

## The Llysfaen Singers

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015

**Attendees:** Beryl Bowen, Gemma Bowen, Nevil Davies **Chairman** (ND), Ann Doubler **Treasurer** (AD), Susan Anthony, Cathy Riordan, Emma Smith, Kath Evans, Anne Mason, Gloria Lindsay, Alison Dickinson, Jan Jones, Cath Lynn (CL), Karen Mingay (KM), Eirlys McNeil-Watson, Alan Prosper, Ian Shopland, Peter Gough, Moira Herdman, Joanna Burdett, Helen Husband, Val McBroom, Rachel Marsh (RM), Anne McGuffin (AMcG), Peter McGuffin, Jean Peek, Angela Archer, Oonagh Scott, Phil May, Juliette Sherrard (JS), Judy Thayer, Simon Armitage, Kathy Armitage, Martin Bye **Secretary** (MRB).

**Apologies:** Diane Rhoden, Carolyn Tranfield, Cath Evans, Delyth Rummings, Alyson Rowe

#### 1. Opening Remarks

MRB introduced the meeting by mentioning our requirement to hold an AGM and emphasising that, as well as the formal agenda items, the meeting was an opportunity for all Choir members to have their “say” in Choir matters.

#### 2. Chairman’s Report (ND)

ND reported that it had been another successful year for the Choir, with significant events being: the appointments of Alex Thacker and Alan Prosper as deputy Musical Director and Honorary President respectively; also Membership of Making Music, and our application to the Charity Commission to become a Registered Charity\*.

He outlined the various benefits resulting from membership of Making Music, including provision of insurance cover, the raising of the Choir profile through linkage to Making Music’s website and dealing with the Performing Rights Society. The process of registration as a Charity has been a long drawn-out affair though not through any fault of our own. Registered Charity status should also raise our profile, help us financially by making it easier to apply for grant funding from other professional bodies (such as Ty Cerdd) and also allow us to claim Grant Aid on our future subscriptions.

Two extremely successful concerts were held during the year. Rachel and Phil were commended for having done an outstanding job, by raising the musical standard of the Choir enormously. Thanks were also given to Alex and Mel for standing in, sometimes at very short notice. As a result of the Community support we have enjoyed, we have been able to donate £250 each to two charities, “Music in Hospitals” and “LATCH” (presented earlier in the evening). Thanks were due to many members of the Choir, Committee, also husbands/wives/partners for their skill in organising ticket sales, the bar, refreshments and raffles as well as the general organisation of these events.

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\* Note: The Charity Commission has now confirmed that the Llysfaen Singers has obtained Registered Charity status with the Registered Charity Number 1162703.

ND also acknowledged Ian Shopland's excellent work in maintaining our website and Alice Fayn (Youtube); and Oonagh Scott for giving generous time and effort in producing our badged T-shirts. ND extended a special thank-you to Beryl who will be standing down from the position of Membership Secretary/Librarian.

### 3. Music Director's Report

RM reported yet another successful and busy year as a choir, noting how much the Choir had improved since first formation. Highlights included a hugely successful Christmas concert, the performance by some members at Global and Heart Radio's "Make Some Noise" charity event, and the recent Lisvane Festival Concert. The Summer event programme included two guests, a soprano soloist and a flautist, both of whom provided extra variety to our concert. RM indicated that she would like future concerts to include the option of having guest performers, in particular with different instruments. It has been agreed that it would be better for the Choir to work towards two concerts a year instead of three, thereby allowing more time to learn new numbers and to work on our older repertoire in more detail.

RM commented on an earlier initiative to hold a small informal concert on the Glanfa Stage (Wales Millennium Centre) towards the end of March 2015; this unfortunately did not take place.

On a final note, RM thanked accompanist Phil May, the individual members of the Committee who were "nothing but supportive" during the year; also Nevil as Chairman and Beryl as the outgoing Librarian/Membership Secretary.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

See Appendix. The accounts were approved unanimously by Choir members.

Particular thanks were extended to Doug Craddock in his capacity of reviewing and approving the accounts. He has agreed to audit Choir accounts for at least the next year.

### 5. Election of Officers and Committee

#### 5.1 Chair

Nevil had previously indicated that he is not in a position to seek re-election, so this position has now become vacant. Anne McGuffin has kindly agreed to be nominated as

the New Chair of the Choir (proposed by ND, seconded by Oonagh Scott). No other nominations were forthcoming.

