



## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

SUNDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2003

HELD AT BENSLOW MUSIC TRUST, HITCHIN, HERTS.

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### Present:

Andrew Short	Chairman	Colin Martin	Musical Adviser
Alistair Read	Secretary	David Beare	Committee
Brian Fraser-Hook	Treasurer	Sylvia Davies	Committee
Bob Horsley	Publicity Officer	Norma Herdson	Committee
Sandra Foxall	Training Co-ordinator.	Hilary Oliver	Committee
Graham Danbury	Chairman, WBF	Peter Sturgeon	Committee
Mary Tyers	Competition Admin.	Also in attendance: Helen Beare	

**1. Welcome/Apologies for absence:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from John Allen; Jim Rowley; Madeline Seviour; Alyson Lewin; Eileen Silcocks; and Margaret Shearing.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting,** held on 20 October 2002, were AGREED and approved *nem. con.*. Proposed: Colin Martin; seconded: Hilary Oliver, subject to the following amendment: *Minute 5.1 to read:* ... "Whilst NYRO 2002 was not David Beare's responsibility as project manager, he had prepared project accounts which were circulated at the meeting. There was a 'profit' providing the missing course and audition fees were recovered. Application for grants for NYRO 2003 had been found to be very time consuming. CD sales were progressing smoothly and there were 120 left to sell at £10."

### 3. Matters arising

*Minute 3.1* The Treasurer confirmed that he had sent ERTA a cheque for £1,000.

*Minute 3.2* The Chairman confirmed that Douglas Haston had received details of two branch libraries for the database he was setting up. Ashley Allerton was in the course of setting up his own database for the Devon branch library. (Action: Chairman to liaise with Douglas Haston and Ashley Allerton).

*Minute 3.3* The Chairman confirmed that the Society website is now provided by Claranet at a reduced cost.

*Minute 4.9.2* The Treasurer confirmed the Charity Commissioners had written confirming that an independent examiner is required for a turnover of up to £250,000, and Robert Harrison has agreed to continue as our independent examiner.

*Minute 6* The Chairman undertook to call Dick Pyper with regard to SRP Development.

*Minute 9* The Chairman said negotiations with 'Making Music' had now been concluded and the SRP had been accepted for full membership, initially for one year in the first instance. The Secretary would be the Society's contact point.

*Minute 11.2* It was AGREED that matters in respect of the CSRPs should be put on hold.

*Minute 11.3* the Chairman reported that Moira Usher was still happy to organise a further series of conducting workshops.

*Minute 11.4* The Chairman said he would circulate the Trustees' Annual Report [to the Charity Commissioners] at the Committee's May 2003 meeting.

**4. Officers' Reports:** Officers' reports were circulated to the Committee, and are attached; they constitute an integral part of the Minutes of proceedings. The notes below reflect discussion on the reports submitted.

4.8 *Competition Administrator.* Mary Tyers said that the official closing date for applications was 14.02.03 and whilst she had received 12 applications she fully expected there would still be one or two 'in the post.' She confirmed the competition would be held 24–26 October 2003 at one of various Greenwich venues still under negotiation. The adjudicators would be: Dan Laurin; Marion Scott; and Ashley Solomon. Mary confirmed that the Walter Bergmann Fund had withdrawn sponsorship of the runner-up prizes. It was AGREED, however, that the Society would fund these from central sources. Proposed: Brian Fraser-Hook; seconded Colin Martin. Mary also confirmed that funding costs would be split three ways: one third each by Moeck, The Early Music Shop and the SRP. The first prize of £500 plus a recital would be funded by Moeck. Negotiations were still on-going with the Early Music Shop regarding other expenses, but Moeck had agreed to meeting advertising costs. Hospitality and instrument hire would be funded by the Early Music Shop. Moeck and EMS would fund hire of rooms for rehearsal, and the competition venue. The SRP would be responsible for administrative costs, including the cost of applicants' accommodation. Brian Fraser-Hook said he hoped that the SRP would be given more prominence this year in publicity and other material. It was AGREED that applicants be given free membership of the Society for one year. Proposed: David Beare; seconded Alistair Read. Chairman, Walter Bergmann Fund suggested that a prize of up to £250 be awarded for any outstanding performance of a single item by a competitor other than the winner. This would be subject to the adjudicators' discretion, with the proviso that no anomalies arise vis à vis its value with regard to the other prize awards.

4.9 *The Treasurer's Report* and draft accounts were circulated and a copy is included in the Officers' Reports. It was AGREED that the 'Making Music' subscription should be debited to central funds and not NYRO and that sales of CDs from last year's NYRO concert should be credited to NYRO. Proposed: Andrew Short; seconded Brian Fraser-Hook. It was also AGREED that NYRO bad debts would be written off against central funds. David Beare would, however, pursue debtors. Brian reported that Festival 2002, at Guildford, made a profit of £316.65. It was AGREED this would be split three ways as before. Proposed: Colin Martin; seconded Sylvia Davies.

