

# THE PLYMOUTH PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 261736

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1970-11-16

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 10 Stefan Close  
Plymouth  
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**Website** [www.plymouthphilchoir.org](http://www.plymouthphilchoir.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** 1) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION BY THE PROMOTION OF THE ARTS EITHER INDEPENDENTLY OR JOINTLY WITH OTHER SOCIETIES: BY THE PRESENTATION OF CHORAL AND OTHER MUSICAL WORK TO THE PUBLIC; AND IN SUCH OTHER CHARITABLE WAYS AS THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL DETERMINE.2) THE ADVANCEMENT OF SKILLS IN PERFORMING CHORAL WORKS.

**Activities:** The choir rehearses weekly and performs a minimum of three public concerts per year.

## Classification

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- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED (IN PRACTICE PLYMOUTH)
- Plymouth City

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£49,230	£42,885	-	-
2024-08-31	£39,697	£43,706	-	-
2023-08-31	£39,394	£41,899	-	-
2022-08-31	£40,434	£50,255	-	-
2021-08-31	£8,652	£9,708	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Catherine Mary Teague</b>	Chair	2024-10-17
Anne-Marie Smith		
Glenda Jones		2025-10-23
JENNIFER HART		2011-05-30
Janet perks		2021-10-07
Judith Beatrice Blake		2024-10-17
Marguerite Elena Keene		2025-10-23
Michael Hall		2025-10-23
Patricia Brodie		2015-10-02
Teresa Lakeman		2025-10-23

**THE PLYMOUTH PHILHARMONIC CHOIR**

England & Wales - Charity number 261736

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# Accounts

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**These Minutes are unrati ed. Minutes of AGM's are rati ed at the AGM the following year i.e. in 2026.**

## **PLYMOUTH PHILHARMONIC CHOIR**

Minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** held at Meade King Hall, Plymouth College at 7pm on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025.

Brian Gerry, our President, in his address, paid particular tribute to Christopher Fletcher, our Director of Music, for his skilful musicianship over the past 29 years. He wished it to be recorded that his musical knowledge and expertise were always evident at concerts, and valued, not only by the choir, but by himself and the countless patrons who have appreciated his commitment and leadership. He thanked the Choir for three wonderful concerts in the previous season and commented that he had sent Christopher a letter of thanks after each concert and often used the word "astounding" when describing the Choir's performance. Brian mentioned that today was the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of the former accompanist to the Choir, Jenny Shepley, who expressed her thanks for the card she had been sent by the Choir.

**Present:** Jenny Hart (Chairing the Meeting), Secretary: Catherine Teague, Teresa Lakeman (speaking on behalf of Anne-Marie Smith – Treasurer), Associate Members' Secretary: Alan Hart, Dr Sean Sweeney (taking the rehearsal) and approximately 70 members.

1. **Apologies;** these were received from Cathy Cook, Pete Cook, Louise Courtnell, Ruth Gozzard, Margy Keene, Sian Lowry, Kate McWhirter, Jen Millward, Meg Norris, Angela Stallard, Anne-Marie Smith, Jackie Visser.
2. **Minutes of the last AGM** were read and approved. **Proposed** by Barbara Beatty and **Seconded** by Delia Crichton. They were then passed by the membership present. It was suggested that the minutes of the AGM, although unrati ed, be circulated after the AGM as well as 21 days before the AGM in 2026.
3. **Chair's Report** – Jenny thanked Brian for his appreciation of last year's season of concerts, which were supported by both superb soloists and orchestral players.

- Mozart: *Vesperae Solennes de Confessore*
- Haydn: *Little Organ Mass* & Mozart's *Maria Theresa Mass*
- Mendelssohn's *Elijah*
- Opera Gala Evening

Throughout the year, Christopher consistently demanded high standards from us all, until we reached our very best for each concert. Our spirits were lifted each week by Irina's lead on the piano. Thanks to both for their dedicated service.

We are grateful to approximately fifty members who contribute to the overall running of the choir (which doesn't include all the amazing cake makers) thank you for all your contributions whether weekly, occasional or on concert days themselves. The committee appreciates everything you do.

The committee has been operating on reduced numbers this year, taking it in turns to chair meetings and so unusually Jenny chaired the AGM.

After a wonderful season, we were looking forward to a restful summer. However, after 29 years in post, Christopher decided that he was unable to continue and so resigned with immediate effect. It was a shock to us all, and he's going to be a hard act to follow. We wish to celebrate his legacy and are waiting to hear from him as to how he would like to receive our gift.

