



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

20 MAY 2012

Melbick's Garden Centre, Coleshill, Birmingham B46 2HX

PRESENT:

Tessa Rolph	Chairman	Pamela Flanagan	Committee
Bob Whitmarsh	Secretary	David Powell	Committee
Andrew Short	NYRO S/C Chairman	Sheila Richards	Committee
Mike Wilkinson	Membership Secretary	Naomi Wellings	Committee (until 3 pm)
Sandra Foxall	Country/Overseas Sec	Anthony Hall	Web Editor
Evelyn Nallen	Musical Adviser		

1. Welcome

The Committee convened at 11.00.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Ulli Burchette, Helen Hooker, Caroline Jones, April Munday, Colin Touchin and Moira Usher.

3. Co-option of Competition Administrator

The Chairman explained that Dick Pyper needed to be formally co-opted into the (temporary) position of Competition Administrator, as discussed at the April Committee meeting. However she added that she had received a phone call the previous evening from Ulli Burchette and April Munday putting themselves forward jointly to take on the job of Competition Administrator.

The Committee noted that it would be inappropriate to consider an alternative arrangement at such short notice, as Committee members not present would not have been aware of the late offer. The Committee also noted that the option proposed by Ulli Burchette and April Munday might be one of a range of possible solutions for the post-Conference 2013 period but that all options should be considered at the Committee's October meeting.

It was proposed that Dick Pyper be co-opted by the Committee to take on the role of Competition Administrator until Conference 2013.

Proposed: Mike Wilkinson

Seconded: Sheila Richards

Carried: *nem. con.*

The view was also expressed that the whole concept of the competition needed to be reviewed.

It was agreed that Sandra Foxall, Evelyn Nallen and David Powell would consider the topic before the next Committee meeting [Action: Sandra Foxall, Evelyn Nallen and David Powell]

4. The 2020 Working Group report

The Chairman began the discussion by asking whether the Society should restrict itself to running branches or whether other activities should be included? The Committee agreed that it should not spread its resources too thinly and in some cases only do certain things as opportunities arise. In some areas the Society might offer support but not take the lead. Short-termism should be avoided.

A number of errors in the report were pointed out by the Committee. Substantive errors will be corrected. [Action: Secretary to make corrections]

After the preliminary discussion it was agreed that the priority areas for discussion during the rest of the meeting should be:

- a) Electronic communications including via the web site: Branches to members/potential members and members/Branches to/from the Committee
- b) Non-Branch activities: projects etc
- c) Membership: benefits to members and how to encourage growth in membership
- d) Education: encouraging learners among adults and schoolchildren
- e) Non-web-based communications
- f) Support for novices: via U3A and Festivals
- g) Links with other recorder groups and professional musicians (this subject was postponed to another occasion)
- h) The finances of the Society (in the absence of the Treasurer this subject was postponed to another occasion)

These topics, except the last three, were then examined in breakout groups of 3-5 persons, both before and after lunch, which reported back to a plenary discussion involving all Committee members present. A summary of each group's discussion is attached as Appendices A to E, respectively.

Some attempt was made to consider specific Report recommendations in each discussion group but this was not always successful as the discussions ranged widely. Appendix F shows which recommendations were covered and which were not and indicates areas and recommendations that have yet to be considered by the Committee.

It was agreed that Mike Wilkinson would start to draft an informative Welcome pack for new members. [Action: Mike Wilkinson]

5. Date of next meeting

The next meeting on 21 October 2012 will take place in Hitchin. The Chairman closed the meeting at 16.12.

Enclosed:

Appendix A: Electronic communications

Appendix B: Non-branch SRP activities

Appendix C: Membership

Appendix D: Education and the Recorder

Appendix E: Non-website communications

Appendix F: Summary of 2020 Working Group recommendations

RBW/TJR