

Minutes of May Committee meeting

Harrogate Male Voice Choir Minutes of Committee Meeting at Woodlands Methodist Hall 10.00 am on Tuesday 13th May FINAL		
Present – David Bayne(DB) , Chris Dunn (CD), Tony Goodall (TG), Lawrie Coulthard (LC), Stuart Berry (SB), George Cross (GC) Apologies Ian Ibbotson (II) copy to Richard Kay (RK)		
Item		Action
1	The minutes of the April meeting were approved and signed off, after the number of members singing at the Walle Garden event was corrected to 26.	TG
2	Concert Secretary Report Sat. 12th April, Whitby Festival. Despite only 21 members coming to the festival, our results were judged as satisfactory and improved over last time by RK, Marilynne and contacts in other choirs. Although we did not win any of the 3 classes we entered, we were awarded “outstanding (90-94)” in the MVC and recital classes and “honours (85-89)” in the Music from the Shows class. The committee consensus is that we should compete there again. Thursday 8th May Rossett Acre Primary School. The school visit was very successful with 2 assembly performances (lower and upper schools) plus a rehearsal with their 60-strong choir. We had a good report on their website. Tuesday 10th June. Afternoon visit to Oatlands Primary school for rehearsal with their choir. Numbers of members have been collected. 14th June West Park URC centre. Concert organised by the centre promoters, probably with other solo/group performers. Arrangements and promotion by Chris Holland. TG has been able to engage pianist Duncan Goodwin, performer in Channel 4’s “The Piano” for this concert. He would like to have a trial with our keyboard some time before the concert. 5th July Annual Sing Out Concert, Harrogate High School. Green room availability for HMVC and the schools has been discussed and a checklist for insurance, security etc. has been completed. All communication for this event should be through GC. A door desk will be required for cash payments and late arrivals and it is expected that the card reader will be operational. 2026 concert in Boston Spa. (see LC below). RK has indicated a preference for February 2026 to allow learning of new songs.	GC
3	Treasurer’s report (sent in advance and extended by e-mail from II) The bank account balance stands at £10,460 after paying £5190 so far to the music team. The forecast for the end of the choir year is a balance of £7,700 (compared to £9200 in 2024 and £10,800 in 2023). All subs have now been paid except for 2 members who have been unable to attend rehearsals so far this year and are not expected to pay.	II

4	Members Secretary Report SB will complete attendance statistics for the next months at the end of June. Attendances at rehearsals, the event in Ripon and at school visits has improved compared to the period before Christmas. Ian Brocket has provided a summary of the attendance of our current 12 basses, as RK has commented on their recent low numbers. 4 of these are long-term sick, and 2 will soon return to regular rehearsals. DB is requested to issue a reminder to all members to give any changes to addresses, telephone numbers or next of kin details to SB by 3rd of June. DB will also assist in correcting the layout of the excel table passed on by Tom Holland. II reports that former member Jim Rogers has died. A request from his widow to accept his uniform back was declined by DB. Ian Brocket also reports via Bernard Hall that former member Tony Wren is in hospital.	SB
5	Marketing and promotion LC has followed up the contact with Boston Spa Methodist Church (BSMC) for a concert on 27th or 28th March in support of Martin House Childrens hospice. There is also the possibility of using their new recording studio at £60/hour to generate a few tracks for our website and facebook page. LC is working on the programme for the Sing Out concert with an agreed forward from our president and has signed up 2 advertisers who will sponsor the concert with £200.	LC
6	Social Prescribing DB has delivered about 90 flyers to the "Linking Leeds" contact for distribution to surgeries and men being supported at home in the Wetherby area. TG is waiting for the appointment of a replacement "Living Well" co-ordinator for the Harrogate district.	TG/DB
7	Questionnaire "What does our choir mean for us?" In preparation for an in-depth discussion with RK about his feedback from the Peterborough MVC conference, DB has adapted the questionnaire from Peterborough for issue to our members. IT was agreed to delete "recruitment" from the questionnaire.	DB
8	Next meeting with RK On 10th June we will be singing at Oatlands school followed by a rehearsal in the evening. The committee members (minus DB) will meet RK after the school session to discuss our choir's direction and recruitment strategy.	
9	Sing Out 2026. TG has revised our Sing Out prospectus for issue to potential participating schools, with updated photographs and an outline of the concert running order. TG proposes to approach Pannal primary school who last participated in 2022 and Brackenfield prep school, which would be the first involvement of a private school. CD reminded us of the need for disabled parking at participating schools	TG
10	Website update (comments from RK) RK has written an extensive analysis of our website and has taken over from Bryan Holmes as webmaster. He has devised and installed a new logo, and will add a mission statement, updated photographs, and links to further pages. And suggests a re-think of our members page. Committee members should log onto our website and give RK feedback on the changes they find. RK agrees that the minutes of our committee meeting should be posted on our website starting with the final version of these minutes.	
11	NAC legacy fund DB has once again progressed payment of the promised £200 and has now been asked for reviews and comments from participating schools and from our MD. A suitable document is now being prepared	TG
12	Keyboard at Woodlands Methodists The minister at Woodlands has asked why we did not use the keyboard stored in the small hall cupboard, however David Mawson would like us to continue using the Claviola from the large hall, which has now been repaired..	
13	Committee Members for 2025/26 David Healey has volunteered for unspecified committee duty but cannot attend the next meeting. We need to replace both our treasurer and secretary at the next AGM.	
14	Next Meeting. Tuesday 24th June at Woodlands Methodists. (This should be the last committee meeting of the current session)	