In August, we were facing a new season with no musical director and uncertainty about where we could perform – the Guildhall (whenever it opens) or St Andrew's. To prevent uncertainty, we chose to perform at St Andrew's all season. We are grateful to Pete Cook for agreeing to run the Autumn term and concert at short notice (ably assisted by Sean Sweeney for the Cook holiday break). We are delighted that Paul Foster will be our interim Music Director for the Spring and Summer. Both conductors have worked hard with the committee to compile a brilliant programme for each term.

We are delighted to welcome many new singers this term, along with some old friends returning. We wish to involve the whole membership in shaping our choir for the future. In September, Catherine (Sec) organised two focus groups, where you had the opportunity to voice your opinions on the choir's strengths and areas we could develop. Later, we were asked to consider what we are looking for in a new Musical Director. The results of these will be reflected in future documents and actions.

One concern expressed by many was our safety on the new tiered seating in the hall. We would like to thank you for your patience as various seating plans were trialled. Last week, we rehearsed in the Old Gym and a vote taken as to which venue was preferred. The choir narrowly voted in favour of the Old Gym. We plan to finish this term with the present arrangements, moving to the Old Gym in January 2026.

We enjoyed this year's Singing Day in the Woolwell Centre, on Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup>. We learned so much from Joe Judge as he led the day for us, singing Messiah choruses. Thank you to Sarah Potter and Margy Keene for a brilliantly organised day, with the bonus of some songs from the Legacy choir – what a treat!

We are delighted that we have several nominations for new committee Members. I mentioned earlier, there are so many roles in running a choir of our size and if everyone undertook a small task this would help to share the load. If you'd like to consider offering a little time, you are invited to a cream tea on Saturday 8th November at Catherine's house; details will be

in the rehearsal notes. It's for any member, new or established, who would like to find out ways in which they can support the choir.

As we begin the journey to find a new Musical Director to lead Plymouth Philharmonic Choir from 2026 onwards, be assured that you, the membership, will be involved and informed during the process.

I'd like to finish by thanking committee members past and present for their tireless work on your behalf, united in wanting the best for the choir's future.

- 4. Treasurer's Report** – Teresa Lakeman spoke on behalf of our Treasurer, Anne-Marie Smith, who is away. The accounts for the year had been circulated to the membership with the AGM calling papers. Teresa said that we currently have assets of £52k which is £6k up from last year. This improvement in the choir's overall financial position meant that no increase of subscriptions for the coming season would be necessary.
- 5. Associate Member's Report** – Alan reported that to date he had received 23 renewals to renew associate memberships. He highlighted the benefits of Associate Membership, knowing the Choir has several new singers. The cost of becoming an Associate Member this year would be £50. He has left flyers about Associate Membership on the seating in MKH. He encouraged us to ask regular supporters of the Choir to become Associate Members. He emphasised that he was always happy to respond to any queries made to him concerning the scheme.
- 6. Resolution: that a new Constitution be adopted by the membership** – Jenny explained that further work needed to be carried out on the Constitution and that documents would be sent to the membership before an SGM in 2026.
- 7. Election of Committee:** Jenny thanked the membership for listening to requests for more members to join the Committee. There are 5 Officers for the Committee, with the role of Chair and Deputy Chair being vacant this year. The 3 remaining Officers are happy to stand again, with the addition of one of the committee members, Janet Perks being willing to stand as Deputy Chair. Catherine Teague has offered to undertake the role of Chair. The lateness of this latter change has left us with insufficient time to recruit a Secretary to the Choir. However, Mandy Kellagher has offered to undertake the role of Minute Secretary.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Secunder</b>
<b>Catherine Teague</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Jenny Hart</b>	<b>Maggie Owen</b>
<b>Janet Perks</b>	<b>Deputy Chair</b>	<b>Mark Newberry</b>	<b>Sonia Aldworth</b>
<b>Pat Brodie</b>	<b>Membership Secretary</b>	<b>Lyn McLouglin</b>	<b>Teresa Lakeman</b>

<b>Anne Marie Smith</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Catherine Teague</b>	<b>Maggie Owen</b>
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The motion to accept these members into these roles was carried unanimously by the membership.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Second</b>
Jenny Hart	Voice Representative	Catherine Teague	Ruth Gozzard
Judith Blake	Committee Member	Catherine Teague	Josephine Street
Allison George	Committee Member	Oksana Riley	Kathryn Epps
Teresa Lakeman	Committee Member	Judith Blake	Alison/Bob Jeffery
Michael Hall	Concert Co-ordinator	Mandy Kellagher	Vesna Hawley
Glenda Jones	Committee Member	Janet Perks	Lyn McLoughlin
Margy Keene	Committee Member	Mary Johnson	Pat Brodie

The motion to approve these members into these roles was carried unanimously by the membership.

