

## Raiders Performing Arts

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Held on: Tuesday, 1 October 2024

Time: 8:00 pm

Location: Hermitage School, St Johns, Woking

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chairperson, Richard Roche, opened the meeting and welcomed members to the Annual General Meeting of Raiders Performing Arts. He thanked everyone for attending and expressed appreciation for their ongoing support of the organisation and its young members.

Present:

- Richard Roche – Chairperson
- Paul Newman – Band Leader
- Fiona Spittles – Treasurer
- Angela Banks – Trustee
- Paul Banks – Trustee
- Amy Hill – Trustee

#### 2. Chairman's Report

The Chairperson presented his annual report for the year ended 31st December 2024. He highlighted the continued growth and success of the organisation, noting that membership stood at 85 young people aged 6–16, with strong participation across all sections.

He expressed pride in the progress made by members, the quality of instruction provided, and the sense of community and teamwork that defines Raiders Performing Arts.

The Chairperson reported that the band took part in several performances and events during the year, including the organisation's first Christmas Concert, held at Winston Churchill School and attended by over 200 parents and supporters.

He also reported the band's achievement of charitable status in May 2024, and entry into the Gift Aid Scheme, which has helped to significantly boost income. The organisation successfully received grants from Asda, Tesco, and local councillors, alongside generous donations and sponsorship from supporters and parents.

Mr. Roche expressed his gratitude to all volunteers, committee members, and especially to Band Leader Paul Newman, whose drive and commitment continue to inspire members and families alike.

The full Chairman's Report was adopted by the meeting.

Proposed by: Paul Newman    Seconded by: Fiona Spittles

Vote: Carried unanimously.

### 3. Treasurer's Report

Presented by: Fiona Spittles

This year has been a strong one financially for Raiders Performing Arts, with a net profit of £9,524 for the year, all of which has boosted reserves to a closing balance of £16,322.67 as at 31 December 2024, notwithstanding that a school rent bill for the spring term (in the region of £3,000) remains payable in early January.

Our main source of income this year has been from donations and sponsorship, and we have been very lucky to gain grants from many sources, including Asda, Tesco, and our local councillors, alongside huge amounts of sponsorship monies.

The Treasurer reported that finances remain stable, with funds reinvested into instruments, uniforms, and training resources to support continued growth and participation.

Proposed by: Paul Newman    Seconded by: Angela Banks

Vote: Carried unanimously.

### 4. Election of Officers and Committee Members

| Position    | Nominee        | Proposed by    | Seconded by    | Result    |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| Chairperson | Richard Roche  | Paul Newman    | Fiona Spittles | Elected   |
| Band Leader | Paul Newman    | Richard Roche  | Amy Hill       | Confirmed |
| Treasurer   | Fiona Spittles | Richard Roche  | Paul Newman    | Elected   |
| Secretary   | Amy Hill       | Paul Newman    | Angela Banks   | Elected   |
| Trustee     | Angela Banks   | Fiona Spittles | Amy Hill       | Elected   |
| Trustee     | Paul Banks     | Richard Roche  | Angela Banks   | Elected   |

## 5. Plans for the Year Ahead

The Chairperson shared plans for the 2025 season, including:

- The Guard's first performance at the Winterguard competition in the new year.
- A busy summer schedule of community events and performances already booked.
- Continued focus on improving the musical programme, member development, and community engagement.

## 6. Any Other Business

Next Year's Goals

Looking forward to 2025, we have entered our Colourguard section into Winterguard UK, and they will be travelling all over the UK to represent Raiders in the Cadets section of the competition.

We also have events booked already for the summer months onwards, and are working hard towards improving our musical offering for these.

It has been a very successful year, and we are very much looking forward to what 2025 will bring.

## 7. Date of Next Meeting

The next Annual General Meeting will be held in early 2026 (date to be confirmed).

## 8. Meeting Closed

The Chairperson thanked everyone for their contributions and ongoing support. The meeting closed at 9:00 pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

8/10/25

Richard Roche, Chairperson

Raiders Performing Arts

## Chairman's Report

Raiders Performing Arts  
For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

### Overview

This past year has been one of progress, pride, and perseverance for Raiders Performing Arts. As a registered charity, our mission remains to provide young people with opportunities to learn, perform, and develop life skills through the performing arts and marching music.

Our members have once again shown dedication, enthusiasm, and teamwork — qualities that lie at the heart of what makes Raiders so special. Despite the challenges faced by many youth and voluntary organisations, we continue to grow in both strength and reputation.

