



Committee meeting
9.15pm 22 September 2015
The Elmgreen School, Tulse Hill

MINUTES

1. Welcome and apologies

Attending: Caroline Annesley (chair), Jeremy Crump (secretary), Sarah Bort, Liz Cleary, Tessa Crilly, Roland McCabe, Chris Burns, Hannah Northern, Leigh O'Hara (conductor), Paula Tysall (leader)

In welcoming members to the meeting, Caroline said that this was her last meeting. She thanked the members of the committee for their work during the two years of her chairmanship. The committee thanked Caroline for her leadership and generous hospitality in hosting the committee meetings.

2. Minutes of May meeting

The secretary reported that the bid to Making Music's Adopt a Composer scheme had been unsuccessful. We were encouraged to apply again in future years.

Roland McCabe had set up a Facebook page for the orchestra and was willing to continue to manage it, notwithstanding his forthcoming resignation from the committee. It was agreed that the page should be publicised among members.

The progress in recruiting more members this term was noted. Tessa Crilly said that she intended to do more work on the membership list in order to be better able to target string players who have left the orchestra but could be encouraged to return.

Leigh O'Hara reported that he had not had responses to recent emails to the organisers of the Dulwich festival. It remained therefore to consider how we could identify an opportunity for an additional concert in May, given the early date of the spring concert (February) in 2016. The committee agreed his suggestion that he explore the possibility of a joint concert with the Blackheath orchestra at the Blackheath Halls in May. The minutes were approved.

3. Arrangements for AGM

a) Chair's report

The secretary would be preparing a draft of the chair's annual report. Committee members were invited to provide contributions by 27 September.

b) Treasurer's report

The Treasurer provided a draft of the accounts which were to be presented at the AGM. Subject to likely minor variation and adjustment, they showed that the orchestra had made a small operating profit in 2014-15, but that this was largely due to an unexpected charitable donation which was not expected to be repeated. It was necessary therefore not only to continue to manage costs and increase ticket sales, but also to increase subscriptions. After discussion, it was agreed that the committee should recommend to the AGM that the annual subscription should be raised to £70 with a concessionary rate of £35.

c) Nominations for next year's committee

One member of the orchestra had come forward as a potential nominee. It remained to identify at least two more.

4. Tickets for disadvantaged groups

The committee agreed the scheme proposed by Tessa to make 10 tickets available at no cost for those for whom the cost for a ticket made attendance unaffordable. It was agreed that Tessa should take the lead in identifying the best channels to reach groups for whom this scheme was intended.

5. Rehearsal attendance and playing at the concert

It was agreed that it was for the conductor to determine whether any individual had attended sufficient rehearsals to be able to play the concert. If section leaders had any question about whether a member should play at the concert, they should consult the conductor. This clarification should be made to members by the chair in her report to the AGM.

There was discussion of whether a register of attendance at rehearsals should be kept. A number of suggestions were made for how this might best be managed, and this remains for discussion at a future meeting.

6. Fixing

It was confirmed that it was for the fixer, not individual sections, to make arrangements for paid extras. This was also something which should be referred to in the chair's speech.

7. Any other business

There was no other business. It was agreed that the YCA and the new Making Music model constitution should be discussed at the next committee meeting.