

FARINGDON SINGERS

Minutes of the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
12 October 2017
7.45 pm at the United Church Hall

1. APOLOGIES - Richard Fergusson, Richard Waterhouse, Douglas Dalrymple

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM

The Minutes of the previous AGM held on 29 September 2016 were agreed.

3. MATTER ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT (from Aileen Bridge)

Total income for the year was £2981.90. Aileen thanked Stella for the income from the sale of refreshments, which was £85.

Costs for accompanists and soloists had been lower than usual this year, helping to ensure that total expenditure was only a little more (six pounds) than total income. However, Aileen warned that subscriptions income has been dropping: it generally reduces term by term through the year, and this year the summer term subs had been unusually low.

A total of £1908 had been raised for charity, including £700 at the Christmas Concert at Blessed Hugh. All concert proceeds had been given away.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (from Carl Oberman)

(summary - full details in file copy)

Carl reported on his first year as Chairman, including the concerts in the autumn and spring terms. The concerts planned for the summer had been cancelled because of the Musical Director's indisposition, but the plan is to hold these in the summer of 2018 instead.

Carl thanked Jo and Carol for their work on library loans, and Tracey for help with finding storage space at the United Church for our own music library. Almost all solo parts this year had been sung by choir members, and Roy Woodhams and John Ridgway had once again been our accompanists. The new clavinova had been helpful in rehearsals, and also in a venue where the organ was not conveniently located.

Current membership is 37, and we have room for more. Debra Warner and Avril Coleman had recently left the choir because of other commitments, and we had lost our very longstanding member Chris Morgan for health reasons.

The summer social in the Barber Rooms had been an enjoyable event.

Carl ended by expressing our relief and delight at Terence's return to full health, hoping that he will continue to lead us as he has done for many years. He thanked Terence for his dedication, and committee members for their support.

The Committee for 2017 -18 is:

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|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Chair | Carl Oberman |
| Treasurer | Aileen Bridge (pro tem) |
| Secretary | Carol Griffin (pro tem) |
| Minutes Secretary | Pam de Wit |
| Publicity | Karen Vogt |
| Choir Library | Richard Maw |
| Library Loans | Janet Sheil |
| Concert Planning | Maureen Pendlebury |

5. MUSICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (from Terence Carter)

(summary - full details in file copy)

Terence described the choir's concerts in the past year, and explained the plans to reschedule the postponed Summer Concerts which will now take place in July 2018, and the Choral Evensong in May 2018 (instead of October 2017).

He gave details of the plans for the rest of the programme for 2018.

He thanked the choir for all the work they put in to make our concerts a success, but emphasised the need for regular attendance at rehearsals: the whole concept of the choir is to meet and sing regularly together, and the Duruflé next Spring Term will be particularly challenging.

6. AOB

The question was asked whether a membership of 37 is enough. In discussion it was suggested that an important issue is the retention of members after they join the choir.

A proposed increase of the termly subscription to £25 is to be considered by the Committee.

The Committee also plan to rewrite the current brief note in our concert programmes, to offer a warmer invitation to prospective new members and to provide an application form with fuller details for anyone who is interested.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.