

The Highgate Choral Society trustees' report 2020/21

Charitable objects

The objects of the charity are to educate the public in the arts and sciences and, in particular, the art and science of music by the presentation of concerts and other activities. The charity pursues its objects principally through holding public concerts, but we also undertake additional activities to support our local community and engage with other charities and schools in our area. The members of the committee, who are the charity's trustees, are aware of the general guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. The trustees have regard to this guidance in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Incorporation

The new constitution of Highgate Choral Society as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) was approved and registered under charity registration number 1191240 by the Charity Commissioners on 11th September 2020. Pursuant to a decision at a meeting of the trustees on 20th May 2021, on 28th May 2021 HCS.CIO inherited the assets of the old Highgate Choral Society charity registration number 265651 (Old HCS). On that date it also took over the running of the choir.

Musical activities

The final weeks of the 2020/21 season continued with rehearsals on line and no live activities. The zoomers wrapped up the season with a performance of the Bach Magnificat and Vaughan Williams' *Dona nobis pacem*.

Plans were advanced to resume live rehearsals and concerts as from September 6th by when it seems likely that Covid restrictions will no longer prohibit us from doing so.

Governance

The administration of the charity is the responsibility of the trustees who are all unpaid members of the charity elected by its members in accordance with the constitution. The trustees in this inaugural year were the same as for Old HCS. They will all resign at the first AGM at which the annual cycle of elections

will commence whereby the third most long-standing trustees retire each year.

The trustees meet regularly among themselves and also with our music director. Our music director is not a member of the committee but is invited to attend its meetings. Until the end of the 2020/21 season, the trustees met online because of the pandemic.

In addition to future musical plans, the trustees considered: the financial position of the charity; the approval of the budget and season plan; reviews of membership; and operational risks.

Membership

All membership of Old HCS effectively expired on 31st August 2021 and most of them re-subscribed to become members of HCS.CIO as from 1st September 2021. Numbers going forward are somewhat reduced (approximately 14% fewer) mainly due to those more vulnerable among us wishing to stay protected during the latter stages of the pandemic. We hope in due course they will also return.

Finance

As noted above the assets of Old HCS were agreed to be transferred to HCS.CIO on 28th May 2021. By year end the sum of £55,241 General Funds and £16,131 of the designated Commissioning Fund had been transferred along with a large number of items of valuable equipment which had all been written down over many years' use to nil book value.

During the remaining few weeks of the year we incurred net costs of £3,809, leaving us with a carried forward general fund balance of £51,432 to start off the new year. No changes to the inherited Commissioning Fund were made.

Independent examiner

We are very grateful to chartered accountant Richard Morris, our independent examiner, for all the support and advice he has given us throughout this transfer from Old HCS to HCS.CIO

Conclusion

We have ended our first year in the same rude financial health as we left Old HCS with money in the bank and a thriving

membership as a strong basis from which to rebuild our live activities next year when we hope to be able to plan new and varied repertoires for our coming seasons once we return to singing together live.

Julia Irvine
Chair
Highgate Choral Society
21st February 2022



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Highgate Choral Society CIO

Charity N°

1191240

Accounts for the period

11th September 2020

to

31st August 2021

Section A

Statement of financial activities

Draft 28/08/20

	General Funds	Designated Commissioning Fund	Total Unrestricted Funds	Total Unrestricted Funds Last Year
Income				
Concert Ticket Sales			0	
Programme Sales			0	
Programme Advertising			0	
Membership Subscriptions			0	
Friends	200		200	
Donations/Bequests	55		55	
Gift Aid Tax Recovery			0	
Bar Sales			0	
Refreshments Net Income			0	
Raffles Net Income			0	
Jumble Sale Net Income			0	
Music Hire Income	7		7	
External Concert Promoters Income			0	
Benslow Weekend Income			0	
Tour Income			0	
Commissioning Fund Income			0	
Funds Transferred from HCS	55,241	16,131	71,372	
Sundry Income	75		75	
Total Income	55,578	16,131	71,709	0
Expenditure				
Concert Costs			0	
Programme Costs			0	
Rehearsal Costs	3,000		3,000	
Bar Costs			0	
Music Hire Costs	12		12	
Bank & Card Charges less Interest	24		24	
PRS Royalties			0	
Insurances			0	
Making Music Annual Subscription			0	
External Concert Promoters Costs			0	
Benslow Weekend Costs			0	
Tour Costs			0	
Commissioning Fund Costs			0	
Sundry Costs	1,110		1,110	
Total Expenditure	4,146	0	4,146	0
Income less Expenditure	51,432	16,131	67,563	0
Transfers between funds			0	0
Net movement in funds	51,432	16,131	67,563	0
Funds brought forward			0	
Funds carried forward	51,432	16,131	67,563	0

Section B

Balance sheet

	General Funds £	Commissioning Fund £	Total Unrestricted Funds	Total Unrestricted Funds Last Year £
Fixed assets	1,972		1,972	0
Current assets				
Debtors (Note 19)	7,562		7,562	
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 24)	52,778	16,131	68,909	
Total current assets	60,340	16,131	76,471	0
Creditors (Note 20)	10,880		10,880	
Total net assets	49,460	16,131	65,591	0
Total assets	51,432	16,131	67,563	0
General Funds	51,432		51,432	
Commissioning Fund		16,131	16,131	
Total funds	51,432	16,131	67,563	0

Signed by two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Julia Irvine, Chair

Luke Randolph, Treasurer

Signature	Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
	02/02/22
	2/2/22



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

The Highgate Choral Society

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1191240

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/08/2021**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

Date:

28 January 2022

Name:

Richard Morris

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Associate member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Address:

8 Holt Close

London

N10 3HW