

## Minutes of the WCCC Special General Meeting held in College Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**Present:** J. Aldridge, S. Armit, S. Donaldson, J. Kettleton, S. Kings, P. Murray, C. Oliver, L. Owens, A. Renshaw, E. Roberts, S. Stanford, V Todd, L. Ayres, S. Cooke, L. Forman, D. Holdaway, J. Maclagan, H. Markland, L. Moss, H. Randall, J. Robinson, B. Coleman, R. Holroyd, K. Oliver, A. Russell, P. Brook, C. Buswell, P. Mocroft, M. Wilson. S. Shellard, R. Walker

**Apologies:** B. Holley, L. Reekes, J. Pare, P. Sheppard, T. Cox, B. Robinson.

Peter Brook outlined the purpose the meeting, which was to agree new Terms of Reference for how the choir should be run. He would explain the reasons behind the changes, before inviting questions on the TOR, which had been distributed beforehand with key changes highlighted.

He would then invite questions before asking for a show of hands from members to signify agreement or otherwise to their adoption. A majority of those voting would decide either way.

It had become clear some time ago that the committee had become very cumbersome, having grown to 12 members, which made decision making slower and unnecessarily complex. It had also become clear that the need to replace long-standing members of the committee had felt like a crisis rather than the smooth hand-over that it should be.

Peter had outlined his thoughts about the need for new ways of working at last year's AGM, and this had been taken forward by Liz Forman with a structural suggestion which was presented at the committee meeting in June. This was then rapidly refined by the committee, and forms the basis for the new ToR presented today. The committee and choir had been kept involved at every stage.

The core committee would be reduced to a management group of 6. There would a ~~flexible~~ cohort of supporting roles to allowed flexibility, delegation of jobs which don't need direct committee involvement, and the chance for people to contribute in the running of the choir without the commitment of being on the committee itself. Regular communication and consultation will be key to making it work

The changes have been accepted by Chapter with the proviso that the membership of the choir accept them – they were asked to approve these prior to the choir, given the dates of Chapter meetings over the Summer.

The meeting was then open to the floor for questions/comments.

Andrew Russell pointed out that the end of paragraph 15 of the proposed TOR is redundant as a third of the new committee (total 6 members) will be two people

*15. The Committee shall meet once every six weeks or at other times when business warrants. A quorum shall be formed by three members of the Committee, or a third of its members whichever is the greater, and to include any two of the Officers.*

Kevern Oliver agreed to amend Section 15 accordingly – see \* below.

Eileen Roberts raised the point that it is also important that those who hold non-committee roles have the ability to step back when necessary which was agreed. (See footnote for clarification.)

Peter invited members to vote for or against the proposed changes to the TOR by a show of hands. There were 28 in favour, 0 against, and 0 abstentions, with the proviso that paragraph 15 be amended to read as follows:

*\*15. The Committee shall meet once every six weeks or at other times when business warrants. A quorum shall be formed by three members of the Committee two of whom must be Officers.*

Peter declared that the new TOR had now come into effect. Appropriate AGM documentation would be circulated immediately.

He then closed the meeting.

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**Post meeting clarification:** The committee would oversee and agree all significant changes - especially for continuous operational roles, like Eileen's, Jenny's and Mark's. Serving members were free to stand back. The committee remained responsible for finding successors for key task or creating new ones. Success depended on members coming forward to serve, just as it does now.

Liz Forman  
Sec WCCC  
Date