



The Society of Recorder Players

Registered Charity No. 282751/SC038422

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 13th April 2014

Truro School, Trennick Lane, Truro, Cornwall TR1 1TH

PRESENT:

Tessa Rolph	Chairman	Alyson Lewin	Musical Adviser
Mike Wilkinson	Secretary	Anthony Hall	Web Editor
David Rollason	Membership Secretary	Caroline Jones	Committee
Sandra Foxall	COS Secretary	Frances Tuffery	Committee
Naomi Wellings	NYRO Chairman/Committee	Sue Eades	Festival 2014
Moira Usher	WBF Chairman		

1. Welcome & Apologies

1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting at 12.15pm and especially welcomed Alyson Lewin on her return to the Committee. Apologies for absence had been received from Ulli Burchette, Pamela Flanagan, Sarah Langdon, Vic Morris, April Munday, Evelyn Nallen and Eileen Silcocks.

2. Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 15th February 2014

2.1 These were approved. Mike Wilkinson thanked David Rollason for acting as Secretary in his absence.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

3.1 NYRO (minute 10): Minute 10.5 correctly recorded that any funds left in NYRO's SRP bank and Paypal accounts on 31st August 2014 would then transfer to NYRO provided none of the £3,000 potentially still available to NYRO from the SRP had been drawn down. This caveat had not been included in paragraph 4 of the minutes of the NYRO sub-committee meeting on 21st February.

3.2 Arising from minute 10.8, Andrew Short had established that it was in order for the Society to invite donations to an independent NYRO on its membership application forms. Branches should therefore be encouraged to ask their members to complete a form, with space for donations to NYRO (and the WBF) each year.

3.3 Naomi Wellings updated the information she had given at the February meeting. A reply to a grant application to the Radcliffe Trust was awaited, though the Harold Hyam Wingate Foundation had declined an application. Further grant applications were in preparation. There was scope for seeking sponsorship for local events, but this could be very time-consuming. There been about 30 participants on the Easter course, which concluded with a successful concert. One participant had been a blind girl who played by ear, and NYRO was hoping to find support to help her take part in the Summer course. To date there been 33 applications for the Summer Course, which would also involve a group of about 35 players from Germany. It might be necessary to appoint a fourth tutor.

4. Other current issues

4.1 Instrument insurance: The Chairman reported that, through the good offices of Dick Pyper, Lark Insurance, who already provided insurance for the Society's instruments, was prepared to offer preferential terms for all instrument insurance to SRP members. To avoid the risk of breaking Gift Aid rules, it would be necessary to establish that this benefit equated on average to no more than 25% of members' subscriptions. While this would clearly be the case, to prove it would require Lark to give the Society an annual return of members' take-up of this insurance. Advice from HMRC on this was awaited. Meanwhile, the Committee welcomed Lark's proposal in principle and would welcome it in practice subject to HMRC's advice and Lark's view on the necessary annual return.

4.2 Moeck/SRP Competition: Sarah Langdon had reported that she was helping Anne-Suse Enßle find a harpsichordist, possibly David Gordon or Charles Matthews, for her winner's recital, which was likely to be on Friday 14th November 2014 in Greenwich. Sarah was also hoping to secure Steven Devine (UK), Bart Spanhove (Belgium) and Maria Martinez Ayerza (Holland) as adjudicators for the 2015 Competition. Maria currently taught at the Royal College of Music in London, so her travel expenses were not likely to be significant. Sarah was exploring options in addition to CDs for competitors to submit their performances to the adjudicators – e.g. Dropbox, Skydrive, i-Cloud. She had also expanded to about 400 the list of colleges and universities to which she would be sending details of the 2015 Competition, and hoped to expand this further, particularly with institutions and teachers who had not previously submitted entries.

4.3 Committee membership: It was asked why some Officers (i.e. the Website Editor, the News Editor and the Publicity Officer) were deemed not to be Committee members, and therefore not Trustees of the Society. There was no obvious rationale for this, though it might reflect the preferences of previous incumbents. However, all the present incumbents were sent Committee papers and had a standing invitation to attend Committee meetings, and were encouraged to do so when items relevant to their roles were to be discussed. On that basis, no proposals were made for changing the formal Committee membership at present.

4.4 Several Committee members suggested names for people who might be approached to fill the two vacant Committee places. The Secretary agreed to follow these up.

4.5 Publicity: Emily Bannister wished to encourage Committee members and the members of their Branches to raise the profile of the Society by contributing news and, when appropriate, photographs to the SRP Facebook page, the new Twitter account @recorderSocUK and other social media, and of course to the Website Editor. Cornwall Branch would be posting Festival photographs on their page of the SRP website.

4.6 Treasurer: In discussion of the importance of the Treasurer's role, it was suggested that it might be necessary to pay a professional accountant, at least to prepare the formal accounts in the format required by the Charity Commission. While this could not be ruled out, the Committee preferred first to seek one or more volunteers to manage the cashbook and prepare the accounts.

4.7 Investments: As agreed by the Committee on 15th February (minute 7), the £80,000 invested with Nationwide was to be reinvested in a similar Nationwide bond. However, Barclays no longer offered a suitable bond and so the £20,000 invested with them had been temporarily lodged in a basic account. The Committee agreed that this sum should now also be invested with Nationwide.

5. Any other business

5.1 Festival mentor: The Committee welcomed a proposal for a member with experience of organising a Festival to be nominated to mentor/support the organisers of future Festivals. Meanwhile, for the 2015 Festival in Wolverhampton, Alyson Lewin knew that she could contact any of her fellow Committee members for advice as necessary.

5.2 Paul Clark : Following the success of the *Bravo Bonsor* CD, there was some discussion of what the Society might do to commemorate the work of Paul Clark. Another CD was an option but, given the amount of work that would be involved, it was important to consider other options (e.g. downloads) and to consult widely, particularly with members of Birmingham Branch, before decisions were taken. It was agreed that Helen Hooker should be invited to discuss this with Wendy Pettit and that the Committee would consider this further at its meeting in October.

5.3 NYRO: Naomi Wellings, as Chairman of the NYRO sub-committee, noted that the work of that sub-committee was winding down as the new, independent charity prepared to take over on 1st September 2014. The NYRO sub-committee would then be wound up. The Chairman thanked Naomi for her work on the Committee and with NYRO and, on behalf of the Society, wished her and the new charity every success in the future.

Next meeting

Sunday 12th October 2014, at Benslow Music Trust, starting at 10.30am.

The meeting closed at 1.10pm

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