- 8. Any other business** – There was no other business. One member checked the level of subscription which was confirmed as being unchanged from the previous season. £170 for an annual subscription which could be paid in either one or two instalments. Student membership is £10 per term.

**Plymouth Philharmonic Choir**  
**Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison**  
**September 2024 through August 2025**

	Sep '2024 - Aug 2025	Sep '2023 - Aug 2024	£ Change
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Fundraising	2,378.06 ✓	1,824.36	553.70
Gifts and Donations Income	5,340.00 ✓	65.00	5,275.00
Miscellaneous Income	1,010.86	947.93	62.93
Subscription income	20,675.00	19,550.00	1,125.00
Ticket & Programme sales	13,592.80	12,648.68	944.12
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>42,996.72</b>	<b>35,035.97</b>	<b>7,960.75</b> ✓
<b>Expense</b>			
Concert expenses	21,523.59 ✓	23,337.11	-1,813.52
Dues, Subscriptions & Donations	461.00	626.77	-165.77
Hire of premises	4,715.00	4,000.00	715.00
Hire of scores	1,197.20 ✓	500.40	696.80
Insurance	289.00	283.00	6.00
Postage and Delivery	102.66	155.10	-52.44
Printing and Reproduction	160.80	284.40	-123.60
Programme Expense	979.70	1,238.25	-258.55
Publicity	644.23	1,116.81	-472.58
Stipends	11,668.50	11,750.00	-81.50
Sundry Expenses	1,143.50 ✓	413.96	729.54
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>42,885.18</b>	<b>43,705.80</b>	<b>-820.62</b> ✓
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>111.54</b>	<b>-8,669.83</b>	<b>8,781.37</b> ✓
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Other Income</b>			
Dividends	70.59	73.25	-2.66
Gift Aid reclaimed	5,448.50	4,006.35	1,442.15
Interest Income	714.06	599.55	114.51
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>6,233.15</b>	<b>4,679.15</b>	<b>1,554.00</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>6,233.15</b>	<b>4,679.15</b>	<b>1,554.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>6,344.69</b>	<b>-3,990.68</b>	<b>10,335.37</b> ✓

**Plymouth Philharmonic Choir**  
**Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison**  
**As of August 31, 2025**

	Aug 31, 2025	Aug 31, 2024	£ Change	% Change
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Electronic keyboard	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.0%
Tiered staging	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>				
<b>Other Current Assets</b>				
Suspense Account	20,638.40	20,638.40	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>20,638.40</b>	<b>20,638.40</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Current/Savings</b>				
COIF Charity Funds	7,153.45	6,829.20	324.25	4.80%
National Savings Income Bond	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.0%
NatWest	-13,096.97	1,272.40	-14,369.37	-1,129.30%
NatWest Business Reserve	35,462.64	15,072.83	20,389.81	135.30%
<b>Total Current/Savings</b>	<b>31,519.12</b>	<b>25,174.43</b>	<b>6,344.69</b>	<b>25.20%</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>52,157.52</b>	<b>45,812.83</b>	<b>6,344.69</b>	<b>13.90%</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>52,157.52</b>	<b>45,812.83</b>	<b>6,344.69</b>	<b>13.90%</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>52,257.52</b>	<b>45,912.83</b>	<b>6,344.69</b>	<b>13.80%</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>52,257.52</b>	<b>45,912.83</b>	<b>6,344.69</b>	<b>13.80%</b>
<b>Equity</b>				
Opening Bal Equity	13,327.03	13,327.03	0.00	0.0%
Retained Earnings	32,585.80	36,576.48	-3,990.68	-10.90%
Net Income	6,344.69	-3,990.68	10,335.37	259.0%
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>52,257.52</b>	<b>45,912.83</b>	<b>6,344.69</b>	<b>13.80%</b>

I have examined, without audit, the books and records of the Plymouth Philharmonic choir provided to me by the Hon. Treasurer Anne-Marie Smith, and these accounts are in accordance therewith.

