



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in St Andrews Methodist Church, Sheringham on Monday 23 September 2024 at 19.00

Pam Thompson, Chair, opened the meeting. She welcomed all the members present and extended a special welcome to new people who had come tonight or in the past three weeks.

Present: 46 members and associate members of the choir; David Ballard, Musical Director; Philip Adams, Accompanist.

Apologies: had been received from Jonathan Anderson, Diana Sallon, Pauline Lingard, Graham and Suzanne Northwood, Margaret Werrett.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 18 September 2023 were agreed without abstention or dissent as a correct record. They were signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising from last year's Minutes. No matters arising.

Chairman's report. Pam Thompson's report on the year's activities had been circulated and a copy is appended to these Minutes. There were no questions from the floor, and the report was welcomed by the members.

Treasurer's report. Mike Bossingham's Annual Statement had been circulated and a copy is appended to these Minutes. Mike highlighted that the report shows a surplus of £172.70 for the year; he considers the funds in reserve are adequate for the scale of the Charity's operations. The Proctor Fund had slightly reduced due to being used to support the orchestra for the October 2023 concert. Mike drew attention to the proposal in Agenda item 6 to change the Charity's financial year end, to allow more time for the accounts to be completed. Finally he explained the intention to hold subscriptions at £130 p.a. Members wishing to pay for the full year on a termly basis will pay the first 2 terms at £50 and the last term at £30. Members paying termly for a part year only will pay £50 per term.

In answer to a member's question, David Ballard explained that the Proctor Fund is a restricted fund following a bequest by Barbara Proctor, a long-standing member of the Society.

The report was agreed without abstention or dissent.

Musical Director's report. David Ballard's report had been circulated and a copy is appended to these Minutes. There were no questions from the floor, and the report was welcomed by the members.

Changes to the Constitution. A paper had been circulated summarising the proposed changes, along with a copy of the constitution with the proposed revised wording highlighted, and a "clean" copy of the proposed revised constitution. Peter Twigg explained that the Policies Sub-Committee had recommended these amendments in order to bring the Society's constitution more closely into line (where appropriate) with the "model" constitution prepared by Making Music.

Each of the proposed changes were considered as follows:

Proposal	Outcome
Amend Clause 3 to insert the word 'predominantly' in line 2 and delete the word 'Choral' in line 3	Agreed without abstention or dissent
Insert a new Clause 5 to allow termination of membership, and renumber subsequent Clauses accordingly	Agreed without abstention or dissent
Amend Clause 7 as described in the papers circulated	Agreed without abstention or dissent
Insert a new Clause 8 to allow for: a. A minimum of 3 Trustees, and b. the removal of Trustees.	Agreed without abstention or dissent
Amend the proposed new Clause 9 as described in the papers circulated	Agreed without abstention or dissent
Amend Clause 10 as described in the papers circulated	Agreed without abstention or dissent
Delete the previous Clause 9. (In answer to a question from the floor it was explained that this deleted the provisions regarding Friends of the Society, which were no longer used)	Agreed without abstention or dissent
Amend Clause 11 as described in the papers circulated	Agreed without abstention or dissent
Adopt the non-substantive textual changes to Clauses 1, 6, 9(a) (b) (g) (h), 11(b), and 12, inclusive as described in the papers circulated.	Agreed without abstention or dissent

The Constitution will be so amended, a copy appended to the Minutes Book, and a copy sent to the Charity Commission.

Election of Committee and Trustees. All the current Committee were eligible and had put themselves forward for re-election, with the exception of Stephen Green. Peter Twigg had put himself forward for election as a Trustee, and Susan Lee had put herself forward as a Voice Representative for the Alto section. Members agreed to these proposals without abstention or dissent.

The Chair and the Musical Director stressed the value of having “voice reps” and appealed to the members for volunteer(s) to represent the Tenor and Bass sections. Karen Sims exhorted members to consider joining the Committee; she had found that the work was not onerous and the Committee environment was convivial and supportive.

The Chair summarised the roles to be undertaken by the current Committee members as follows:

Pam Thompson	Chair and Librarian
Mike Bossingham	Treasurer
Jonathan Anderson	Secretary
Peter Twigg	Secretary to the Committee and Assistant to Secretary
Elaine Twigg	Concert Manager
Karen Sims	Membership Secretary
Jo Hurrell	Member without portfolio and member of Publicity Sub-committee
Laura Newbury	Voice Representative (Sopranos)
Susan Lee	Voice Representative (Altos).

Appointment of Independent Examiner of the Accounts. Anne Bowles has again agreed to be appointed as our Independent Examiner for the coming financial year. This was agreed without dissent.

Any other business. The Chair pointed out that for health reasons, Stephen Green was having to step away from the Choir. She expressed her thanks for Stephen’s support for the Choir and his sterling work for the Committee, and she presented Stephen with a card and a Gift Voucher as a token of appreciation. This was warmly applauded by the members. Stephen expressed his thanks and said how much he had enjoyed singing with the Choir; he regarded a particular highlight as participating in no less than five world premieres. He hoped that if circumstances allowed, he might be able to rejoin the Society in the future.

There was no other business raised and the meeting finished at 19:32.

Signed P. J. Thompson (Chair)

Date 13th October 2025