

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
STEVENTON CHORAL SOCIETY**
Held on Thursday 5th September 2024 at 7.30pm in Steventon Village Hall

Present:	Caroline Miller	Chairman
	Helen Pearce	Secretary
	Terry Pearce	Musical Director
	Debbie West	Deputy Conductor
	Abby Evans	Publicity
	Julia Haines	Membership Secretary
	Trish Napper	Committee Member
	Barbara Price	Librarian
	Rob Thomas	Pianist

23 Members

1. APOLOGIES

Fran Brightman Treasurer
Howard Feather, Andy Softley, Liz Softley, Lynne Winter, Rosa Lombardo, Frances Taylor, Tiri Jordan, Bede Beswick.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM

The minutes of the AGM held on Thursday 7th September 2023 at 7.30pm in Steventon Village Hall were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman started by reporting on the social side of the society, the re- introduction of a successful Annual Dinner, our social after concert time and the Summer Supper and Bingo Music Quiz organised by the Music Team.

The Chairman then went on to thank:-

Helen for organising two trips to sing at the Royal Albert Hall.

Julia for organising the monthly raffle.

Joyce Huddleston as retiring Website Manager and Howard Feather for taking over management of the website.

Ann Cannon for providing buttonholes for concerts.

Trish for making sure all Birthday's were recognised.

Members who provide table decorations for concerts, food for concert refreshments and for those who supply raffle prizes and help in many other ways.

Finally, the Chairman thanked Terry for preparing us for concerts along with the assistance of Debbie and Rob for his wonderful accompanying.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of the Treasurer, Abby Evans presented the Treasurer's Report.

Joyce Huddleston pointed out that had HMRC been quicker we could have regained our pre covid financial status.

Julia Haines asked if members could be a little prompter paying their subscriptions as it took a longtime to collect them all.

Sharron asked the committee to consider a bucket collection for Chairty after one of the Christmas Concerts rather than donating the proceeds of a Christmas Concert to a charity.

The Chairman thanked Abby for presenting the accounts and Fran for all her hard work preparing them. The accounts were then formally adopted by the meeting. Proposed by Joyce Huddleston and seconded by Jane Sutton and agreed unanimously.

Thanks were expressed to Paul Haines for examining the accounts.

A copy of the accounts is attached to the file copy of the minutes.

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The committee recommended that the subscriptions be increased to £90 per year. This takes into account a cost of living increase of 3%.

This was proposed by Patricia Sadler & Seconded by Edward Dann, agreed by the meeting with two abstentions.

7. MUSICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The MD welcomed members back after the Summer Break and started his report by reviewing the music performed throughout the season. The Christmas concerts were a good standard and enjoyed by the audience and the singing for the Carol Service beautiful.

Messiah on Palm Sunday was a performance the choir should be proud of. He thanked society soloists Helen, Abby & Howard and our Guest Bass Soloist, Leslie Macleod Miller. It was particularly poignant as it may have been his last chance to conduct Messiah.

The summer concerts were joyous and included a piece called “Rise Up My Love” especially composed for Bede & Hazel’s wedding which had to be rehearsed secretly and performed for them as a surprise in the concert.

The MD expressed his sadness on the passing of former member, Joan Leahy, some members sang in the choir for her funeral. He also expressed his regret that Joan Impey has had to retire from the choir after 24 years.

Finally, the MD thanked Helen for her help with voice production. Rob for his talent as a Pianist and Organist and Debbie for not only stepping in to play the piano when required but also for the support she is giving him as his deputy.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman:	Caroline Miller	Proposed by Julia Haines Seconded by Joyce Huddleston Agreed Unanimously
Secretary	Helen Pearce	Proposed by Janet Money Seconded by Patricia Sadler Agreed Unanimously
Treasurer	Fran Brightman	Proposed by Sharron Jenkinson Seconded by Patricia Sadler Agreed Unanimously

9. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Abby Evans, Julia Haines, Trish Napper & Barbara Price

Proposed by Alison Goodall, Seconded by Frances Broadbent and agreed unanimously.

10. HALL PREPARATION

The following members agreed to help with hall preparation.

Alison Goodall, Hazel and Bede Cutler Beswick, Patricia Sadler & Frances Broadbent.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a. Gift aid

Julia asked members if they have had a change in circumstances to notify her.

b. Loop System

Jane Sutton asked if the microphone could be used by the Conductor or if the Committee would consider purchasing a pin mic to enable the hard of hearing when instructions are being given out.

c. Music

The Librarian has asked that poly pockets are returned to her when handing back music to enable recycling.

d. Jane Sutton relayed best wishes from former member George Russell.

The meeting closed at 20.10