*Yvonne CH. Keebles*

15TH OCTOBER 2025

**THE PLYMOUTH PHILHARMONIC CHOIR**

England & Wales - Charity number 261736

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# Accounts

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## PLYMOUTH PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** held at Meade King Hall, Plymouth College at 7pm on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

Brian Gerry, our President, in his address, thanked Christopher and the Committee under the leadership of Margy, ably supporting everyone, and particularly Jen as Secretary and Anne-Marie as Treasurer.

Brian commented that Plymouth was fortunate, in the Plymouth Philharmonic, to have one of the best choirs in the UK. He congratulated us on another successful year, and in his letters to Christopher after each concert last season used the word "Outstanding".

Brian then expressed his regret at having to leave the meeting in order to run the rehearsal of the Police Choir.

**Present:** Chair: Margy Keene, Secretary: Jen Millward, Treasurer: Anne-Marie Smith, Associate Members' Secretary: Alan Hart, Music Director: Christopher Fletcher and approximately 70 members and associates.

- 1. Apologies;** these were received from Judith Blake, Alison Cameron, Louise Courtnell, Alison Griffiths, Adela Hawley, Bob and Alison Jeffery, Mary Johnson, Jenny Kinder, Sue Maries, Meg Norris, Jane Pamplin, Oksana Riley, Frances Tait, Barbara and Edmund Shillabeer, Cathy Vasey, Jackie Visser.
- 2. Minutes of the last AGM** were read and approved. **Proposed** by Janet Perks and **Seconded** by Barbara Beatty.
- 3. Chair's Report – The full Chair's Report is to be found at Appendix 1.**  
This was followed by a "cheerio" message from Jen Millward who was stepping down as Secretary. Jen said that the Choir was formed in 1970 and she believed that she joined in 1974 and has been Secretary for more than 40 years. Jen thanked Margy for her meticulous care of the Choir over the last five years. In the early days Jen was unsure that the Choir would make it to the end of a concert in one piece. However, she stated that we are now an excellent Choir, initially thanks to Philip Liddicoat and then Christopher. Jen hopes to sing with us again after having a bit of time off.
- 4. Musical Director's Report -** CF reported that all three concerts were fantastic and a great success. We achieve these results through team effort. Thanks were expressed to the Choir for their hard work and your loyalty. Since Covid, we have had a run of nine fantastic concerts. Thanks must go to Charles Morgan who has worked hard and used his contacts to achieve a wonderful orchestra to support us so effectively. The new orchestra leader Jonathan Storer, and our soloists, have all been wonderful. Thanks must also go to Irina whose supportive and inspirational playing make the conductor's job so much easier. It is so important to the Choir to have such support. CF

also expressed his thanks to the Committee who voluntarily give their time to undertake all the tasks which need to be done and have worked so hard. A special tribute was made to Jen Millward for her 40+ years of service to the Choir and for her efficiency and longevity. The Choir will not be the same without her. Thanks too to Margy who has worked so hard with incredible diligence and care.

- 5. Treasurer's Report** – Ann- Marie reported that we had had three great concerts in the previous year which had been relatively well attended. Overall, there was an expected loss of £11k. The summer concert made a small profit. Our bank balance is reducing and we need to take action. There was a £2k drop in subscriptions last year. Anne-Marie recommended that subscriptions be raised for the coming season and said that subscriptions have not been raised for a couple of years. Fundraising projects will also help our income. The donations received for refreshments this year amounted to c£1k and we received £250 in Gift Aid on these donations. Anne-Marie encouraged the Choir to join the 100 Club. The raffle held during one of our concerts raised £609. The workshop held in October '23 made about £800. However, the workshop held in October '24 made nearly double that. Anne-Marie encouraged all choir members to join "Easy Fundraising" as this was free to join, however for every eligible online purchase made, money came to the Choir. Anne-Marie is going to send the details of this scheme to choir members again. This year, we also made money on programmes c£700. The Choir also received about £4k in Gift Aid (claimed in respect of programmes, subscriptions and refreshments).

The cost of producing concerts was increasing in part because of having concerts on Saturdays. There was more demand for orchestra players for Saturdays than Sundays. This has resulted in members of the orchestra travelling further and therefore claiming more expenses. Pauline Cornish **proposed** to accept the accounts. They were **seconded** by Pat Brodie. Members voted to accept the accounts.

- 6. Proposed increase to Choir Subscriptions** – There was a proposal to increase Choir Subscriptions to £170 from £150. The **proposal** was made by Kate Knowles. The proposal was **seconded** by Ruth Gozzard. The proposal was accepted by members with one member voting against the proposal.

