

The Society of Recorder Players



Registered Charity No. 282751, SC038422
President: Philip Thorby

Minutes for SRP Trustee Meeting Monday 12th January 2026 1.30pm, Zoom

Present:

Trustees: Moira Usher (Chair), Erica Crabtree (Treasurer), Rod Callow, Jill Taylor, Pamela Flanagan, Liz Bassett (Secretary), Deborah Nicholas, Steph Sutherland
Jane Sellek, co-opted as Personal Membership Secretary

Musical Advisors in attendance: Lyndon Hilling, Sandra Foxall

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Penny Clarke (Membership Secretary),

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 25th November 2025

The draft minutes of the Trustee meeting November 25th 2026 were approved unanimously.

4. Matters Arising from 25th November 2025 not otherwise covered by the agenda.

<i>Matters Arising from the last meeting not elsewhere on the agenda:</i>	<i>Comments on actions I already know about (to convey in the meeting)</i>
to send round more widely via email the need for a memsec	done
To send round email re January date.	done
Moira to check if MCH will be first point of contact for branches or whether a manual for the central membership secretary is needed.	Done – two manuals have been written and awaiting invoice – trials will begin using the manual for branches
To change WBF Terms of Reference	done
To organise membership of the working group on the website	<i>To be discussed</i>
Liz to circulate the new rules document to delegates at the appropriate time and to invite questions prior to conference	<i>Further tweak to agree prior to this – see agenda item 8</i>
Pamela to move forwards with the Irish charity commission modifications	<i>Ireland branch have had a meeting and will meet twice more to complete the final document by 10th March 2026</i>
Liz to check numbers booked for the 2026 festival	<i>see email in secretary updates - hoping to break even.</i>
To seek people again to organise the 2027 Festival – bearing in mind it might be a committee of people rather than a branch who might take it on.	<i>Done – one person showed interest but only if others stepped forward and there was no further interest.</i>

5. SRP owned instruments

Sandra, having looked back at SRP and NYRO minutes, has made headway with how instruments were bought and donated and has accounted for two kung great basses and 2 paetzold contras as well as a GB and a contra donated by Jeanette Hipsey to NYRO to be loaned more widely. Sandra was thanked for all her work researching this. Trustees discussed the viability of a loan scheme further.

Actions:

MU and RC to draw up a draft business plan which could be presented to possible music shops.

6. Financial Updates from the Treasurer

All branches, except one, have sent Erica end of year reports – a sudden loss of the treasurer has made this difficult for the outstanding branch and Erica is supporting them.

Erica has sent an email to all treasurers with advice on ensuring that more than one person in a branch can manage finance if necessary.. Getting two people onto online signatories is really difficult.

Accounts have gone to Heather Locke, the Independent Auditor to be signed ready for the Conference. She is looking at the accounts on the 14th January.

Erica is needing to confirm with banks that branches are part of a larger charity. Many banks dislike working with small organisations. Finding banks who work well with small groups is key.

7. Safeguarding Policy 2026

The policy was ratified by Trustees

8. Updates from Officers

To include:

- Penny updated us via email on membership: 1314 members - the closing total (at 31 August) for the 2024/2025 year was 1356

33 Affiliated groups

Secretary Updates – The secretary shared updates from the 2026 Festival organisers and reminded the committee of the deadline dates for conference.

Rules Revision - Item 5.5 was tweaked to remove the reference to personal members as a branch. Associate membership was added in to item 3 with reference to appendix 1.

Pamela was thanked for her thorough work on the rules. The Rules were approved again by all with the inclusion of the above changes.

Action: Pamela to send Liz a word and PDF version of the approved rules including emboldened changes to send out to delegates.

9. Discussion of President's Recommendations including benefits for members

Trustees are underway with points 1 and 2. Following Moira's E-News item in January, trustees focused discussion on the educational points in Philip's recommendations.

Actions:

Jill to follow up on how the Lancashire Project went

Moira to follow up on the Stockport Recorder College with Janice Ormerod

Liz to follow up on Miriam's curriculum

Steph to feedback on her work with Pip taking ensembles into schools

10. 2027 Festival

Trustees discussed possibilities for the future. At present no-one has stepped forward formally to organise a conference. Bath and Bristol are exploring venues at present but this has not yet become a firm offer. At Conference 2026, trustees will state that the 2027 Conference will be online unless a branch steps forwards. It was felt conferences are still be best face to face and festivals do not need to be huge – just budgeted to manage realistic numbers.

11. AOB

11.1 MCH update - Moira has got the manuals and Steve Hodgson, (married to the memsec of North Cotswolds), who interprets IT speak, is looking at the manuals to ensure they work. Data from August has been moved over. A few glitches are being ironed out. Every memsec needs to work with Steve before the deadline of beginning of August. Trustees wished to thank Moira for all this work. Liz to send Moira list of memsecs I have.

Actions:

Moira to email memsecs asking them to work with Steve

To send a reminder that costings for branch subscriptions need to come in by July ready for the August deadline.

11.2 17th March will be the next meeting on zoom.

11.3 Succession – Jill would be prepared to take minutes as chair for WBF; when Debbie goes we will need another trustee to attend WBF alongside Jill. Trustees all need to be pro-active to ask around for a national memsec.

Action: Rod to send an Email to Wessex to invite people on to the website.

11.4 Insurance – Jill would like to hand the role of managing insurance to another trustee – she explained briefly what the role involves – insurance of instruments and public liability insurance.

11.5 We need an email list for affiliates to include what their benefits are.

11.6 Ways to manage the amount of coverage in meetings was discussed.

11.7 WBF donation being raised to a usual £1000 from £850 was agreed unanimously.

12. Items for future agendas (to be agreed and added to during the meeting)

Website work – update and communication to members; updates from the working group once formed; how to appoint someone to design it; consideration to budget to afford a web designer.

Privacy Policy (in the light of changes to the membership data base)

Unacceptable Behaviour Policy

Irish Constitution

Philip Cole Bursary – how to make schools more aware and feedback as actioned in item 9 above.

Amendment of rules/organisation for the SRP/Moeck competition as requested by Sarah Bronnert

13. Date of next meeting: Tuesday March 17th 2026 10-1pm