

ILKLEY CONCERT CLUB
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 8 November 2023, from 6.30pm
King's Hall, Ilkley

Present: Chris Skidmore (Chair), Jo Simpson (Honorary Secretary), Cath Rudman, Clive Rudman, Linda Wellings and nine members of the Ilkley Concert Club.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Robert Templar (Co-Chair) and Donald Williams (Honorary Treasurer).
2. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 2 November 2022:** These were confirmed as a correct record. Proposed by Sarah Warnes, seconded by Gil Skidmore and agreed unanimously.
3. **Matters arising:** A question was raised about the process that resulted in the start time for concerts in the current season being brought forward to 7.30pm. The Chair explained that the double concerts, with an earlier start time, which were held during Covid prompted some members to suggest a 7.30pm rather than an 8pm start time for future seasons. The earlier start time is also better for performers and Front of House staff, apart from the impact on members. The Committee considered this suggestions favourably because most similar events start at this time, yet was determined that no change be made without due warning and consultation. As well as notices in programmes there have been announcements from the stage at multiple concerts last season, advising of the change and inviting feedback. No substantial objections were received. A request was received for the Committee to review the impact of the change at the end of the season.
4. **Honorary Secretary's Report:** Pre-circulated in the annual report. Jo Simpson has shadowed David Halpin in the role of Honorary Secretary during the 2022-23 season to assist with a handover, in case she is elected to the role for this season.
5. **Honorary Treasurer's Report:** Pre-circulated, the Honorary Treasurer's Report noted a return to normal operations in the year to 31st May 2023. Audited accounts were not available at the time of the annual mail out to members but copies were available at the AGM.

6. **Adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts** was proposed by Sarah Warnes, seconded by Pat Dibb and agreed by a majority. There was a request that the Hon Treasurer be available to answer any questions arising at the AGM. None were raised on this occasion.

7. **Nominations for Committee:**

a. New Members: Cath Rudman, Jo Simpson, Linda Wellings. These were proposed by Gil Skidmore, seconded by Val James and agreed unanimously.

b. Election of officers: Honorary Secretary – Jo Simpson; Honorary Treasurer – Donald Williams. These were proposed by Nina Prosser, seconded by Cath Rudman and unanimously agreed.

c. Retiring members willing to stand for re-election: David Bridgewater, Pamela Harris. These were proposed by Jo Simpson, seconded by Rosemary Cole and unanimously agreed.

The Chair explained that the constitution puts no limit on the number of times that a member can be re-elected, but emphasized that the Club is always keen to recruit new volunteers to the Committee and to the roles required to run the Club.

8. **Chair's Remarks:** Although about 20 seats remain unsold for this season the club is effectively replacing retiring members and has recovered from the pandemic. The Chair thanked members who now use electronic payments. He also noted the continuing success of the afternoon concerts, started during the pandemic, and the club's connection with the Waterman Piano Workshops.

The Club wants to be able to pay performers more and we will continue to make slight increases to the price of tickets. In respect of programming the Club continues to offer a wide range of music within the broadest interpretation of the concept of 'chamber music' and to feature music by under represented groups of composers alongside old favourites. For example, the concert following the AGM introduces music by little known female composers.

9. **Members business:** There was none.

10. **Close of AGM:** The meeting ended before 7.15 pm.