

HENLEAZE CONCERT SOCIETY – Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 7 October 2021

1 Attendance

Present: Roger Huckle (Chair), Penny Rawlings, Sue Paterson, Roger Caldwell, Armelle Young
Steve Rawlings has resigned from the Committee.

The meeting was declared to be quorate. Members had been invited to attend, but no requests were received.

2 Minutes and matters arising

Minutes of the last AGM on 27 August 2020 had been previously approved by email.

No further information had been received on the legacy from Walter Finley and the Secretary would ask for an update. There were no other matters arising.

3 Chairman's report

Although it had not been possible to hold any Society concerts in 2020/21, the Bristol Ensemble had put on a number of online recitals and live concerts, about which Society members were kept informed.

Concerts in the current season would be approached with caution as audience numbers were still restricted. To keep finances manageable, the number of players on the stage would be kept to seven or eight for the time being, limiting the cost per concert to about £1,500. The Chair hoped to be able to return to normal over the year but this would depend on audience numbers and ticket sales.

4 Treasurer's report

The Treasurer tabled draft accounts for the financial year ended 30 June 2021. There had been little activity during the year and the only expenditure was £64.40 for postage.

It had been difficult to pay cash into banks during lockdown and the Post Office would only accept deposits in notes, so the Treasurer donated £1.52 to make up the cash in hand from last year to £1,530, giving an income of £1.52 for the year!

Opus informed the Treasurer during last year's lockdown that they owed the Society £113 for the 2019/20 concert season and this was shown as a debtor on last year's accounts. However, on checking this year's statement it was found that Opus had not paid the money into the bank. Opus had since recalculated the figures and actually owed £142.23. This money had also not been paid in at the close of this year's accounts, so the £113 is carried over as a debtor and the additional £29.23 will be added as 2021/22 income when received.

The Society would be credited for the rental for the two concerts cancelled in 2019/20, reducing the costs for the current year.

The final balance was £8,769.26, including the Opus debt carried forward.

5 Approval of accounts for the year ended 30 June 2021

The draft accounts were unanimously approved, with thanks to the Treasurer.

6 **Membership Secretary's report**

In the year 2019/20, 99 season tickets and 20 memberships were sold. Figures for 2021/22 to date were 54 and 6 respectively. The ability to purchase tickets on line had improved individual ticket sales and was starting to bring in a new audience.

Season ticket holders from 2019/20 were offered a discounted price (£54) to compensate for the two concerts that were cancelled. Several previous season ticket holders chose to pay in full and to give the difference as a donation to the Society. There were other generous donations, already totalling over £325 as against £150 in 2019/20.

The Committee discussed the possibility of adding a web sales capability to the Society website; it was agreed not to proceed with this now but to keep it under review.

7 **Publicity**

The number of printed fliers had been reduced but there were still plenty to distribute. Members of the Committee offered to deliver fliers to various locations, including libraries and the university. Advertising in the BS6, 8 and 9 magazines would be investigated.

8 **Bar Manager's report**

There was sufficient wine in stock for up to two more concerts but some fruit juices had passed their use by date and been discarded. Donations for drinks were covering costs.

9 **Other business**

(a) Arrangements for October concert - It was agreed to provide gloves and hand sanitisers. The church required the front door to be kept open during the concert for ventilation. Audience numbers were restricted to 137. Face coverings were optional but encouraged.

(b) Succession planning – There had been no response to previous requests for audience members to join the Committee. Following discussion, the Chair was asked to invite a member of the Bristol Ensemble to become involved in the running of the Society. It was possible that BE members might be interested in taking on specific roles in due course.

10 **Election of Officers**

As all the current Officers were willing to continue and there had been no other nominations, no changes to the Committee were proposed and all were re-elected.

Chair:	Roger Huckle
Secretary/Membership Secretary:	Sue Paterson
Treasurer:	Penny Rawlings
Bar Manager:	Roger Caldwell
Publicity:	Armelle Young

The Chair thanked the Committee members and called the meeting to a close.

Date of next Committee meeting: 9 December 2021 at 6.15 pm

Date of next AGM: To be agreed