

**WCCC Virtual Committee Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Kevern Oliver (KO), Lynne Reekes (LR), Stephen Shellard (SS), Anne Renshaw (AR), Peter Brook (PB), Helen Randall (HR), Sarah Donaldson (SD), Mark Wilson (MW), Carole Oliver (CO), John Paul Hoskins (JP), Judith Aldridge (JA)

minute		Action
1	<b>Apologies</b> Robin Walker (RW)	
2	<b>Minutes</b> Minutes of 19/04/23 meeting unanimously agreed. <b>Matters Arising</b> All matters arising dealt with in the main agenda - adjusted to give priority to items 4, 6 & 8.	
3	<b>Financial Report</b> Report distributed prior to meeting. Approximate balance is £12040. Still awaiting end of year figures from cathedral. Once these have been received a definitive figure will be produced.	CO
4	<b>Committee membership</b> The following distribution of responsibilities and way ahead, based on KO's list of secretary's duties, was agreed 1.1. <b>Committee meetings:</b> KO responsibilities to end on 15/06/23 1.2. <b>AGM:</b> LR to be responsible for 22/23 AGM 1.3. <b>Weddings:</b> Eileen Roberts (ER) to take over responsibility for Cradley wedding on 22/07/23 1.4. <b>Annual Schedule:</b> 23/24 schedule is complete. Need for A. N. Other to take over from KO in late autumn 23, in time for 24/25 planning meeting. 1.5. <b>Cathedral liaison:</b> ER to take over responsibility from KO in run up to autumn term. 1.6. <b>Members:</b> KO to continue but with handover to A.N.Other by June '24 AGM. 1.7. <b>Westminster:</b> <i>Day Trip</i> project KO will continue. And 2.1. The urgent need is for a Committee Secretary. A brief message will be sent to members spelling out what is involved and inviting them to contact KO for details. 2.2. The meeting on 15/06/23 will be a brief follow up to the message with the opportunity to deal with questions and encourage volunteers. 2.3. If no members come forward, the search will be widened to <i>friends</i> of the choir through, for example an appeal in the Cathedral newsletter.  n..b. in accordance with the WCCC's ToR the Secretary is elected from members of the choir and is one of the choir's officers. Appointing an <i>outsider</i> may well need a change of the ToR needing members' and Chapter's approvals. And 3.1. The delayed AGM will take place on 28/09/23 and the Committee's pre-meeting on 06/09/23.	LR ER  KO ER KO KO      PB, KO
5	<b>Operational matters</b> <b>Membership</b> There will be 3 membership try-outs ( 2 Alto, 1 soprano) before the end of term	
6	<b>Brahms' Requiem</b> <b>Review</b>	

	<p>1. SS felt that musically the concert was good with the choir still sounding fresh at the end of the performance . MW observed that depts. should attend sufficient rehearsals..</p> <p>2. In general discussion:</p> <p>2.1. it was agreed that having a concert with a theme was an excellent idea and that attempts to reach out to a wider audience through publicity, BBC interview was excellent and a clear pointer for the future.</p> <p>2. 2. Ticket sales, although numerically similar to the pre-Covid performance in 2019, were, given the current post-Covid climate of reduced audiences and diminished support for music and the arts, good</p> <p>2.3. CO reported that preliminary figures showed that the concert would have a financial surplus of around £1000 which would be shared equally with the cathedral. Without the donor scheme the concert would have made a loss of approximately £500.</p> <p>Arising from the above AR looked to the future. Currently classical music is all about engaging with wider sections of the community. How should we find and engage with, mutually interested partners? A radical idea for the future is a complete free concert based on working with partners and donors.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Venables' Requiem</b> SS happy with progress and looking forward to joint rehearsal on 25/05/23 WCCC will receive £500 donation from Elgar Festival. AR will brief choir on arrangements for 01/06/23 at 25/05/23 rehearsal</p>	AR
<b>8</b>	<p><b>25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b> It was agreed that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SS' proposal for a celebratory Bach and Handel concert was an excellent one</li> <li>2. St, Martin's London road was a suitable and appropriate venue and the date would be 25/05/24. CO will confirm booking.</li> <li>3. The cost was likely to be in the region of £8000 and would require a subsidy from existing funds</li> <li>4. The choir would be asked for its views, including the use of existing funds, at the 15<sup>th</sup> June meeting.</li> </ol> <p><b>Westminster Abbey</b> All basic arrangements in place. KO has asked if Sam Hudson can be the accompanist. KO exploring cost of <i>day trip</i> coach. Cost will be approximately £1500.</p>	<p>CO</p> <p>SS, PB, CO</p> <p>KO</p>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b> 06/09/23</p>	PB