

The Trustees present their report for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023.

## **Structure, governance and management**

The charity was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 27 October 2017. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1175404.

The Trustees who served during the year were:

Ben Jennings  
Christopher Block  
Christina Leigh  
Clive Block  
Alexa Shepherd  
Tom Kidman (retired 3/09/2023)

The charity has a minimum of three and maximum of eight Trustees. The power of appointment and/or removal of a Trustee is vested in the members of the organisation. The trustees' liability is limited and there is no requirement to contribute any funds on winding up.

The day-to-day administration of the charity is carried out by Ben Jennings.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

## **Public Benefit**

In considering the strategies and policies of the Charity, the trustees have had due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission, in accordance with the Charities Act 2006. In reviewing and developing Magna Sinfonia's activities and future plans, careful consideration is given to the public benefit arising from the organisation's work. Magna Sinfonia core activities encourage the enjoyment of, and participation in music by the public at large. The ticket prices are purposely kept low though for regular venues they were increased for the 2022-23 season, this being the first increase since 2018. Prices now range from £12-£16 though the reduced price for under 18s remains at £2. The intention remains that the Orchestra's live performances are widely accessible.

## **Finance**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the accounts (Appendix 1.) in accordance with applicable law and UK generally accepted accounting practice.

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing accounts giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and –

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently,
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the accounts,
- Prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees were aware that the financial viability of the February concert was dependant on audience number and that a break-even point could not be guaranteed. However, this concert proved to represent the greatest contribution to the overall surplus.

In addition to ticket sales, there is income from bar donations and raffle ticket sales. The trustees also wish to recognise and express gratitude to those who support the charity by making donations and becoming Friends of Magna Sinfonia. The orchestra also benefits from Gift Aid, with many members Gift Aiding their subscriptions.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 of the Accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015)"

The charity's financial year end was changed in 2022 from 30<sup>th</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> July. The reason for this was that the end of July was after the last event of the season but before the AGM - normally early September. This allows reports for the season just finished to be in place for presentation and approval at the AGM.

Total unrestricted funds as at the end of the 2021-22 season were £7,638 and at the end of the 2022-23 season were £12,551.

The accounts have been independently examined as required by the Charities Commission.

The Financial report (Appendix 1.) and Independent Examiners report (Appendix 2.) are separate documents which are found at the end of this report and are, as required submitted to the Charities Commission.

## **Reserves Policy**

In accordance with best practice and Charity Commission guidance the charity maintains reserves in order to provide for contingencies that may arise in the future and to act as a buffer. The trustees define free reserves to be unrestricted funds which have not been designated for specific purposes. The Magna Sinfonia policy is to have in reserve an amount equivalent to the total cost of an average production. In line with this, the reserve amount is set at £7.000 and assets currently exceed this figure.

## **Orchestra Development**

The trustees remain committed to the original objective for the orchestra, which was to provide an exciting platform for high-quality musicians (amateur through to professional) to experience top-quality conductors, varied repertoire, and a more focused, friendly setting in which to perform orchestral music. By maintaining this ethos, the orchestra has established a widely held reputation as Dorset's premier amateur orchestra and has thrived.

Responsibility for the running of the orchestra and ensuring legal and Charity Commission compliance rests with the trustees, but the trustees may also co-opt members to assist with the running of the orchestra and are grateful to Bärbel Glaser, Caroline Poon and Christine Perry, who serve on the committee, taking on various roles.

## **2022-2023 Season**

### **AGM and Season Launch**

Sunday 11th September 2022

Parkstone Grammar School, Sopers Lane, Poole, BH17 7EP.

### **Season Launch**

Rachmaninov Symphony No. 1

The Season Launch was not expected to be financially successful as it was funded solely by members donations. The event required funding of £835.15 over and above the donations received.

### **AGM**

The meeting began at 2.30 pm and closed at 3.45 pm. The meeting was chaired jointly by Ben Jennings and Chris Block, who gave a summary of the 2020-21 season and provided a report on the orchestra's financial position.

As required by the Constitution, trustees are required to resign in rotation, but are eligible for re-election. In compliance, Chris Block & Ben Jennings resigned, but were re-elected by a unanimous vote by members.

