

FARINGDON SINGERS
Minutes of the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
17th October 2019
7.45 pm at the United Church Hall

1. APOLOGIES – Geoff Foster, Nina Chandler, Val Chapman, Stuart Ramsden , Denise Monk, Meg Greenwood,

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM - The Minutes of the previous AGM held on 11th October 2018 were agreed. Proposed by Karen Vogt, seconded by Aileen Bridge.

3. MATTERS ARISING

At the previous AGM Nina mentioned that perhaps there should just be only the one concert at Christmas. Terence believed that with the effort that goes in preparing and rehearsing for a concert there should be 2 concerts – a majority of singers at the meeting agreed.

The dates for the summer concerts had once again clashed with major sporting events, but it is a busy time of year, and some clashes are inevitable. It would not be easy to change the date of the summer concert without reducing the term length.

4. TREASURER’S REPORT (from Carol Griffin)

Accounts September to August 2019 – prepared by Carol Griffin and independently audited by Jonathan De Wilton

Total income for the year: £3,014

Total expenditure for the year: £3,758

Profits from the refreshments: £66

Total in bank £1,161.

A saving in the cost of insurance for Faringdon Singers had been made by switching from our previous insurers - Methodist Insurance – to Ladbrooks. Methodist Insurance had charged an annual premium in the order of £300, although a rebate of £177 was received from Methodist Insurance as we had switched insurers before the renewal date. The premium charged by Ladbrooks, our new insurers, was £171.

The chairman stated that the term subscription would for the time-being remain at £20 per term, but might need to increase to £25 in due course to meet rising costs and the need to pay for external soloists when the need arises. He advised that some retired or unemployed member pay a lesser fee.

All concert proceeds had been given away, a total of £2,536. Breakdown as follows:

Monies raised for charities:

Christmas 2018	St.Mary Magdelene, South Marston Tearfund £230	Church of the Blessed Hugh, Faringdon Save the Children, Yemen appeal	£700
Spring 2019	All Saints Church, Faringdon ‘Root and Branch’ £461	St.Mary’s Church, Buckland The Joshua Fund	£675
Summer 2019	Methodist Church, Shrivenham Phakamisa £270	Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington Cancer Research UK	£200

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Carl Oberman) (full report in file copy)

The carols, songs, soloists and venues concerts for the year ending with the 2019 summer concert were outlined. The chair thanked all that took part in the various elements of making the concerts happen. With particular thanks to the soloists.

The funeral service for Chris Morgan at St. Britius church in Brize Norton on 29th March was described. Twelve singers sang 'Never weather beaten sail' by Thomas Campian. Chris, a tenor, was one of the earliest members of Faringdon Singers, his passing was a sad loss to the choir. He and his wife Wendy set up and administered the Singers' music library.

Pam de Wit was thanked for the organisation of the enjoyable summer term supper at the Barber Rooms in Faringdon.

Membership has been approximately 37 throughout the year, on average. The chair thanked Judith Crouch on her retirement early in 2019. She had been one of the longest serving singers, and also expressed his delight at Maureen Pendlebury, the singers longest-serving member deciding to continue with us.

The Committee for 2020 -2019 is:

Musical Director	Terence Carter
Chair	Carl Oberman
Treasurer	Carol Griffin
Secretary	<i>vacancy</i>
Minutes Secretary	Charlotte Holley
Publicity	Karen Vogt
Choir Library	Richard Maw
Library Loans	Janet Sheil
Concert Planning	<i>vacancy</i>

Pam De Wit and Maureen Pendlebury (retiring committee members) were thanked for their many years of help on the committee, and Charlotte Holley for taking over as Minutes Secretary. The positions of Secretary and Concert Planning remain vacant, but we are pleased to welcome Charlotte Holley as Minutes secretary

5. MUSICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Terence Carter) (full details in file copy)

Terence described the choir's concerts for the last year and thanked the concert venue administrators and those involved in the organisation and stated how well the choir had been look after with the refreshments provided at each concert.

Terence mentioned the sad death of Chris Morgan and how he will be missed as one of the most reliable of members. He also thanked the current members for their commitment, but the choir was always seeking potential new members – in particular, tenors, so members were asked to be on the lookout.

Haydn's 'Creation' is planned as the major work for the Spring Term 2020

6. AOB

Terence felt that it took too long to get the music distributed to people on the first rehearsal of term, causing a delay in getting started. Debra Warner advised it would be easier to make up numbered folders prior to the first rehearsal of the term. It was suggested we have a working party to be called upon to help with making up the numbered folders.

Half term – 31st October was confirmed as the date of Half Term.

Carl would like people to let him know if they can come to the concerts.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.15