last our AGM, the Society has four trustees, chair, secretary, treasurer and deputy chair. Our constitution allows us to appoint two

further trustees and the trustees with the committee will be considering using these positions to ensure that HYC is fairly represented in the Society's decision making. This evening we hope to vote in two new trustees and I would like to thank David Cairns and Joanne Harris for agreeing to stand for these posts.

3. There are a number of choir members who would be keen to participate in a choir tour. We are fortunate that we have links to two of Henley's twinning associations through at least two of our members, Jenny Fleming (alto) and Philip Bennett (tenor). I will be bringing you more news on this in the coming months.

4. The Society has long held an ambition to commission some music that we can perform with our Youth choirs and I hope we might be able to make a start on this if there is still sufficient support from members.

If you have been a member for years, hope this report has reminded you of our recent achievements. If you have recently joined, a warm welcome and I hope this synopsis of last year will encourage you to stay and sing with us.

4 Treasurer's Report

The treasurer, Yolanda Goldthorpe, gave the following report:

Treasurer's Report October 2016

Financially, 2015-16 has been a very good year with a surplus of £13,179.71 (if three outstanding cheques are presented) over expenditure. This compares with a figure of £4401.75 for 2014-15 and excludes Henley Youth Choir activities which have been recorded separately. The balances in the bank accounts at the end of the year totalled £37,221.67 for Henley Choral Society and £10,831.58 for Henley Youth Choir.

There was a profit of £2,691.96 across the three main concerts against a budgeted loss of £3,623.00. If you look at the accounts, you will see that a large loss was expected for our spring concert. For the benefit of our new members this year, the Choral Society mounts a larger scale concert every two years and the last two, which were very expensive but fabulous, and a very special experience, have taken place at the Reading Concert Hall. Thanks to The Dream of Gerontius Workshop, which made a profit of £1,577.48 we were able to mitigate this projected loss together with very generous sponsorship from our members which totalled £5,760.00 for our "sponsor an instrument" scheme.

The gift aid claim for 2015-16 is still to be submitted but will be in the region of £2,343.00.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to **Arthur Weir** for helping with gift aid and friends' donations. I could not have done this job without his help. I would also like to thank **Nigel Grundy** and **Mike Hails** for their help in banking cash and cheques. In addition, I am very grateful to Nigel for standing in with banking whenever I have been away and for his help in sorting out codings and amounts for the account reconciliations, when necessary. **Sally Clark** too, does an amazing job of accounting for Henley Youth Choir incoming and outgoing payments among many other things and Susan and Fi are always there to authorise payments promptly and to help when necessary. I am very grateful for all the support from these members as well as other committee members to ease me into the first year of my new job as treasurer. I look forward to a much more straightforward year ahead, now that I am more confident of what I am doing.

As we have an income greater than £10,000 per year, the Charity Commission demands that we submit an annual report summarising our activities and also that our accounts are validated by an independent assessor. This information is sent to the Charity Commission and enables us to

continue to be registered and through which we can claim gift aid. The deadline for submitting the annual report is May 2017, but this year, we have had the accounts checked, summarised and validated for the last financial year ending August 31st 2016, before this AGM, so that the accounts can be transparent for anyone who wishes to see them and also to reflect excellent governance. The Charity Commission also requires that we have an accurate membership lists with details of names, addresses etc. I would like to thank the voice reps for chasing this information and also thank **Sarah McMann** who has done a sterling job in creating new usable spreadsheets for us.

As I have said, I have provided a summary of the accounts. I have tried to be concise as the spreadsheets consist of 11 sheets or workbooks and I am indebted to **Stephen Fisher** for setting up the templates for us, last year.

HENLEY CHORAL SOCIETY - ACCOUNTS SUMMARY 2015-2016

Bank accounts	1st Sep 2015 Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	31st Aug 2016 Closing balance	31st Aug 2016 Reconciled Balance	Difference
CAF Bank Current	£200.00	£67,677.38	£62,920.21	£5,442.17	£4,957.17	£485.00 total of unpresented cheques
CAF Bank Deposit	£31,636.81	£9,460.12	£0.00	£41,096.93		
HSBC Current	£144.15	£1,370.00	£0.00	£1,514.15		
Total Bank Accounts *	£31,980.96	£78,507.50	£62,920.21	£48,053.25		
Overall increase/decrease for the year **				£16,072.29	if cheques not presented	
				£15,587.29	if cheques presented	

* Of this figure £10,831.58 is the balance owing to Henley Youth Choir at the end of the financial year