### **Autumn Concert: Symphonie Fantastique**

Saturday 15th October 2022, 7.30 pm

All Saints Church, Castlemain Avenue, Southbourne, Bournemouth, BH6 5EH

Programme

Dukas | Fanfare from La Peri

Saint-Saens | Cello Concerto No. 1

Berlioz | Symphonie Fantastique

Conductor: Natalia Luis-Bassa

Soloist: Hannah McFarlane

This was a high-cost production and was expected to need financial support. In fact, the level of support was less than budgeted but did end with a deficit of £665.86

Audience: 123

### **Christmas Concert: Classical Christmas Crackers**

Saturday 17th December 2022 3:00pm

All Saints Church, Southbourne, Bournemouth, BH6 5EH

A family friendly celebration featuring seasonal music and carols.

This was a light-hearted, low-cost production which yielded a surplus of £1,119.11. The number of tickets sold was disappointing at 88, but probably due to clashes with other seasonal events.

### **Spring concert: Carmina Burana**

Saturday 25th February 2023 7:30pm

Lighthouse Arts and Entertainment Concert Hall, 21 Kingland Road, Poole, Dorset, BH15 1UG

The orchestra worked in partnership with SoundStorm Music Education Agency and was supported by Arts Council England. Performing alongside Magna Sinfonia were other musicians and a choir of 170 formed mainly of students from schools in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole.

Programme:

Adams | Short Ride in a Fast Machine

Mussorgsky | Pictures at an Exhibition

Orff | Carmina Burana

Soloists Isabelle Atkinson | Soprano, Morgen Michel | Tenor, Yuki Okuyama | Baritone

Conductor: Maxime Tortelier

This was the orchestra's most ambitious production and fulfilled a long-held goal set by the trustees. The concert was judged a huge success by both musicians and the audience with many posting positive reviews. Working with young people was an important feature of the project, providing secondary school pupils with the opportunity to perform with a high-quality symphony orchestra and hopefully inspiring them to further involvement with music.

The principal factor determining the financial success of the event was audience number. A subsidy of £1,601.9 was received from SoundStorm Music Education Agency and the budget set for break-even was an audience of 445. In the event, 649 were sold ranging in price from £16.95 to £26.95 with under 18s able to attend for £6.95 and this resulted in the event being financially successful, creating a surplus of £3,091.72.

### **Project Weekend: Mahler Symphony No. 5**

Friday 31st March - Sunday 2nd April 2023

Parkstone Grammar School, Sopers Lane, Poole, BH17 7EP

Conductor: Maxime Tortelier

This event was a continuation of the series of intensive rehearsals and play-through of Mahler's works. In addition to members, the weekend also attracted musicians from further afield. As with previous project weekends there was no concluding public performance, though the play-through was open to invited family and friends.

The event was not expected to yield a surplus and in fact required a subsidy of £346.74.

### **Summer Concert: Music from Stage and Screen**

Saturday 24th June 2023

All Saints Church, Castlemain Avenue, Southbourne, Bournemouth, BH6 5EH

A programme of music from stage and screen

Bernstein | Symphonic Dances from West Side Story

Copland | Rodeo Suite

Williams | Star Wars Suite

Conductor: Pete Harrison

The repertoire was expected to attract a larger than usual audience and this proved to be the case with 186 attending. With income exceeding budget and expenditure below budget, a surplus of £876.30 was generated.

### **2023-24 Season Programme**

#### **Season Launch and AGM**

Sunday September 11<sup>th</sup> 2023 Parkstone Grammar School

#### **Autumn Concert: Symphonic Spirituals**

14<sup>th</sup> October 2023 7.30pm All Saints Church, Southbourne

Dvořák | American Suite

Dvořák | Slavonic Dances

Florence Price | Symphony No. 1

Conductor: Ondřej Soukup

#### **Lighthouse**

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 Lighthouse, Poole.

Joining Bournemouth Symphony Choir in the Concert Hall. This is an opportunity to support Lighthouse and work with this outstanding choir.

Vaughan Williams | Dona Nobis Pacem

Rutter | Requiem

Conductor: Gavin Carr

#### **Christmas Concert: A Very Magna Christmas**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 3.00pm - All Saints Church, Southbourne

A family-friendly celebration featuring seasonal music and carols.

**Winter Concert: Famous Fifths**

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2024 - Parkstone Grammar School, Poole

Beethoven | Symphony No. 5

Sibelius | Symphony No.5

Conductor: Cayenna Ponchione

**Summer Concert at The Priory**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - Christchurch Priory

Programme to commemorate 25 years since the Priory organ was rebuilt

Bach | Toccata and Fugue in D minor (orchestral version)

Poulenc | Concerto for Organ, Timpani and Strings

Saint Saëns | Symphony No. 3 in C minor, 'Organ'

Soloist: David Beeby

Conductor: Peter Stark

End

This, the final version of Trustees Report  
was approved by the board of trustees at  
their meeting on 01.09.2024.