Anne McGuffin was duly elected Chair of the Llysfaen Singers effective immediately.

## 5.2 Secretary and Treasurer

MRB and AD expressed their willingness to continue as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. There were no other nominations for these two positions.

## 5.3 Librarian/Membership Secretary

The only other Committee member not seeking re-election is Beryl. Cath Lynn has agreed to be nominated as Librarian/Membership Secretary. No other nominations being received, Cath Lynn was duly elected into this position.

5.4 The vacancy created (Tenor/Bass Voice Rep) is to be filled by Alistair Macdonald.

5.5 There were no other changes to the Committee membership.

## 6. Questions from Choir Members / Any Other Business

6.1 Moira Herdman raised the possibility of the Choir performing more singing events, e.g. at the Wednesday (Old School) coffee mornings and at other venues, such as retirement homes, etc. The general feeling was that these were the sort of activities the Choir should be involved in.

Action: Coffee Mornings - AMcG/MRB to liaise with Julie George.

Action: Other venues - Committee to discuss at its next meeting with a view to identifying and approaching possible venues.

6.2 We have been approached via Eirlys McNeil-Watson by the organiser of a Huggard Centre fund-raising event (Angela Goddard) who has enquired about the possibility of the Choir performing at this event in March 2016. A Wednesday or a Thursday afternoon would be possible, preferably 2<sup>nd</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> March, both Wednesday dates.

The format is flexible and could include a “welcome and introductions” at 2.30pm , followed by the Choir singing from (say) 2.40 to 3.10pm. Following a break, the organisers are suggesting that the Choir perform for another 20 minutes and finish at ~ 4.00pm.

Members were generally in favour of going ahead; a show of hands indicated that there would be sufficient numbers available to perform at the event.

Action: MRB to respond to Angela Goddard.

Action: MRB to canvass availability of Choir members on the days suggested.

Action: RM to arrange a music programme for the event.

6.3 The Lisvane Community Association would like to explore the possibility of an informal open-air Christmas carol event.

Action: MRB/AMcG to liaise with Colin George/Chris Williams and to obtain more details.

6.4. Peter Gough raised a question of introducing more Welsh songs into our repertoire.

Action: RM to note.

7. The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Martin Bye  
20<sup>th</sup> July 2015

## Appendix

## Lisvane Singers

### Income and Expenditure Account for the Year from 6th April 2014 to 5th April 2015

<u>Income</u>	<u>05.04.2015</u>
Subscriptions	4,658
Ticket sales	1,146
Raffle Monies	814
Christmas Party For Chor - Tickets	339
	<u>6,956</u>
 <u>Expenditure</u>	
Hall Hire	1,250
Music Hire / Purchase	1,051
Musical Director	1,050
Relief Director	220
Pianist	985
Relief Pianist	90
Organists	1,000
Church costs	25
Concert Costs	289
Postage	13
Christmas Party	302
Others	302
	<u>6,557</u>
 <b>Surplus for year from 6th April 2014 to 5th April 2015</b>	<b>388</b>
Surplus brought forward from 5th April 2014	1,351
<b>Total surplus</b>	<b><u>1,759</u></b>
 <b>Represented by:-</b>	
<b>Bank account</b>	<b><u>1,759</u></b>

I certify that the above Account is a true and fair reflection of the books and records, and Bank Statements, of the Lisvane Singers



Douglas Craddock, Certified Accountant

July 2015

Llysfaen Singers

Income and Expenditure Account

September 2013 to 5th April 2014

	<u>05,04,14</u>
<b>Income</b>	
Subscriptions	3,110
Ticket Sales - Christmas	482
Teacher Aid	245
Raffle monies	337
Echo Wish Campaign	157
	<u>4,331</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Hall Hire	789
Music Hire/purchase	446
Musical Director	645
Relief Director	120
Pianist	563
Relief Pianist	100
Donation to Teacher Aid	149
Flowers & Gifts	85
Christmas concert costs	53
	<u>2,950</u>
Surplus	<u>1,381</u>
Represented By: Bank Account	<u>1,381</u>

I certify that the above Account is a true and fair reflection of the books and records, and Bank Statements, of the Llysfaen Singers



Neil Hodge, Chartered Accountant

July 2014