

The Society of Recorder Players



Registered Charity No. 282751, SC038422
President: Philip Thorby

Agenda for SRP Trustee Meeting 23rd September 10am

Present:

Trustees: Moira Usher (Chair), Penny Clarke (Membership Secretary), Erica Crabtree (Treasurer), Deborah Nicholas, Rod Callow, Stephanie Sutherland

Musical Advisors in attendance: Lyndon Hilling, Sandra Foxall

President (observer/non-voter): Philip Thorby

Conflicts of Interest

There were none declared linked to items on the agenda

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Jill Taylor, Liz Bassett and Pamela Flanagan

Following a discussion before the meeting was started it was agreed to stop using narrative minutes and move to topics discussed with decisions.

2. Conflicts of interest

There were no conflicts of interest relating to the agenda

3. To approve the draft minutes of the Trustees' meeting held on July 18th 2025

The draft minutes of the Trustee meeting July 18th 2025 were approved

4. Matters arising not otherwise covered by the agenda.

<i>Matters Arising not on the agenda:</i>	<i>Actions</i>
Erica to organize a card machine for the WBF	Complete
The Chair to write a letter on behalf of all trustees conveying the decision on the funding application	Complete and letter shared with trustees prior to sending
NYRO to be reminded of instruments they still have on loan from the SRP - to make clear they may still borrow them but to return them when no longer needing them.	
Website actions: Trustees to look at the ARS and other music society's websites; Moira to talk to Tom Beets; Moira to meet with web-editors; To consider in September, the budget available to take this forward.	Future action: Moira has not moved the website forward but will have it started before Christmas.

Liz to send a copy of the 2025 Annual Festival agreement between EMS and the SRP to the Chair and Treasurer. Moira to collect detailed feedback from trustees to pass on to EMS Liz to inform delegates for the 2026 Conference and branch secretaries of the allowable claims for expenses in due course.	<i>Complete</i> <i>The E-mail re expenses will go in January when news of the 2026 conference is sent</i>	
Festival 2026: Liz to write to the 2026 Festival Organisers to thank them for work so far; to request a buffet after the Conference and to ask for more information about accommodation. Liz to also remind them that the word National is no longer correct when referring to the annual SRP Festival. Liz to inform delegates for the 2026 Conference and branch secretaries of the allowable claims for expenses in due course.	<i>Email sent July 31st and reply 19th aug – dinner set 6-7pm and conference 4pm (room accessible from 3.30pm). Expenses email will go when contacting branch secs nearer the time of contacting delegates for 2026 in January 2026</i>	
Penny to apply for a large table for LIFEM	<i>complete</i>	
Pamela to convene the next meeting for the Rules working group	Future action: The Rules committee will next convene at the start of October and Pamela will send round the zoom link.	
Secretary to send the draft minutes round to delegates	<i>complete</i>	

5. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 25th November 9.30 – 1 by Zoom

The timing of the following meeting to be determined by the secretary's need to sort paperwork before the conference papers have to be sent out.

6. Update on database transfer - the switch over to MY Clubhouse

Data has been transferred. Moira has given permission in principle to commission the new user manual from Peter at MCH but the cost is to be ascertained first and reported back. She will work with him and Steve on the transfer. Suffolk and North Cotswold will be the first branch to try out the new system. Penny has resigned with effect from the Conference 2026. The committee is well aware of the work by Penny and Anthony involved in the testing from January to August 2025 and Penny was thanked for all her hard work.

Action: A new membership secretary to be sought.

7. Update on SRP owned recorders

A list of large instruments has been received from NYRO. They assume that we own all the instruments but it is unclear which they were given and which are ours. It was suggested that

we ask the EMS to store and maintain the instruments, running a loan system on our behalf. This will be considered further.

Action: LB to write to NYRO to explain that any they give us will be used for loans. They can apply for their use in future if needed.