** Of this figure £2407.58 relates to HYC activities so the increase for HCS is £13,664.71

NB The income and expenditure figures include transfers between the accounts

Concerts	Income	Expenditure	Profit/Loss	Budget
Christmas	£10,405.79	£5,134.49	£5,271.30 Profit	£5,505.00 Profit
Spring	£16,301.30	£18,955.67	-£2,654.37 Loss	-£9,658.00 Loss
Summer	£5,048.15	£4,973.12	£75.03 Profit	£530.00 Profit
			£2,691.96 Profit	-£3,623.00 Profit

Workshop £2,319.54 £742.06 £1,577.48 Profit Profit
 We can look to Friends' Donations, Raffle Income, Gift Aid and DOG to cover the net loss of our Spring Concert. In addition, "Sponsor an Instrument" for DOG Concert raised £5,760.00

Income streams and cost centres**2015-2016 Income**

Ticket sales	£21,397.10	includes £2241 re DOG Workshop
Programme sales	£1,490.07	
Members' subs	£22,542.50	includes £8657.50 HYC Workshop Fees
Friends' Donations	£3,305.00	
Gift Aid Tax Relief 14-15	£3,228.75	15-16 claim to be submitted
Bank interest	£79.80	
Donations	£9,088.00	includes £2838.00 re HYC
Hire and sales of music to members	£2,094.16	
Advertising revenue	£2,775.00	
Bar takings (net)	£286.06	
Sundry	£2,486.89	includes £50.00 re HYC
Income from Raffle	<u>£1,380.32</u>	
Total	<u>£70,153.65</u>	

2015-2016 Expenditure

Conductor's fees	£11,026.00	Includes £3185 re HYC + £500 re workshops
Accompanists' fees	£5,876.25	Includes £2076.25 re HYC + £0 re workshops
Orchestra fees	£9,281.00	Not inclusive of unrepresented cheques above
Soloists' fees	£2,092.00	
Other fees	£1,955.00	Listed overleaf
Hall hire	£7,405.89	Includes £643.80 re HYC
Equipment hire	£2,911.23	Includes £43.20 re HYC
Music hire	£471.00	
Music purchase	£1,601.01	Includes £180.22 re HYC
Publicity	£4,763.65	Includes £154 re HYC
Sundry	<u>£7,182.83</u>	Includes £2655.15 re HYC
Total	<u>£54,565.86</u>	

Not Concert or Workshop related**Sundry Income**

Summer Party ticket and raffle sales	£695.00
Hiring out staging units	£700.00
Sales of marmalade and calendars	£200.00

Sundry Expenditure

"Making Music" subscriptions and insurance	£525.00
Printing of newsletters	£117.60
Summer party expenses	£60.00

Other Fees	
Accountancy fees	£85.00
Website hosting	£50.00
A/V services	£529.00
Supply cover	£141.00
Admin fee for Tom before starting	£75.00
Bumpers	£500.00
Organist	£400.00
Youth choir musician	£175.00
	£1,955.00
Equipment Hire	
Container Hire (Staging)	£564.48
Container Site Rental	£998.40
Workshops	
Costs for DOG Workshop	£742.06

The HCS accounts 2015-16 were approved unanimously (proposed Ian Tiffin; seconded Stephen Fisher).

5 Member's Subscriptions 2016/17

The treasurer, Yolanda Goldthorpe, distributed the following summary of the Society's annual core costs.

Core Costs as at August 2016

	£
36 Rehearsals at d:Two	2,450.00
3 Pre-concert rehearsals at St Mary's @ £125	375.00
41 Conductor Fees @ £135	5,535.00
38 Accompanist's Fees @ £80.00	3,040.00
Annual Insurance Premium	525.00
Piano Tuning	45.00
Hire of container for staging	550.00
Hire of site for container	1,000.00
Christmas and April Workshops	1,027.00
Newsletter printing	120.00
Independent Examiner re accounts	85.00
Total	14,752.00
Contingency 5% of total	737.60
Total including contingency	15,489.60

Based on membership of 120, subscriptions of £125 give £15,000 income and subscriptions of £130 give £15,600 income.

The treasurer explained that, after a lot of discussion and a look at the core costs, the committee had recognised that our present members' subscriptions did not quite cover the annual core costs in their entirety, if they include the usual contingency of 5%. (For example, the contingency allowance was very useful last year as the cost of finding a new musical director was over £700.00.).

The treasurer also reported that she had been notified in the last few days that our storage costs will be increasing this year and she suspected that many other costs may rise with the present uncertainty in the national economic situation. In order to cover all costs, therefore, the committee had recommended that the 2016/17 subscription be raised to £130.00. With this in place the committee feels that there will not be any further need for additional fundraising at any point in the coming year. The Society is always happy to receive business sponsorship, mainly in the form of advertising revenue in concert programmes.

