

## **MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 9 DECEMBER 2022 VIA ZOOM**

Present:

Basil Butler, Chairman  
Andrew Wilson-Dickson  
Val Cole  
Jane Norman  
Paul Willington  
Angus Gordon

Jeremy Logie  
James Hudson  
Laura Carstairs  
Trish Willington  
Ian Graham-Jones

Apologies: Anne-Marie Scott-Masson, Persephone Gibbs

### **1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 September were agreed and matters arising would be covered during the current meeting.

### **2. REVIEW OF RECENT CONCERTS**

a) **Tiverton.** Despite a financial loss of approximately £3,000, the concert was judged a success since it was a new venue and we sold 131 seats. A review of the administration had been undertaken by Val, Trish and James and learning noted for the next time we go there.  
**Next action:** James, Val, Trish

b) **Messiah.** The feedback from members of the audience and the cathedral had been very enthusiastic. The nature of our relationship with the cathedral was discussed. It was agreed that if they want to engage the orchestra for 2023, they should be asked to contribute to the cost, it being important that the orchestra's professional status be acknowledged. Angus to raise this with the Cathedral Music Foundation. The meeting expressed its gratitude to Angus for his financial support for this concert.  
**Next action:** Angus

### **3. DARTINGTON CONCERT FEBRUARY 2023**

The issues relating to Dartington's client management and administrative inefficiencies were discussed. We have still not received the contract for this concert, which delays ticket sales and publicity. It was noted that for future concerts we must have contracts at the earliest opportunity. The venue for the post-concert reception for Friends and Patrons had also still to be agreed. *(Subsequently Dartington have offered a suitable room.)*

**Next action:** Trish, James

#### **4. PROPOSED LEWESTON CONCERT 17/18 JUNE**

There are still question marks as to whether this concert proceeds. Issues to be resolved:

- The degree to which Leweston can guarantee an audience and our likely financial liability.
- Will there be a masterclass session for the school's music group or will they be away?
- Will the concert be on Saturday night with the rehearsal in the afternoon? If so, there should be no need for overnight accommodation.
- Will the programme be a repeat of Seasons and Windmills?

**Next action:** Trish, Andrew

#### **5. SEPTEMBER CONCERTS TIVERTON AND DARTINGTON**

It was agreed that it would be desirable to play the same concert in both venues over the same weekend. The format would be:

- Friday rehearsal in Totnes
- Saturday travel to Tiverton for rehearsal and evening concert
- Return to Totnes on Saturday night
- Rehearsal and concert at Dartington, Sunday afternoon

The programme would be Concerto Heaven with Virtuoso Flutes. Budgets to be agreed.

**Next action:** Trish, James

#### **6. POSSIBLE NEW CONCERT IN SOMERSET**

Val and Trish reported on their meeting with Peter Lewis who runs Music in the Quantocks. The arrangement would be a joint venture with Peter being responsible for the venue, publicity and ticket sales. Whilst acknowledging Peter's desire for a concert of classic baroque music, we would be responsible for programme content, probably including some woodwind. The financial responsibility would rest with us. Possible timing would be November 19 or 26, 2023.

**Next action:** Val

#### **7. CONCERT WITH WELSH CAMERATA IN CARDIFF**

Easter 2024 The likely programme is St Mark's Passion and the venue St Mary of the Angel's church, a regular venue for the choir. Andrew to arrange for a choir member to contact James re finance, contract and admin arrangements.

**Next action:** Andrew then James

#### **8. EXETER FESTIVAL CHORUS CONCERT**

The concert where the orchestra is engaged by Exeter Festival Chorus has been agreed in principle for March 24<sup>th</sup> 2024, although the programme has yet to be agreed. We will need to ensure that all costs and expenses are fully covered, plus a small management fee.

**Next action:** Trish, James

## 9. CORONATION CONCERT

Angus raised the possibility of a concert to be held within a week or two of the King's coronation in May. Bearing in mind availability of players, venue, concert content and likely costs this to be discussed further.

**Next action:** Angus with James, Trish, Music committee

## 10. SPONSOR AND TRUST APPLICATIONS

A fundraising group comprising Basil, Laura and James has been established to progress Trust sponsorship applications.

**Next action:** James, then Laura and Basil

## 11. TREASURER'S REPORT

Jeremy and James had met with Mike Davies to initiate handover of the Treasurer's role, which will take place from 1<sup>st</sup> January.

**Next action:** Jeremy

## 12. NURTURING YOUNG TALENT

This topic had been previously discussed. It was agreed that we should compile a list of young talent that had gone on to become leading players which would aid the chances of funding by showing that we help nurture new talent. In addition, Andrew would use his contacts with the Royal Welsh School of Music & Drama to see if there were suitable students who might either play with the orchestra on occasion or who might benefit from attending a rehearsal. It was emphasised that the orchestra's standards would not be compromised by the inclusion of a student.

**Next action:** Andrew, Persephone, Jane

## 13. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

### CLOUD STORAGE

We currently have records, photographs and assorted important documents on the computers of a number of members of the committee and it was agreed that we should buy a small quantity of cloud storage so that a) important documents were in one place and b) they were available to any member of the trustees and management committee who needed to refer to them.

**Next action:** James

### ZOOM ACCOUNT

As most of our meetings are on line we have taken a Zoom account. The committee approved the expenditure £83.

### FACEBOOK

Jane would arrange for Paul and James to have access to post to our Facebook page

**Next action:** Jane

#### HOSTING FAMILIES

It was agreed that we need to increase the pool of hosting families in Totnes. *(Although not discussed at the meeting, perhaps Jeremy could pursue this with Friends and Patrons? Also if anyone has contacts in the area could they be sounded out as potential hosts?)*

**Next action:** Jeremy

#### **14. TRUSTEES AND CHAIR**

Basil has expressed a wish to step down as Chair of both the Trustees and the Management Committee, having worked with orchestra for over 20 years. He nominated James to take the role of Chair to replace him from January 1<sup>st</sup> and this was approved by the Trustees and committee members. Basil would continue to be a trustee, albeit in a less prominent role. The committee expressed its warm thanks to Basil for all his hard work and dedication to the wellbeing and survival of the orchestra over the years and James stated that he would value Basil's wisdom and experience as he took on his new role.

Laura Carstairs and Andrew Wilson-Dickson have both accepted an invitation to become trustees and the committee welcomed them to their new roles.