### Membership and Development

Membership this year stood at 85 young people, aged between 6 and 16 years old. We were delighted to welcome several new recruits to both the performing and development sections, each bringing fresh enthusiasm and energy to the organisation.

Under the guidance of our talented instructional staff, members have worked hard to develop their musical and visual performance skills. Regular rehearsals and sectional workshops have helped raise our overall standard, while maintaining the supportive and inclusive environment that defines Raiders.

### Performances and Achievements

The past year has seen the band proudly represent Raiders Performing Arts at a range of parades, community events, and public performances across the region. Each appearance has showcased not only our members' musical talent but also their teamwork, discipline, and pride in performance.

At the end of November this year, we held our first Christmas Concert at Winston Churchill School, which was attended by over 200 parents and supporters. This was a fantastic celebration of the members' hard work and marked an exciting new milestone for Raiders as we continue to build our performance calendar.

These events have strengthened our visibility within the community and provided invaluable opportunities for our young members to gain confidence, experience, and pride in their achievements.

## **Fundraising and Financial Position**

We achieved charitable status in May this year and have been accepted into the Gift Aid Scheme, which has enabled us to significantly boost our income.

As a charitable organisation, fundraising remains vital to our sustainability and growth.

Our main source of income this year has been from donations and sponsorship, and we have been very fortunate to receive grants from a number of generous organisations, including Asda, Tesco, and our local councillors.

These combined efforts have enabled us to invest in the ongoing development of the band — including the upkeep of instruments, uniforms, rehearsal facilities, and educational resources — ensuring that participation remains affordable and accessible for all our young members.

We are deeply grateful to every individual, business, and organisation who has supported Raiders Performing Arts throughout the year. Their generosity and belief in our mission continue to make a real difference.

## **Governance and Volunteers**

The management committee has continued to ensure that the charity operates effectively, transparently, and in line with Charity Commission requirements.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all committee members for their dedication throughout the year. I would also like to acknowledge our incredible team of volunteers — from instructors and chaperones to logistics staff and event helpers — all led by our Band Leader, Paul Newman, whose drive and commitment is an inspiration to all members. Raiders simply could not function without your collective commitment and passion.

## **Looking Ahead**

The 2025 season promises to be another exciting chapter for Raiders Performing Arts. Our Guard will be performing at the Winterguard competition for the first time in the new year — a fantastic opportunity for our members to develop their performance skills and represent the organisation on a new competitive stage.

We already have a number of events booked for the summer months onwards, and we are working hard to improve and expand our musical offering in preparation for these performances.

Alongside this, we will continue to focus on developing our young members' skills, supporting our volunteers, and building strong partnerships within our local community and the wider marching arts network.

## Conclusion

As I reflect on the past year, I am immensely proud of what we have achieved together. Raiders Performing Arts continues to embody the values of teamwork, discipline, creativity, and community.

My heartfelt thanks go to every member, parent, volunteer, supporter, and sponsor who has played a part in our journey this year. Your collective effort ensures that Raiders remains a vibrant, inspiring, and inclusive environment where young people can thrive through the performing arts.

Richard Roche  
Chairperson  
Raiders Performing Arts  
31st December 2024

**Finance Report**  
**Raiders Performing Arts**  
**Year ended 31 December 2024**

This year has been a strong one financially for Raiders Performing Arts, with a net profit of £9,524 for the year, all of which has boosted our reserves to a closing balance of £16,322.67 as at 31 December 2024, notwithstanding that we will have a school rent bill to cover in early January for the spring term, in the region of £3,000.

Our main source of income this year has been from donations and sponsorship, and we have been very lucky to gain grants from many sources, including Asda, Tesco, our local councillors, alongside huge amounts of sponsorship monies from the band leader running events, parent and local supporters donations, plus the Christmas concert and carols at Asda in Sheerwater.

We aim to keep our fees as low as possible for members so that the activity is accessible to all, regardless of background, ethnicity, ability or any other situation that may prevent them from attending, so fundraising is key to our success.

We have also been lucky enough to gain charity status this year, and have been accepted into the Gift Aid Scheme, which has enabled us to hugely boost our income, and this will be ongoing in future years.

In terms of expenditure, our biggest outlay is rent, we work from a school, and we hire a number of rooms within the school, and our termly rent is in the region of £3,000 per term. In addition, in school holidays and some weekends, we hire local facilities to provide holiday rehearsal time. Other notable expenses this year, which are an increase on last year are merchandise, and we have made the decision for all members to have a 'band' t-shirt for rehearsals, and events, plus we have provided staff with relevant easily recognisable band t-shirts so that they are visible to parents and members if needed. Our other large expense is equipment, and this includes updating some old equipment, along with providing new drum stands for the percussion section, which was covered by one of the grants mentioned above.

