

ILKLEY CONCERT CLUB

Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 11 December 2024, from 6.30pm

King's Hall, Ilkley

Present: Chris Skidmore (Chair), Robert Templar (Co-Chair), Don Williams (Honorary Treasurer), Jo Simpson (Honorary Secretary), David Bridgewater, Pam Harris, Paul Hurst, Cath Rudman, Linda Wellings, Josephine Wesley and ten members of the Ilkley Concert Club.

1. **Apologies for absence:** none required, all Committee members present.
2. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8 November 2023:** These were confirmed as a correct record. Proposed by David Bridgewater, seconded by Brian Dobson and agreed unanimously.
3. **Matters arising:** The Chair reported back on the Survey of members' views on the new start time of 7.30pm, introduced at the start of the current season and referred interested parties to the detailed report. There was an excellent response rate with a clear majority supporting the new start time. Before the pandemic members strongly preferred the later start time.
4. **Honorary Secretary's Report:** Pre-circulated in the annual report. Jo Simpson made observations about her first year in the role and what she has enjoyed.
5. **Honorary Treasurer's Report:** Pre-circulated, the Honorary Treasurer's Report noted a small surplus in the year to 31 May 2024 as a slightly higher increase in Kings Hall fees had been budgeted. The Club remains in a good position financially, with scope for flexibility about artists' fees and the ability to build a fund to replace the Steinway piano when necessary. Audited accounts were not available at the time of the annual mail out to members, but copies of the audited accounts were available at the AGM. The figures had not altered. The Committee were thanked, by a club member, for maintaining the club's financial viability.
6. **Adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts** was proposed by Val James, seconded by Sarah Warnes and agreed by a majority. The only question about the accounts related to the financing of the Afternoon Concert

series. It was explained that the Club is happy to provide a small subsidy to these concerts as part of our outreach as a Charity.

7. **Nominations for Committee:**

- a. Election of officers: Honorary Secretary – Jo Simpson; Honorary Treasurer – Donald Williams. These were both proposed by Paul Hurst, seconded by Cath Rudman and unanimously agreed.
- b. Retiring members willing to stand for re-election: Josephine Wesley, Paul Hurst, Robert Templar. These were all proposed by Wesley Cole, seconded by Pam Harris and unanimously agreed.

8. **Chair's Remarks:** The Chair thanked club members who came to the AGM to help with the formal part of running the club. However, he emphasized the need for new people to volunteer to help with the running of the club, reflecting that these do not necessarily need to be (and used not to be) people who are retired. We need 'new blood'. The shortage of volunteers is affecting the viability of other sister clubs in Yorkshire, and we take note.

On a related matter, we will no longer be running the CD Stall and will have a final sale in the Spring 2025, date to be confirmed.

Our Afternoon Concert series was attended by an average 120-150 people and was much appreciated by an audience preferring a day time event and by young performers starting out in their career. Josephine Wesley needs to recruit a volunteer to gradually take over aspects of running these concerts.

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

10. **Close of AGM:** The meeting ended around 7.00 pm.