The treasurer also explained that the Society's main bank has introduced a monthly charge from September 2016 and will also charges 20p per cheque if more than 30 cheques are paid in a month. For this reason, the treasurer urged members to pay their subscriptions using online banking. She will be sending out instructions for this via the voice reps.

The proposed annual subscription for 2016/17 of £130 was approved without opposition (proposed Jenny Fleming; seconded Kate Avery). The approved subscriptions for new joiners in the spring term will be £100 and in term 3 will be £60.

6 Musical Director's Report

The musical director, Peter Asprey, thanked the choir for welcoming him. He said it is lovely to be here and that he is enjoying his time with all the choirs. He has discovered a healthy choir with four good sections which is a testament to the work of Ben Goodson and his predecessors as well as to all the members of the choir.

Over the coming year, his aims include improving the intonation and the overall sound of the choir, improve the vocal technique (with the assistance of the workshop led by Berty Rice) and to get the choir thinking more dramatically in such works as those by Purcell, Vivaldi etc. He wants to widen the choir's repertoire, in particular by performing more early music.

He praised the fast progress of the youth choirs in such a short amount of time which was a great credit to those involved. He wants to grow the senior youth choir and encourage the participation of more boys through a workshop in a school in January. He also wants to develop the senior youth choir's music reading skills and introduce it to a wider range of repertoire. It will be exciting to see them grow and their voices develop over the next few years. He wants to challenge the junior youth choir further with some harder repertoire and increase their confidence in singing in harmony. He is thinking about the venues that the youth choirs could sing in, including some exciting trips.

7 Henley Youth Choir (HYC) Report

Sally Clark reported that HYC has been running for two full years now and is entering its 3rd year. HYC has consistently had around 60 children split across the junior choir and the senior choir. This year there are 45 junior and 20 seniors. Some members have been with the choir since the start but approximately 1/3rd new member have joined as others have left so the numbers have not dropped. Following a successful 'Bring a Friend' week this term, there are ten new members in the junior choir.

By maintaining the level of membership, HYC has been able to cover its core costs through the subscription income. The donations received have enabled HYC to build up a reserve of funds, which would support a year of running costs, and enable the development and marketing of the choirs more effectively.

The HYC team has worked hard to keep things fresh and interesting for the children through the range of music, the expansion of the repertoire, new venues to perform in, 'Singer of the week' awards, and the development of an HYC brand and new logo which looked so fantastic on the new t-shirts worn by children at their last performance last year. All of this would have been impossible without the kind and generous donations, especially from members of Henley Choral Society. HYC also secured a donation from Invesco, which has enabled it to offer a bursary scheme so that there are no barriers for any child experience in the joy of singing in a choir.

Over 2015/16, HYC has performed several concerts:

- a great performance as part of the Living Advent calendar in preparation for the Christmas concert;
- the extremely successful afternoon & evening Christmas concerts with HCS which we all enjoyed so much that we're going to do it again this year;
- in March, the youth choirs performed as part of the Henley Youth festival to a sold out Kenton Theatre audience; and
- in July the youth choirs performed to a packed audience and a great review at the Henley Festival in 'The Top' (DVDs of the performance will shortly be available to purchase - all funds going to HYC of course.)

Across these concerts the youth choirs performed music from folk song to gospel to world music to Alfie Hay. With the support of the HYC team every Monday evening the children have grown and developed in confidence and ability.

There are lots in progress and plans in place – we've:

- a newsletter for the children;
- a successful 'bring a friend' week;
- an 80% attendance target with certificate for anyone with 100% attendance; and
- encouragement to the children to write a song, which the choir can perform at the Henley Youth festival in March and which can be recorded.

On 31st October 2016, it will be 'mums and dads do Youth Choir' (or grandparents if anyone has their grandchildren in the choir?). We hope a few dads with good voices will stay for HCS too. In 2016/17, the youth choirs will perform:

- with HCS at the Christmas concerts;
- at Henley Youth Festival in March; and
- (we hope) at the Henley Festival again

Look out for the HYC Banner on display at these performances.

And finally, we couldn't have made the youth choirs as successful as they've been to date without the support, encouragement and enthusiasm of the HCS membership and committee. Peter Asprey has hit the ground running with the children and is enthusing them and developing them, testament to this is the success of the 'bring a friend week'. However none of this would be possible without the time, dedication and hard work of the HYC team every Monday night and behind the scenes so a big thank you to everyone who has been involved this year: Fi, Jo, Wendy, Alfie, Jan, Maureen, Barbara,

8 Election of Officers

Chair: Susan Edwards: proposed by Nigel Grundy and seconded by Peter Ashby.

