



Minutes of the AGM of Steventon Choral Society held on Thursday 8th
September 2022 at 7:30pm in Steventon Village Hall

Present	Caroline Miller	Chairman
	Helen Pearce	Secretary
	Fran Brightman	Treasurer
	Trish Napper	Librarian
	Julia Haines	Membership Secretary
	Robert Thomas	Pianist
	Terry Pearce	Musical Director

And 28 Members

Before the meeting commenced a minute's silence was observed in memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth ii who died earlier today.

- 1 Apologies
Apologies were received from Abby Evans, Frances Broadbent, Bryan Eccles, Tirion Jordan, Philip Knight, Martin Blogg, Margaret Draper, George Jenkinson and Frances Taylor.
- 2 Minutes of the last AGM
The minutes of the last AGM which were published on the website were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 3 Matters arising
There were no matters arising.
- 4 Chairmans Report
The chairman reported on the Covid protocols and how it had limited our hall preparations. She said that John and Mo Hunt had given up their birthday card duties and that this had now been taken over by the secretary. She thanked Joyce for her work with the website, Ann Cannon for providing buttonholes, Sharron Jenkinson and Patricia Sadler. She gave a special thanks to Andy Softley for all that he has done, and she thanked the committee for their support. She mentioned that we were lucky to have Robert Thomas as Pianist and for the support from Debbie West. Finally, she thanked the Musical Director for steering us through a difficult season.
- 5 Treasurers Report
The Treasurer presented the annual accounts (copy attached). The accounts have not yet been audited and

they were provisionally approved. The accounts show that because of all the difficulties that we have had with the pandemic the Society made a loss of £2167-30

Proposed Joyce Huddleston

Seconded Andy Softley

Unanimous

Andy Softley suggested that we look at charitable status. The Treasurer said that this was being investigated but had been put on hold because of the pandemic.

Sharron Jenkinson suggested separating the main choir account with a social account.

The Secretary mentioned that we had invested in a Zoom account so that meetings could be held.

Phil Brazier asked members to promote concerts.

Howard Feather suggested that the committee investigate sponsorship with local businesses.

Sharron Jenkinson suggested a 'Come and Sing' concert

6 Subscriptions

Subscriptions are currently £60. The committee proposed that they be raised to £70 which is about £2 per rehearsal. Subscriptions to be paid annually or split to be paid twice a year

Sharron Jenkinson wondered if we could have a minimum subscription with members being able to make a further donation. Joyce Huddleston pointed out that our expenditure is greater than our income.

Phil Brazier mentioned that subscriptions had been frozen for the last two years. They should rise with inflation.

Barbara Price suggested that we charge extra for music.

The Secretary felt that subscriptions should cover the cost of rehearsals now and in future years.

Alison Goodall Asked if the treasurer could tell them the actual costs of rehearsals. The Treasurer will do this but at the moment there is uncertainty of the Village Hall fees with an unexpected autumn increase and another expected in the new year.

A proposal was made that that the subscriptions should be increased to a minimum of £80

Proposed Sharron Jenkinson

Seconded Joyce Huddleston

Unanimous

The Chairman asked if members could pay on time. A reminder will be sent out by e-mail

The Secretary told the meeting that if anyone had any difficulty with payment could they please tell the Membership Secretary so that they can come to a confidential arrangement.

The Chairman said that the Society could do with more patrons.

7 Musical Directors Report

The Musical Director reported on the concerts that the choir had given, and the difficult circumstances caused by the pandemic. The highlight had been the very successful Spring concert of the Armed Man in aid of the Ukraine appeal where we raised over £1440 pounds for the charity. He mentioned Edna Brewer had sadly died, That Rebecca Joice has now moved away, and that John and Mo Hunt were no longer able to sing with us because of ill health. He then mentioned how important for the future the younger members were. He then touched on the new season's music with Mozart's Requiem being the choice for spring. Due to the financial situation he is unable to purchase new music but is hoping to have new music for Christmas and Summer concerts. He then announced that the musical team had been strengthened by appointing Debbie West as Deputy Conductor. Helen Pearce will be Vocal Coach. He finished by thanking Caroline Miller for her 21 years' service as Chairman.

8 Election of Officers

Chairman	Caroline Miller		
Proposed	Janet Money	Seconded Howard Feather	Unanimous
Secretary	Helen Pearce		
Proposed	Patricia Sadler	Seconded Debbie West	Unanimous
Treasurer	Fran Brightman		
Proposed	Patricia Sadler	Seconded Jane Sutton	Unanimous

9 Election of Committee

Abby Evans	Julia Haines	Trish Napper	Phil Brazier
Proposed en block		Sharron Jenkinson	
Seconded		Edward Dann	
		Unanimous	

10 Hall Preparation

The following volunteered for hall preparation. Abby Evans will do a rota: Howard Feather, Phil Brazier, Andy Softley, Liz Softley, Hazel Cutler, Sharron Jenkinson, Joyce Huddleston, Patricia Sadler, Bede Bewick, Alison Goodall, Frances Broadbent

11 AOB

George Russell enquired if there should be a special concert for King Charles iii. It wis thought this was too early to discuss
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:30pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....