

## Okehampton Choral Society

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at 8.30pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at Fairplace Church Okehampton.

1. Apologies – apologies were received from Daphne Hanlon.
2. Minutes – The minutes of the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November were read and considered. It was pointed out that Peter Filewod had not been elected to the Committee but that Ann Ball had been appointed Hon. Treasurer. It was also pointed out that the position of Friends Manager should have read Friends Representative. A motion to approve the minutes with these amendments was proposed by Peter Filewod and seconded by Ken Tibbles. The minutes were then, as amended, formally agreed as an accurate record.
3. Matters Arising – There were no matters arising.
4. Report of Musical Director – A report of activities of the Society was circulated by the outgoing Musical Director Richard Edwards. It was proposed by Claire Tricker and seconded by Ken Tibbles that the report be accepted. The MD's Report was approved.
5. Report of the Chairman – A report highlighting the work of the Committee was circulated by Bill Sutton Coulson. It was proposed by Sheila Gregory and seconded by Peter Filewod that the report be accepted. The Chairman's Report was approved.
6. Treasurer's Report – Ann circulated copies of the Society's examined accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 which showed an excess of expenditure over income of £3,357. The balance sheet showed a balance of £1,760. Ann pointed out that the Society was now in receipt of further funds following a donation (unspecified) and subscriptions, the latter amounting to £1,470 representing 57 members thus far. It was proposed by Deidre Madders and seconded by Ken Tibbles that the Treasurer's report be accepted. The Treasurer's Report was approved.
7. Election of Officers and Committee – The Chairman circulated a list of nominations for election both as Officers and Members of the Committee as follows: -

Musical Director – Andrew Wilson. Proposed Bill Sutton-Coulson and seconded John Candler. Chairman – Bill Sutton Coulson. Proposed Pat Stanford and seconded Gillian Mansfield. Vice Chairman – Pat Stanford. Proposed Bill Sutton Coulson and seconded John Candler. Hon Treasurer – Ann Ball. Proposed Bill Sutton Coulson and seconded John Candler. Hon Secretary – Mark Betambeau. Proposed Colin Pimlott, seconded Martin Gaughan. Librarian – Daphne Hanlon. Proposed Bill Sutton Coulson seconded John Candler.

Committee Members: Jean Ankcorn, Helen Dewhurst and Sheila Gregory – proposed en-bloc by Bill Sutton Coulson and Seconded by John Candler. Richard Edwards – proposed Mark Betambeau and seconded Helen Dewhurst. Jenny Gibbons – proposed Pat Stanford and seconded Tim Sutton-Coulson.

The Officers and Committee Members so nominated were duly elected to serve the Society for the coming year.

#### 8. Any Other Business

Society Finances – The Chairman raised for discussion, the matter of society finances and questioned whether continuing with present revenue would prove sustainable having regard to the Society's commitments over the coming year. The matter had been discussed in Committee following which it was proposed by Ann Ball and seconded by Bill Sutton-Coulson that the annual subscriptions be raised from £60 to £75 per annum (£20 to £25 per term) from 2018 onwards. There then followed a lively discussion on the need to ensure that those in full-time education continue to avail themselves of the Society's full dispensation and that the Society did not risk losing members. The availability of grants also needed to be explored. After due consideration, and an undertaking from the Chairman that these matters would be closely monitored by the Committee, the motion to raise the annual subscriptions was agreed.

Society Constitution – Arising from the last item, the Chairman reported that the Society's Constitution was not set out in a format required to facilitate an application to the Okehampton Charities Trust, there being a number of shortcomings. He reported that work was in progress in revising the constitution and that the Committee hoped to be in a position to put a new constitution before members at a Special General Meeting sometime in January. This was noted.

List of Members – The Hon Secretary confirmed that he was proposing to draw up a computerised list of Society members from information contained in the registration slips and was seeking advice from the Information Commissioner as to the necessity for a Licence under the Data Protection Act. Whilst most members had completed the slips, there were a number of telephone numbers and e-mail addresses missing, which the secretary would be chasing up. It was made clear however that the information would be stored safely and that it would not be used otherwise than for Society purposes. This was noted.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9.20pm.