8. Financial Updates to include subs

The Treasurer's report was received with thanks and explained by Erica. No questions.

9. Updates from trustee

a) The secretary gave a positive summary of 2024-2025 Pastoral Visits.

It was noted that 2 visitors on the list are too ill to do Pastoral Visits. The decision was made that the trustees will regularly review the people on the list. A letter will be sent to anyone that the trustees feel should no longer be on that list.

Action: Moira to contact the PVs who are too unwell to continue

b) Thanks were given to Jean for her update.

c) The mem-sec informed trustees that the final totals for the 2024-2025 membership year are 1356 members and 34 affiliated groups. We are steadily climbing back to pre-Covid numbers.

10. Discussion of delegate representation for personal members, HLMs and vice presidents

It was agreed that the SRP, like parliament works on the basis of delegates from each branch. Personal members could be viewed collectively as a branch. Currently their branch secretary is the membership secretary – this can be reviewed with the new post holder.

It was agreed that Honorary Life Members (HLMs) have an honorary position but may pass their views via their branch. The vice presidents, president and HLMs not in a branch are able to pass their views to a trustee if they feel strongly about anything.

11. President Philip Thorby – Update

Philip spoke about suggestions from his working group with vice presidents. After some questions, he was asked to send round a copy of the suggestions so that trustees could consider it all further at the next meeting.

Action: Philip to circulate the suggestions via the secretary

12. Safeguarding policy and Code of practice

Policies listed on the agenda to be reviewed next time.

We do not have an anti-bullying policy and need one. NCVO will be contacted to assist with this. The Privacy Policy will be reviewed to fit with MCH who have their own.

Action: NCVO to be contacted for a model anti-bullying policy

13. Succession planning – Penny

As Penny will be resigning at the next conference, trustees will look for a replacement for Penny.

MU asked for a volunteer to write musings for the e-news. Erica will write this month's musings about our finances. It was suggested that Jane Selleck was contacted and invited to consider being co-opted and possibly to be the Personal Membership Secretary.

Actions: Trustees to seek a replacement mem-sec

Moira to ring Jane Selleck

14. 2026 Festival updates

2026 Festival adverts are now out and booking is open.

Action: Erica to request a budget from the organisers.

15. 2027 Festival – update on previous action from secretary

Still no-one for the 2027 festival. One branch showed interest but decided it was too large a job to manage. It was felt the guidelines are long and detailed and may be off-putting. A suggestion was made that a trustee who has run a festival becomes the contact point for any branch who would like to have a go.

Action: Trustees to further consider the role of contact for festivals

16. AOB and Date of Next meeting

a) Jim Grant, in recognition of his work as SRP Chair, is to be offered HLM with immediate effect.

Action: PT to write to Jim

b) Previous competition organisers to be invited to the 40th anniversary reception this year.

Action: LB to ascertain names

c) Chair to contact EMS re. money still not paid from Festival. Meeting to be organised with EMS owner.

Action: MU to contact EMS owner; EC to send contract to MU

d) expenses to treasurer by email

e) Trustees agreed to drop the word Training from the workshop title. Thus we have SRP workshops.

f) Brian Bonsor would have been 100 in 2026. Trustees agreed to ask branches if they could play a piece of Brian's during the year and to then please let Mary Bonsor know which piece was played.

Action: LB to inform branches

h) Trustees agreed to place a quarter page advert in Classical Music Magazine (cost £300) following a feature in this month's copy.

Action: MU to discuss the design of the Classical Music Magazine advert with Helen Hooker

i) Digital storage - Trustees have been given a large number of old Recorder Magazines. It was agreed that they should be scanned in total for digital storage.

Action: Costings to be sought by all

j) The venue for face-to- face meetings was queried. It was agreed that the current venue (Little Benslow) was cheap and a good venue for now. There are long journeys for some people but wherever we meet, this will be the case.

Action – Trustees to reconsider the venue when new people join.