



# **St Albans Symphony Orchestra**

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at 8:30pm on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at Homewood Road URC, Sandpit Lane, St Albans.**

## **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Sheila Cox, Graham Tate, Andrew Parnell, Gillian Stansfield, Felicity Sutton, Keith Marr, Alison Bellerby, Louise Haines, Elizabeth and David Martin, Tom Hammond, Annette Bolman and Ali Haile.

## **2. Minutes from the last meeting**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 4th October 2017 were adopted. Proposed by Margaret Carpenter, seconded by Chris Hartgroves.

## **3. Conductor's report.**

Tom Hammond was unable to be present and his report was read by the Hon. Secretary. In summary the report:

- Provided a brief overview of last season and in particular noted the growth of concentration and professionalism at rehearsals which has taken place.
- Looked forward to ideas for outreach and audience development

## **4. Chair's report**

The Chairman reported that it had been a very successful year with Tom Hammond in his second season as our Conductor, during which we had built on the considerable achievements of the previous season.

At the 2017 St Cecilia Festival concert the orchestra received standing ovations for Tchaikovsky 1812 Overture and Shostakovich October and in March there were excellent performances of Vaughan-Williams Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus for strings and Dvorak Wind Serenade. We had extended our relationships with popular soloists Alissa Firsova and David Le Page and given memorable performances of Stravinsky Firebird Suite and Sibelius Symphony 5. The annual children's concerts in November were both full and the initiative to try out the instruments at the interval was still incredibly popular.



## St Albans Symphony Orchestra

At the start of the current season we held another BABS Yule workshop, this time playing Walton Symphony 1. This has brought in new members and enhanced our reputation locally and beyond. Thanks to Ruth Wallace for her planning and organisation of this event.

In May this year the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) took effect. Thanks to Karen McLaren for drafting our GDPR policy and becoming the new keeper of data for the orchestra.

During the past year the Constitution has been modernised with changes approved at the SGM in June 2018. As a result the conductor and leader are now both hired on a 2 year rolling contract which is managed by the committee.

David thanked Tony Harris (President), Tom Hammond, Jenny Wigram and the committee, past and present, for all of their hard work, encouragement and support during his 4 years as Chairman. He closed by announcing that he would like to retire from this post at next year's AGM.

### **5. Hon. Treasurer's report**

The Hon. Treasurer presented a written report: "SASO Accounts 2018" and "SASO Production Ltd. Accounts 2018". A copy of these reports is available from the Hon. Secretary on request. The Treasurer reported that the financial result for the year was a small surplus, compared with a small deficit in 2017. The accounts were adopted. Proposed by Claudine Tate and seconded by Anne Harrold.

Nigel Stansfield asked how the costs are spread across our financial year. The figure of £51000 includes the costs for St Cecilia Festival concert. Venue hire is approximately £10000 per year as are concert fees and the rehearsals each week cost around £3500. There is also an additional £3500 for extra players on concert days.



## St Albans Symphony Orchestra

### 6. Adoption of Officers

David Utting, David Stott and Jenny Lines agreed to remain as Chair, Hon Treasurer and Hon Secretary respectively.

Proposed by Katherine Brown and seconded by Nigel Stansfield.

### 7. Election of Committee members

The Committee members have all agreed to remain in post for the coming season. No other offers to stand have been made.

Librarian:	Alison Bellerby
Percussion Fixer:	Josephine Lunt
Friends' Secretary:	Philippa Mackenzie
Membership Secretary:	Margaret Carpenter
Communications Officer:	Karen McLaren
Concert Manager	Christine Drury
Ticket Secretary	Simon Allen
Webmaster	Richard Payne

Proposed by Liz Perrotet, seconded by Richard Burrige and re-elected unanimously.

David Utting thanked everyone for volunteering for another term of office.

### 8. Any other business

It was asked if a DJ needed to be worn with a black shirt for concert dress. The decision was made for this to be referred to the next committee meeting.

Further discussions ensued regarding the timing for approaching the concert platform, who comes on first and etiquette on the platform and were referred to the next committee meeting.



## **St Albans Symphony Orchestra**

Christine Drury thanked David Utting and the committee on behalf of the orchestra.