

# THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

Registered Charity No. 282751

## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

SUNDAY, 11 MAY 2003

HELD AT BENSLOW MUSIC TRUST, HITCHIN, HERTS.

### PRESENT:

Andrew Short	Chairman	Alyson Lewin	Musical Adviser
Alistair Read	Secretary	David Beare	Committee
Brian Fraser-Hook	Treasurer	Peter Sturgeon	Committee
Jim Rowley	COS	Ulli Burchette	Committee

**1. Welcome/Apologies for absence:** The Chairman welcomed everyone, particularly Ulli Burchette, whose first meeting it was. Apologies were received from Sandra Foxall; Colin Martin; Mary Tyers; Andrew Collis; Bob Horsley; John Allen; Madeline Seviour; Norma Herdson; David Scruby and Hilary Oliver. In accordance with the new arrangements agreed at the last meeting, specialist Officers were not asked to attend or submit reports.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 16 February 2003** were AGREED and approved *nem. con.* Proposed: David Beare; seconded: Jim Rowley.

### **3. Matters arising**

3.2 The Chairman confirmed that the music database was now up and running and urged branches to use the facility.

9. 'Making Music' password was now available.

11.2 Although Sandra Foxall is on record as saying that there had been no enquiries in the last twelve months with regard to the CSRP, Ulli Burchette said that she knew of a candidate. The Secretary undertook to liaise. (Action: Secretary)

11.3 As report in the last committee minutes, Moira Usher was still happy to organise and tutor conducting workshops. The Chairman undertook to discuss the matter with Moira. (Action: Chairman)

### **4. Conference 2003**

Matters arising from the recent Conference, held in Manchester, were discussed. The Chairman said that he hoped to be able to report favourably on the venue for the 2005 festival/conference in the near future. (Following the meeting, he said he had received an offer from Essex branch to host the event).

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

David Beare was very pleased with the support for NYRO at the Annual Conference demonstrating that members thought it worthwhile. Since the Conference, arrangements for Piers Adams to appear as soloist had gone ahead.

David was keen to start on NYRO 2004 as late enquiries and bookings could lead to higher costs. With the exception of Youth Music, fund raising and sponsorship had been very disappointing and he felt that the climate at present was more towards social giving rather than for the gifted. He proposed that NYRO 2004 should be made self funding at a cost of £400 to £500 to players and a less prestigious concert venue be used and, if this was accepted, enquiries and planning could start immediately. A survey of 13 other national youth orchestras had revealed that, with the exception of the National Youth Orchestra, very few had sponsorship and appeared to be self funding. If grants were obtained these could be used to fund bursaries. A final decision on fees did not have to be made until the Autumn.

He had looked into the proposals for taking the orchestra to Holland for a long weekend in October 2004 and the information from the web site was non existent. On the other hand the event in Armidale

in New South Wales, Australia, in January 2005 looked much better organised and there was a lot of information on the Orpheus web site including tutors and activities.

He proposed that Colin Touchin should continue as Musical Director for next year but there should be a change of at least two of the tutors to widen experience. He was also considering purchasing a medium duty printer because of the load on personally-owned machines.

As far as he and Helen Beare were concerned, he was willing to offer his services as NYRO Project Manager next year providing he was not involved in raising the money before serious work could start. They both had undertaken weeks of work last Autumn to obtain sponsorship and grants and felt that the research for and quality of the submissions had been good but money was not there for our sort of activity. He would like someone else to take on these roles and in fact they could be tackled by two different people as the requirements were different. Helen was pleased to continue with publicity for another year but not fund raising. He would also like someone who could deputise for him when he was away and he would be in New Zealand for most of December. The Chairman said he would look into recruiting assistance.

These proposals were accepted by the committee with thanks to David and Helen.

## **6. Trustees' Annual Report to the Charity Commissioners**

Having tabled the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year 2001–02, the Chairman ran through the report. The Committee AGREED it reflected the Society's activities for the year under review and the chairman appended his signature.

## **7. Any other business**

7.1 The Secretary tabled a letter from the auditor setting out his disquiet at the financial reporting for NYRO 2002. It was AGREED that, whilst there were no bad debts *per se*, there was rather a shortfall in revenue against what was originally expected.. To this end the Committee AGREED that a codicil to Minute 4.9 of 16.02.03 should read: "On reconsideration we agree that, Minute 4.9 notwithstanding, any NYRO uncollected fees would be pursued , and any shortfall should be written off against the Arthur Ingram Fund. It was also AGREED that Colin Touchin be urged to closed the 2002 bank accounts and provide the Treasurer with the relevant documentation.

7.2 The Secretary asked the Committee to review the value of its May meetings, but as the business of the day showed, he asked that the item be withdrawn (poor attendance notwithstanding).

### **7.3 National Recorder Orchestra**

The Chairman said he had received from Colin Touchin a paper proposing the running of a National Recorder Orchestra for adult players, including those who had been members of NYRO, to run over a weekend. Following discussion, it was AGREED that the project, which is intended to be self-funding, could be supported in principle provided the quality of the business management was assured. The Chairman agreed to discuss this aspect with Colin Touchin.  
ACTION: Chairman.

7.4 It was AGREED that, subject to receipt of final accounts, Manchester Branch be awarded a third of the profits from the recent festival. If the profits were less than £100, it was also AGREED that they should retain the whole amount.. Proposed: Brian Fraser-Hook; seconded: Peter Sturgeon.

## **11. Date and time of next two meetings**

The Secretary confirmed that the next two meetings had been booked at Benslow Music Trust, Hitchin, for 19 October 2003 and 15 February 2004.

The meeting concluded at 14.20