#### **5. National Youth Recorder Orchestra (NYRO) 2003**

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. David Beare said in his opening remarks that he had set up a display of material for the committees' inspection and that members were encouraged to take away literature for distribution at branch meetings, etc. VAT exemption was discussed as was the matter of child protection. It was AGREED that as part of the NYRO 2003 Outreach Programme players would be given membership of the SRP for one year and that this would be paid for out of the NYRO 2003 budget and administered by COS. They would be encouraged to attend local branch meetings and join the following year. (Action: COS and NYRO Project Manager). Proposed: Alistair Read; seconded Graham Danbury. David Beare went on to say that there would be publicity at the forthcoming Manchester festival/conference.

#### **6. The Future of NYRO**

The Committee discussed at some length the second of David Beare's reports which had also been circulated. It was AGREED that NYRO should remain a part of the SRP as a flagship activity fulfilling charitable objectives. David Beare considered that the project management work is more than can be undertaken by a single person in full time employment and would have to be handled by someone who is retired or similarly available. Currently all the administrative staff including the helpers on the course were voluntary but this may have to be changed in the future. If subsidy is not obtained in future years the full cost of £500 or more could be charged to participants. Such rates are

common in other national youth orchestras. The Chairman offered to look into the funding of other national youth orchestras so NYRO could benefit from their experiences. (Action: Chairman)

**7. Information Pack**

Helen Beare said she thought such a pack, containing branch information on activities, maps of venues, retail outlets for instruments and music, etc., would be a valuable marketing tool. She was prepared to undertake a pilot study. It was AGREED that the item be included on Conference 2003 agenda.

**8. Proposals from sub-committee re terms of office**

The Secretary said the only member of a sub-committee needing to be reappointed was Andrew Collis of the Walter Bergmann Fund. In view of the fact that it was proposed he replace Graham Danbury as Chairman, WBF, who is retiring, no re-appointment was necessary. The WBF sub-committee did not wish to appoint a replacement at the present time. There were no other sub-committee members requiring reappointment.

**9. Conference arrangements; election of officers/committee**

9.1 *Conference arrangements.* The Secretary said that he had been liaising with Manchester Branch. Conference Application Forms had been sent out but to date only a limited number had been returned. It was AGREED that the Chairman and the Secretary would draw up the Conference agenda. (Action: Chairman and Secretary)

9.2 *Election of officers, committee members and musical adviser on committee:* The Chairman reminded the meeting that all officers were subject to annual re-election, as were two committee members. He also said that Eileen Silcocks retires as Musical Adviser on Committee. Under the new rotation procedure Andrew Collis was next in line and had agreed to sit. The officers undertook to seek re-election with the exception of Graham Danbury, Chairman, Walter Bergmann Fund. It was AGREED to nominate Andrew Collis to Conference as successor. Thus he would sit in committee in a dual role. The following nominations for Committee membership had been received to date, and there was still time for more.

<i>Committee nominations</i>	<i>Proposed by</i>	<i>Seconded by</i>
David Scruby (Manchester)	Margaret Shearing	Colin Martin
Dick Pyper (Guildford)	Guildford Branch	Guildford Branch
Pam Smith (Chelt & Glos)	Sylvia Davies	Alistair Read
Ursula Burchette (Kent)	David Beare	Brian Fraser-Hook

**10. Training Co-ordinator**

In view of the fact that for the past twelve months she has not received any enquiries or any applications to take the CSR, Sandra Foxall said she was not persuaded of any on-going need. Rather, she said, the Society should be looking to instigating training, particularly in the area of conducting workshops. It was AGREED that the matter be again referred to the forthcoming Conference.

**11. Any other business**

11.1 The Secretary asked for the Committee's guidance as to what material should be included in the Checklist of Courses in *The Recorder Magazine*. It was AGREED that all courses/playing days should be listed irrespective of whether display adverts. appeared elsewhere in the magazine.

11.2 It was AGREED that to be eligible for student membership of the Society, applicants should be in full-time education up to and including first degree level only.

11.3 The Secretary said it had been reported to him that amateur music groups, events held in churches and church halls would be outside the scope of the proposed licensing of live music in England and Wales, presently before a House of Commons committee. He undertook to obtain guidance on the matter. (Action: Secretary)

11.4 It was reported that Anne Martin was actively working on a new edition of the SRP Teachers' Guide although no firm date for publication could be given at the present time.

11.5 On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman thanked Graham Danbury for his stewardship of the Walter Bergmann Fund over many years also Margaret Shearing and Sylvia Davies who were retiring from the Committee after three years' service.

## **12. Date and time of future meetings**

12.1 The next meeting will be held on Sunday, 11 May 2003, at Benslow Music Trust, Hitchin.

12.2 The Autumn meeting will be held on Sunday, 19 October 2003, also at Benslow Music Trust, Hitchin.

12.3 The pre-conference 2004 meeting will be held on Sunday, 15 February 2004, also at Benslow Music Trust, Hitchin.

The meeting concluded at 15.46 hr. with thanks to the staff at Little Benslow Hills for their welcome and domestic arrangements.

AS/JAR  
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