



ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026, 4pm, Taunton.

**Briefing notes for delegates and observers:**

***Please sign the register on entering the room. You will then, if able to vote, be given a voting slip for the election of a new trustee (as there are two candidates). Please make your vote prior to the meeting and put the slip in the box provided.***

The annual Conference of the Society enables the Trustees to give an account of their stewardship of the Society over the past year and to present plans and proposals for the future. Equally importantly, Conference also provides opportunity for members to discuss these issues to help shape the development of the Society. All branches of the Society are entitled to be represented at Conference, by notifying names of their delegates to the Secretary.

The following paragraphs review proceedings expected under each Agenda item. The term **RESOLUTION** indicates that Conference will be asked to make a formal decision on the item(s) concerned.

**1. Welcome – in Memoriam – apologies for absence**

At the start of Conference we remember those members, and those people with significant links with recorder playing, who have passed away since the last Conference.

**2. Minutes of Conference 2025**

Conference will be invited to comment on the draft minutes of the 2025 Conference held on Zoom, and, subject to any comments, approve the minutes as an accurate record of proceedings.

**[RESOLUTION]**

**3. Matters Arising**

There will be an opportunity to raise issues arising from the 2025 minutes that are not otherwise included on the agenda.

- Matter arising from 7.5.15: Update on Amended Resolution: Wessex propose that the trustees pursue the revision of the SRP website in consultation with appropriate personnel, in the coming year, as a matter of urgency.
- Matter arising from 9.2 – Chair to address

**4. Reports from Officers, including Financial Resolutions**

The SRP Officers, and some named post holders, have prepared reports covering their areas of responsibility to inform Conference of recent activities and current issues. These reports are sent to delegates to be read in advance of the meeting, and will not be read out in the meeting. Officers may wish to say a few words about their reports and will then invite comments and questions from delegates. This is an opportunity to discuss the many activities that the Society undertakes, and with which some members may not be familiar, to manage its business and deliver its objectives. Branches and others are encouraged to make good use of all the services offered by the Society,

(such as workshops, visiting conductors, music libraries) when possible, for the benefit of their members.

The Society is also required each year to submit a Financial Report and a Trustees' Report to the Charity Commission for England and Wales and to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, and these are available for public scrutiny on the regulators' websites.

After discussion of the Treasurer's report, Conference will be invited formally to receive the accounts for 2024/25, which were included in the papers.

5. Conference will be asked to agree that Heather Locke be appointed as the Society's Independent Examiner for future accounts. **[RESOLUTION]**

#### **6. Election of Trustees including the office of SRP National Membership Secretary**

The Officers of the Society are the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and National Membership Secretary. The role of trustee has a 5-year term. Penny Clarke and Deborah Nicholas are stepping down, both after two terms of service.

The National Membership Secretary, Penny Clarke, is stepping down and trustees wish to thank Penny Clarke for all her hard work and dedication. Trustees wish to elect a new National Membership Secretary. They also wish to formally put in place the role of Personal Membership Secretary (which is a role appointed by trustees).

Deborah Nicholas is also stepping down and trustees wish to thank her in particular for her work as secretary for the Walter Bergmann Fund Committee. Trustees wish to elect a new trustee to replace Deborah.

Other named post holders are remaining in role.

6.1 Conference are asked to vote for a Membership Secretary. **[RESOLUTION]**. There has only been one nomination for this post. **Helen Graham is offering her services as the National Membership Secretary.** The role description for the Membership Secretary, Helen's nomination paper and personal statement have been included in papers for all attendees.

6.2 Conference are asked to vote for a trustee. **[RESOLUTION]**. There are two nominations for this post. **Jane Sellek and Caroline Jones are offering their services as a trustee.** Their nomination papers and personal statements have been included in papers for all attendees.

6.3 Conference will be asked to approve the role of Personal Membership Secretary **[RESOLUTION]**. Jane Sellek, previously co-opted by trustees to familiarise herself with the role, will be appointed by trustees to continue in this post.

***Those present, able to vote are: the official delegates for each branch and SRP named roles (trustees; musical advisors; E-News Editor; Publicity Officer; SRP News Editor for the SRP pages of the magazine; Competition Administrator; trustees; web-editors; Gift Aid Administrator; Chair of the Walter Bergmann Fund; Personal Membership Secretary.)***

#### **7. Branch and any other Resolutions including the approval of the revised Rules**

Delegates will be invited to vote on these additional resolutions:

7.1 The Society recognises those who have given distinguished service to the Society, by appointing honorary life memberships.

- The Committee proposes Conference approve Jim Grant who has been offered the award of Honorary Life Membership [**RESOLUTION**] in recognition of his services to the SRP. Jim has been an active and influential member of the SRP for many years and stepped in recently as Chair at short notice, serving six years in this role.

7.2 The Rules have been revised to ensure consistency of wording and to clarify some sections further. The Committee proposes Conference approve the revision of the Rules document.

[**RESOLUTION**]

7.3 There have been no branch resolutions submitted for consideration.

### **8. Future SRP Festival and Conference**

Conference will be informed of plans for 2027.

### **9. Any Other Business**

This is the delegates' opportunity to raise anything that has not already been covered during the meeting. If you would like to ask a question it is helpful if you could advise the Secretary or Chair in advance, so that the Trustees can give an accurate, detailed and helpful answer.

Liz Bassett

Secretary to the SRP