It has been a positive year in terms of profit, we are a none profit making organisation, and the profit made this financial year will be used to invest in the band and cover future rent costs and travel costs for the upcoming Winterguard competitions, although parents will be contributing towards the travel to subsidise the coaches. Again, we received a grant to cover the costs of Winterguard for the 2025 season, which is included in the figures in this report.

Going forward, there is no reason to believe that the income will reduce for future years, providing that we work hard to obtain grants and additional funding.

**Band Leaders Report**  
**Raiders Performing Arts**  
**Year ended 31 December 2024**

This year has been a positive one for the band, with membership growing to an average of 90 members over the year with member retention at an all time high. We have added a new section to the band, the 'Little Stars', which is a pom pom section for ages 4-8.

We have seen good progress throughout Raiders, with the band learning new pieces of music and the colourguard gaining a full time instructor. We have also had some other terrific staff join us across the group which has been crucial with the steady growth in membership. All staff are DBS checked and have the opportunity to do an online safeguarding course to help protect themselves and the members.

We have participated in four public performances in the last 12 months, including Merrist Wood Fleecy Frolics, Pirbright Village Fete, Knaphill School Fete and we marched in Fleet Carnival which the members particularly enjoyed. At the end of November this year, we held our first Christmas Concert at Winston Churchill School, which was attended by over 200 parents, families, friends and supporters of the band. We also did a fundraiser event at Asda in Sheerwater, playing Christmas Carols, where staff and children played together.

We have been extremely fortunate to be able to fundraise well this year, from parent donations, community grants and sponsorship for various events. This, along with our low member rates enables us to support our members by providing band t-shirts, instruments, uniforms and tuition.

In May, we received charity status, which has been fantastic and will open up additional grant availability for us, along with enabling us to register for the Gift Aid scheme, which will help our funds immensely.

Looking forward to 2025, we have entered our Colourguard section into Winterguard UK, and they will be travelling all over the UK to represent Raiders in the Cadets section of the competition. We also have events booked already for the summer months onwards, and are working hard towards improving our musical offering for these.

It has been a very successful year, and we are very much looking forward to what 2025 will bring.

**Raiders Performing Arts**  
**Income and Expenditure Account**  
**Year ended 31 December 2024**

|                            |          |             |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------|
| <b>Income:</b>             | <b>£</b> | <b>£</b>    |
| Subscriptions              | 8866     |             |
| Tuck Shop                  | 874      |             |
| Donations & Sponsorship    | 13675    |             |
| Gift Aid                   | 3073     |             |
| GROSS INCOME               |          | 26488       |
| <b>Expenditure:</b>        |          |             |
| Tuck                       | 415      |             |
| Renewables                 | 40       |             |
| Subscriptions              | 200      |             |
| Equipment                  | 2343     |             |
| Travel                     | 50       |             |
| Rent                       | 11074    |             |
| DBS                        | 0        |             |
| Staff                      | 157      |             |
| Insurance                  | 212      |             |
| Merchandise                | 2473     |             |
| TOTAL EXPENSES             |          | 16964       |
| <b>Net Profit for year</b> |          | <b>9524</b> |

Signed:

Dated:



**Raiders Performing Arts**  
**Income and Expenditure Account**  
**Year ended 31 December 2024**

|                         |          |          |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|
| <b>Income:</b>          | <b>£</b> | <b>£</b> |
| Subscriptions           | 8866     |          |
| Tuck Shop               | 874      |          |
| Donations & Sponsorship | 13675    |          |
| Gift Aid                | 3073     |          |
| GROSS INCOME            |          | 26488    |

|                     |       |       |
|---------------------|-------|-------|
| <b>Expenditure:</b> |       |       |
| Tuck                | 415   |       |
| Renewables          | 40    |       |
| Subscriptions       | 200   |       |
| Equipment           | 2343  |       |
| Travel              | 50    |       |
| Rent                | 11074 |       |
| DBS                 | 0     |       |
| Staff               | 157   |       |
| Insurance           | 212   |       |
| Merchandise         | 2473  |       |
| TOTAL EXPENSES      |       | 16964 |

|                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Net Profit for year</b> | <b>9524</b> |
|----------------------------|-------------|

FS TAX

12b Oakwood Road, Bournemouth, BH9 3DF

I confirm that I have checked and audited the accounts of

Raiders Performing Arts

for the year to 31 December 2024

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. P. P.', written over a horizontal line.

Dated:

08/10/25