

Waveney Sinfonia AGM 29th September 2018 at Sir John Leman High School

Welcome - Michael Taylor (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Present: Michael Taylor, Chris Greenhill (Vice chair) Steve Johnson,(Treasurer) Clare Seabrook, Mike Seabrook, David Adelson, Carol Skinner, Anna Green, Mike Ellwood, Richard Keeble, Jennifer Cochrane, David Lewis, Julia Faulkner, David Faulkner, Caroline Kinchin-Smith, Wendy Ekbery, Caroline Franks, Tim Hughes, Margaret Taylor, Rosemary Shaw, Philip Harrold, Claire Harrison, Fred Pickworth, Frances Pickworth, Liz Skinner, Catherine Ross, Sandra Holmes, Adrian Brown, Robert Emery, Ian Summers, Alison Evans, Cecilia Metherell, Mike Peck, Chris Robinson, Stewart Green, Derek Holland, Barbara Taylor, Crispin Warren and Chris Adelson.

In the absence of an official Secretary, Chris Adelson took notes.

Minutes of the previous AGM

The Minutes of the September 2017 AGM were received and confirmed.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report – Michael Taylor

Our 40th season passed off very well. It was marked by 'a splash of red' worn by the orchestra and reflected in the music stand backs etc. There was a great trio of concerts including praise for the quality and range of programming. Thanks must go to Adrian Brown and his wife Margaret for all their unstinting work in front of and behind the scenes. Thanks also to the hardworking committee who again support the converts in so many ways behind the scenes, emailing at all times of the day and night, but also working in a very joined up way.

We have said our farewells to Catherine Kirk our departing secretary, and thank her for all she has done over the past five years. Catherine and Steven will still help with the lighting on concert days.

We are still looking for a new secretary. It is not a massive role but needs a little skill in note taking. Please let Michael know if you could take on this role.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Johnson - Figures attached

Waveney Sinfonia Accounts - Year Ending 31 August 2018

Overall another satisfactory year from another financial perspective, with a small loss of £13 for the year, compared with a modest surplus of £123 in 16-17. The comparison with 16-17 income and expenditure is shown on the attached grid, with a more detailed breakdown by concert and cash view.

Corporate sponsorship continues from Norton Peskett Solicitors and the Rotary Club of Lowestoft East Point, and we thank them and Alan Zipfel for securing this. We are also grateful for the continued financial support from members of the orchestra.

Looking forward to the current season, we are pleased to have secured funding from The Malcolm Arnold Trust to cover the music hire costs for his oboe concerto (January concert).

Members asked about the Yarmouth concert. Steve explained that Yarmouth covered the costs and no money went through Waveney Sinfonia's books for this concert.

Steve also assured us that gift aid forms continue for many years.

Friends Report – Caroline Kinchin-Smith

There are thirty Friends with some people still to renew. We have two new Patrons bringing the total to six, which is good. Pam and Tom Burroughs, who used to be our stage managers, have continued their membership in spite of moving away. They send their best wishes. Caroline also mentioned that 'friends' have rallied around since Olive Jenner's illness. Jenny Watson has offered to take over selling tickets at Trinity café and Pat has a team of helpers ready for refreshment making in the interval.

Publicity – Cecilia Metherell

We have continued to place our regular adverts in the Lowestoft Journal (LJ) and the Yarmouth Mercury and other 'What's on' publications. However, following our October concert, when neither an editorial nor follow-up report with photos of our celebratory cake appeared, it became obvious that we were not being afforded the editorial that we deserved. Cecilia emailed the editor and conferred with Tony Mallion, one of our 'Friends' and former radio presenter, and an editorial appeared in LJ for our January concert as well as the B&B, which also included a photo of Jamie Foreman. For May we managed a photo of Yu Zhou in the LJ and Waveney Advertiser. There has also been some success with editorials appearing in the Beccles and Halesworth Community newspapers.

I have started the new season by emailing the four Lowestoft High schools and County Music Service requesting they circulate details of our next concert to students and parents. In addition to the Waveney Facebook page I am also a member of the Lowestoft Events and Beccles Community Facebook pages on which I can put our posters and adverts – for example the Secretary's vacancy.

I thank Allan Emery for continuing to place road signs on the approach roads into Lowestoft and also the members who place out posters and distribute our annual leaflets. I reiterate my plea from the last year that members display small posters in their car windows and hand out flyers where possible.

A question was asked about whether it would be possible to have a ticket out let in Yarmouth. Also Wendy Ekbery suggested a name change to Gt Yarmouth and Waveney Sinfonia to help erase the county boundary feel. The audience in Yarmouth really appreciated our visit. It will be discussed by the committee.

Election of Officers & Committee. - Michael Taylor proposed that the Officers were elected en bloc.

This was proposed by Michael Taylor and seconded by Rosemary Shaw.

Auditor – Steve Johnson and the committee reviewed the decision and concluded it was not necessary to hire an auditor annually but the committee will check over the accounts every couple of years.

A.O.B

Adrian Brown expressed a vote of thanks to Olive Jenner and was deeply appreciative of all she has done for the society. He also thanked David Adelson for his work behind the scenes as well as being 'a bloody marvellous leader'.

The splash of red is continuing for this season.

Date of next AGM will be on the first rehearsal Saturday before the October concert 2018, the 42nd season.

Players were asked to check the players contact list and update their information after the meeting.