## APPENDIX 1.

### Magna Sinfonia

Report of the Trustees for the period  
1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023

#### Statement of Financial Activities for the Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023

		2023 10 months £	2022 12 months £
	Note		
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	2	12,106	12,285
Other trading activities	3	18,322	2,286
		-----	-----
		30,428	14,571
		-----	-----
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	4	817	194
Charitable activities	5	24,698	12,749
		-----	-----
Total expenditure		25,515	12,943
		-----	-----
Net movement of funds		4,913	1,628
Total unrestricted funds brought forward		7,638	6,010
		-----	-----
Total unrestricted funds carried forward		12,551	7,638
		=====	=====

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.

## Magna Sinfonia

### Report of the Trustees for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023

#### Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023

	Note	2023 31 July £	2022 30 September £
<b>Current assets:</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		12,635	5,986
Prepayments		166	2,067
		-----	-----
		12,801	8,053
 <b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>			
Accruals and deferred income		250	415
		-----	-----
<b>Net current assets</b>		12,551	7,638
		-----	-----
 <b>Net assets</b>		12,551	7,638
		=====	=====
 Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds		12,551	7,638
		-----	-----
<b>Total funds</b>		12,551	7,638
		=====	=====

The financial statements on pages 7 to 12 were approved by the trustees,

and authorised for issue on.....01.09.2024.....

and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
Ben Jennings  
Trustee



## **Magna Sinfonia**

**Report of the Trustees for the period  
1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

#### **1 Accounting policies**

##### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

##### **Basis of preparation**

Magna Sinfonia meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

##### **Income and endowments**

This represents the total value of all donated income and any other income receivable by the charity. This is accounted for on a receivable basis. Legacies are accounted for only once there is both the certainty of receipt and the ability to provide an accurate valuation.

##### **Income from other trading activities**

This represents monies received from ticket sales and other incidental receipts from concerts produced by the charity.

##### **Expenditure**

Resources are mostly expended on venue hire, musicians fees and other associated costs incurred in the production of concerts, as approved by the trustees during trustee meetings.

##### **Raising funds**

These are costs incurred in publicising concert events which generate income for the charity.

##### **Charitable activities**

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

## **Magna Sinfonia**

**Report of the Trustees for the period  
1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

#### **Support costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### **Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including independent examination of accounts, strategic management and trustees' meetings.

#### **Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

## Magna Sinfonia

Report of the Trustees for the period  
1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>2 Donations and legacies</b>			
Donations and subsidies		3,257	1,296
Concert subscriptions		7,441	9,836
Gift Aid reclaimed		1,408	1,153
		-----	-----
		12,106	12,285
		-----	-----
<b>3. Other trading activities</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Ticket sales and subscriptions		16,525	1,802
Programmes and catering income		1,797	484
		-----	-----
		18,322	2,286
		-----	-----
<b>4 Expenditure on raising funds</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Advertising and publicity		817	194
		-----	-----
<b>5 Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Venue hire		10,126	2,183
Musicians' fees and hire of instruments		12,654	9,469
Other concert production costs		820	140
Administration		556	957
Charitable donations		292	-
Governance costs	7	250	-
		-----	-----
		24,698	12,749
		-----	-----

## Magna Sinfonia

Report of the Trustees for the period  
1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>6 Trustees remuneration and expenses</b>			
No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration, benefits or expenses for the year under review. Four trustees were reimbursed a total of £1,928 for purchases made in pursuance of the Charity's main activity.			
<b>7 Governance costs</b>			
		2023 £	2022 £
Independent examiner's fees		250	-
		-----	-----

## APPENDIX 2.

### Magna Sinfonia

#### Independent Examiner's Report 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023

##### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Magna Sinfonia

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the 10 months ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023 which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

##### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

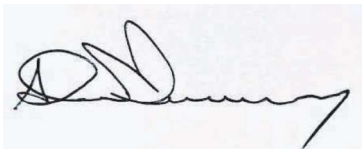
My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

##### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....

Date...02.09.2024.....

Alan Murray  
72 Churchfield Road  
Poole  
Dorset  
BH15 2QP