

Dulwich Symphony Orchestra

Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held at Elmgreen School at 8.45pm on Tuesday 11 October 2011

The meeting was chaired by Russell Ashley Smith. Frances Barrett made notes during the meeting which were subsequently written up by Jeremy Crump.

1. **Apologies** were received from Julian Elias, Ishani O'Connor and Daniel Saleeb.
2. **Minutes** of the AGM of 12 October 2010 and the EGM 20 September 2011 were approved without amendment.

3. Election of officers

The following were elected unopposed:

- i. Chair : Russell Ashley Smith
- ii. Secretary: Jeremy Crump
- iii. Treasurer: Graham Vernon

4. Election of committee members

The following were elected unopposed:

Caroline Annesley

Chris Burns

Emma Gant

Charles Mackworth-Young

As there were no further nominees, one place remained vacant.

5. Financial report

Following the resignation of Ian Finn from the post of Treasurer before the meeting, Russell Ashley-Smith presented an interim summary of the financial report for 2010-11. Ian Finn would be completing the accounts shortly and it was agreed unanimously that they should be presented at an EGM as soon as possible.

Russell thanked Ian Finn for his work during the year. The current situation was that the orchestra had made a loss on its dealings over the year, to the extent that it had been necessary to borrow cash for general expenses from the outreach bequest to ensure that it did not go into debt (which, as a charity, it is not permitted to do). The reasons for this position included a fall in concert attendance, a fall in the membership of the orchestra and expensive programmes with a large number of extra players and costs for music hire. As a result, the committee had raised the fees from £50 to £60 per term. This, and other economies, are expected to bring the finances back into a surplus over the course of the year.

Jeremy Crump noted that the Amazon associates programme had raised £240 over the previous 12 months, an increase of 30% over the previous year.

Ian Finn reminded members of the desirability of joining the gift aid scheme.

Robin White asked what the outreach bequest had been used for. Since Lyndsay Ryan's

departure, the only outreach work had been the Young Composers' Award.

6. Chair's report

The report, which had been circulated before the meeting, was adopted unanimously.

In discussion, Russell Ashley-Smith said that it was intended to develop the outreach programme again in 2011-12. Tom Hammond restated his commitment to that work.

Russell said that he thought it of great importance that members actively supported the running of the orchestra. We should not become just a 'pay and play' activity, and without members carrying out the administrative tasks, the orchestra would not exist.

7. Any other business

In accordance with the decision of the EGM of 20 September 2011, Jeremy Crump presented a further amendment to the constitution to address the issue of the powers of a non-quorate committee (ie one on which the total membership of the committee had for whatever reason fallen below the minimum number required for a quorum, which is now 4). The following amendment was adopted without opposition:

Amendment 1

New clause 6(ix)

In the event of the number of the members of the Committee becoming fewer than the quorum required by section 7(iii) of this Constitution, the remaining members shall immediately call an Extraordinary General Meeting for the purpose of electing members to fill the vacancies on the Committee. Pending the election of those new members, they may take such decisions as are necessary for the continued proper and effective running of the Society.

Jeremy Crump also proposed a further amendment to remove unnecessary gender specific language from the constitution. This was also adopted unopposed:

Amendment 2

Section 6(iii) to read:

iii) The conductor may attend all Committee meetings except when his or her position is being considered.

On a motion proposed by Alan Taylor, the meeting thanked the outgoing officers, Frances Barrett and Ian Finn (who had resigned before the meeting), for the commitment and dedication they had shown over many years to the success of the orchestra. Russell Ashley-Smith advised that the members would have an opportunity to acknowledge Frances and Ian's contribution.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