Vice chair: Joanne Harris: proposed by Cate Avery and seconded by Philip Bennett.

Secretary: David Cairns: proposed by Peter Ashby and seconded by Philip Bennett.

Treasurer: Yolanda Goldthorpe: proposed by Peter Ashby and seconded by Philip Bennett.

HYC Choir secretary: Fi Harding: proposed by Peter Ashby and seconded by Philip Bennett.

9 Election of Committee

Librarian: Felicity Bazell: proposed by Peter Ashby and seconded by Philip Bennett.

Assistant to Librarian: Jana Hutchins: proposed by Peter Ashby and seconded by Philip Bennett

Membership Secretary: Wendy Hawkins: proposed by Peter Ashby and seconded by Jan French.

Programme Editor: Judy Greenwood: proposed by Cate Avery and seconded by Jan French.

Publicity Officer: Emma Beesley: proposed by David Lewis and seconded by Jan French.

Web & PR Administrator: Catharina Reynolds: proposed by David Lewis and seconded by Jan French.

Newsletter editor: Angela Law: proposed by David Lewis and seconded by Jan French.

Tickets Secretary: Jan French: proposed by David Lewis and seconded by Peter Ashby.

Friends' Secretary: Arthur Weir: proposed by David Lewis and seconded by Anne McDowell.

Soprano Rep: Meg Ashby: proposed by Cate Avery and seconded by Anne McDowell.

Soprano Rep: Jenny Wager: proposed by Alexandra Hodgson and seconded by Anne McDowell.

Alto Rep: Jana Hutchins: proposed by proposed by Alexandra Hodgson and seconded by Anne McDowell.

Deputy Alto Rep: Judy Greenwood: proposed by Alexandra Hodgson and seconded by Anne McDowell.

Tenor Rep: Paul Clayden: proposed by Peter Ashby and seconded by Nigel Grundy.

Deputy Tenor Rep: Andrew Hawkins: proposed by Peter Ashby and seconded by Nigel Grundy.

Bass Rep: Bernard Carter: proposed by Hugh Richardson and seconded by Mike Hails.

Deputy Bass Rep: Francis Piesse: proposed by Mike Hails and seconded by Peter Ashby.

Concert Manager: Francis Piesse: proposed by Mike Hails and seconded by Alexandra Hodgson

10 Amendment to Constitution

The following special resolution (requiring a two-thirds majority of members present) was proposed by Ian Tiffin and seconded by Carol Brook-Partridge and approved unanimously:

That for the purpose of introducing Youth Membership the constitution of the Society be amended in the terms of the appendix to the notice convening the meeting.

The approved amendments to the constitution as set out in the appendix to the notice convening the meeting are as follows:

In Clause 2(1), amend definition of “member” to read:

“ “Member” does not include an Honorary Member or a Youth Member”

and after that definition add:

“ “Youth Member” and “Youth Membership” have the meanings defined in Clause 5A”.

After Clause 5 insert new clause:

“5A Youth Membership and Subscriptions

(1) Youth Membership is open to any young person under the age of 18 who, in furtherance of the objects of the Society, wishes to sing with a youth choir of the Society, is of the appropriate age for that choir, and is accepted for such membership by or on behalf of the Board under whatever arrangements it shall have made from time to time. Such membership does not confer a right to attend general meetings of the Society or to vote. The provisions of Clauses 4(2), 4(3), 4(4) and 4(5) (commencement, termination and suspension of membership and expulsion) shall, subject to necessary changes, apply to Youth Membership.

(2) Each Youth Member shall pay a subscription of an amount to be decided by the Board. Different amounts may be set for different categories of Youth Member. The Board may set the period for Youth Membership subscriptions at a year, or at a shorter term (such as an autumn, spring or summer term relating to the activity of that youth choir), or at different periods for different categories of youth choir members as it may decide. The provisions of Clause 5(3) (reduction or waiver of subscriptions) shall, subject to necessary changes, apply to Youth Membership subscriptions.

(3) The provisions of Clause 5(4) (delegation of powers) shall apply to Youth Membership and subscriptions.”

In Clause 5, amend title to read:

“5. Membership Subscriptions”

In Clause 14(2) (matters which may be regulated by rules or bye-laws), after paragraph (c) add:

“(cc) matters concerning youth choirs and youth choir membership”.

11 Any other business

No other business was brought to the meeting.

SE closed the meeting at 9.45pm