

Minutes of WCCC Annual General Meeting 26th June 2025

Present: Judith Aldridge, Sarah Donaldson, Caroline Gilderdale, Bethan Holley, Jenny Kettleton, Sarah Kings, Pammie Murray, Carole Oliver, Lynne Owens, Anne Renshaw, Eileen Roberts, Sue Stanford, Viv Todd, Kevern Oliver, Richard Holroyd, John Pare, Peter Brook, Clive Buswell, Tim Cox, Paul Mocroft, Bill Robinson, Robin Walker, Mark Wilson, Stephen Shellard, Linda Ayres, Sarah Cooke, Liz Forman, Deana Holdaway, Julia Maclagan, Hilary Markland, Helen Randall, Lynne Reekes, Jill Robinson, Sam Hudson

Minute	
1	<p>Welcome and Apologies Chair Sarah Donaldson welcomed members to the 2025 AGM.</p> <p>Apologies Andrew Russell.</p>
2	<p>Minutes of SGM held 19th September 2024 The draft Minutes of the SGM had been already circulated. There were no comments. Their adoption as a true record was proposed by Clive Buswell and seconded by Sue Stanford. Carried unanimously.</p>
3	<p>Minutes of AGM held on 3rd October 2024. The draft Minutes had already been circulated. There were no comments. Adoption of the draft Minutes as a true record was proposed by Kevern Oliver and seconded by Sarah Kings. Carried unanimously.</p>
4	<p>Chair's report - Sarah Donaldson for 2024/25 was circulated before the meeting. Sarah mentioned the following points in addition to her report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Particular thanks to every member of the Committee and those in supporting roles for their hard work throughout the year. • Special thanks to Sam for his support, particularly with the recording project, and for standing in as Chapter Representative following the death of JP. A small gift as a token of the Choir's appreciation was handed to Sam. • Westminster Abbey: detailed thanks are contained in the report. We were honoured to be asked back. The Committee would like to keep the return visit for a special occasion, and have in mind the choir's 30th anniversary. • Recording project: She thanked the choir for their tremendous support for the project by arranging adoption to date of 7 of the Carols to be recorded. She read out the Carols already adopted. <p>There were no comments or questions on the Report. Adoption of the report was proposed by Julia Maclagan and seconded by Judith Aldridge Carried unanimously.</p>
5	<p>Director of Music Stephen Shellard's report for 2024/25 was circulated before the meeting. He had no further comments to make.</p>

	<p>Adoption of the Report was proposed by Deana Holdaway and seconded by Sue Stanford. Carried unanimously.</p>
6	<p>Treasurer Carole Oliver's Report and accounts for 2024/25</p> <p>These were circulated before the meeting.</p> <p>Carole mentioned the following points in addition to her Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the Accounts virtually break even. (ii) The cost of the Musical Director and Accompanists' salaries have increased – Carole has been aiming for some time for their salaries to be brought into line with the guidance from the National Federation of Music Societies. She confirmed that they are now within the average range quoted on the website. (iii) Carole reminded everyone that the loss on the Baroque Concert was within the budgeted loss of £5000 authorised by the choir. <p>Sarah also reported that the Gift Aid situation is now almost sorted by the Cathedral Finance team – Carole confirmed that matters are now running smoothly within the team, and they just have one year's Gift Aid to catch up on. Now the choir generally receives the Gift Aid in the same month as the subscription in question is paid.</p> <p>Finally, Carole made a plea for someone to come forward to succeed her as Treasurer. She has done the job for 12 years and would like a year just as a normal singing member before retiring! She promised to be close at hand to deal with any queries a successor may have.</p> <p>There were no questions or queries on the Report and Accounts.</p> <p>Adoption of the Report and Accounts was proposed by Anne Renshaw and seconded by Viv Todd. Carried unanimously.</p> <p>Subscriptions</p> <p>Carole explained the Committee, has approved and recommended an increase in the annual subscription from £105 to £120 ie by just £5 per term. Still great value.</p> <p>She confirmed that it can be paid termly if easier.</p> <p>A formal vote was needed at the AGM to approve the subscription.</p> <p>This was proposed by Carole Oliver and seconded by Sarah Cooke. It was carried unanimously.</p>
7	<p>Elections to Committee for 2025/26</p> <p>Lynne Reekes read out details of Sarah Donaldson's proposer and seconder in the office of Chair ie proposed by Eileen Roberts, seconded by Clive Buswell.</p> <p>Sarah Donaldson as Chair, read out details of the other nominees, their proposers, and seconders ie:</p> <p>Secretary(officer): Nominee: Liz Forman, proposed by Lynne Reekes, seconded by Deana Holdaway</p> <p>Treasurer (officer): Carole Oliver proposed by Lynne Reekes, seconded by Bethan Holley.</p> <p>Development Officer: Anne Renshaw, proposed by Lynne Owens, seconded by Jenny Kettleton.</p>

	<p>All nominees, there being only one candidate for each post, were voted into office unanimously for 2025/26.</p> <p>In addition, and not requiring a proposer and seconder: Musical Director (officer) : Stephen Shellard Chapter Representative: Sam Hudson (pending appointment of a Precentor)</p>
8	<p>Any Other business. There was none. The meeting closed at 8.54pm</p>