- 7. Associate Members' Report** – Alan reported that he had sent out the invitation to renew Associate Membership today. The cost of becoming an Associate member this year would be £50. He has left flyers about the benefits of Associate Membership on chairs around the MKH. He encouraged choir members to encourage regular supporters of the Choir to become Associate Members. He reiterated that he is always happy to respond to any queries made to him concerning the scheme.

## 8. Changes to the Constitution of the Choir

Resolution: that the proposed changes to the Choir Constitution be adopted by the membership:

- 1) NAME and OBJECT – change layout
- 4) Change heading to: COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES
- 4) vi. Change quorum process for Committee members and Trustees

The change to the Constitution of the Choir was **proposed** by Trevor Stanberry-Flynn and **seconded** by Janet Perks. Members then voted to accept the changes to the constitution.

## 9. Election of Committee

There are 5 Officers of the Committee, 2 of whom are prepared to stand again:

Chair	Margy Keene standing down in accordance with our Constitution. Role now vacant.
Deputy Chair	Charles Morgan has resigned from this role. Sue Maries has offered to undertake this role. Sue was <b>proposed</b> by Margy Keene, <b>seconded</b> by Pat Brodie and voted in by the membership.
Secretary	Jen Millward standing down after c42 years. Catherine Teague has offered to undertake this role. Catherine was <b>proposed</b> Jen Millward, <b>seconded</b> by Pat Brodie and voted in by the membership.
Treasurer	Anne Marie Smith.
Membership Secretary	Pat Brodie

These two officers were voted in by the membership together as they are already on the Committee and are prepared to continue in their roles

The other Committee Members willing to stand again were:

Mary Johnson	(Press Secretary)
Janet Perks	(Pastoral Care Co-ordinator)
Jenny Hart	(Voice Representative)
Anna Lewoniewska	(Publicity Officer)

The Choir voted in favour of the motion of these members being reappointed.

Judith Blake (Fundraising Team) **proposed** by Pat Brodie and **seconded** by Mary Johnson, was also voted onto the Committee as a new member of the Committee by the Membership.

Margy expressed thanks on behalf of the Choir to both Charles Morgan and Bob Jeffery, who had also stood down from the Committee, for their service over the past year.

#### **10. Any Other Business**

On behalf of the Choir, Anne-Marie presented Jen Millward and Margy Keene with bouquets of flowers and gifts in recognition of their extensive service to the Choir.

There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 7.55pm.



Plymouth Philharmonic Choir  
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison  
September 2023 through August 2024

	Sep '2023 - Aug 2024	Sep '2022 - Aug 2023	£ Change	% Change
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Fundraising	1,824.36	3,245.35	-1,420.99	-43.80%
Gifts and Donations Income	65.00	-4,630.00	4,695.00	101.40%
Miscellaneous Income	947.93	268.45	679.48	253.10%
Subscription Income	19,550.00	21,515.00	-1,965.00	-9.10%
Ticket & Programme sales	12,648.68	13,973.15	-1,324.47	-9.50%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>35,035.97</b>	<b>34,371.95</b>	<b>664.02</b>	<b>1.90%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
Concert expenses	23,337.11	23,908.55	-571.44	-2.40%
Donations	0.00	100.00	-100.00	-100.00%
Dues, Subscriptions & Donations	626.77	632.36	-5.59	-0.90%
Hire of premises	4,000.00	4,575.00	-575.00	-12.60%
Hire of scores	500.40	668.60	-158.20	-24.0%
Insurance	283.00	269.00	14.00	5.20%
Postage and Delivery	155.10	202.44	-47.34	-23.40%
Printing and Reproduction	284.40	229.20	55.20	24.10%
Programme Expense	1,238.25	1,318.53	-80.28	-6.10%
Publicity	1,116.81	870.06	246.75	28.40%
Stipends	11,750.00	10,532.00	1,218.00	11.60%
Sundry Expenses	413.96	-1,396.58	1,810.54	129.60%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>43,705.80</b>	<b>41,899.16</b>	<b>1,806.64</b>	<b>4.30%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-8,669.83</b>	<b>-7,527.21</b>	<b>-1,142.62</b>	<b>-15.20%</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
Other Income		46.01	27.24	59.20%
Dividends	73.25	4,057.87	-51.52	-1.30%
Gift Aid reclaimed	4,006.35	918.48	-336.87	-36.70%
Interest Income	581.61			
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>4,661.21</b>	<b>5,022.36</b>	<b>-361.15</b>	<b>-7.20%</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>4,661.21</b>	<b>5,022.36</b>	<b>-361.15</b>	<b>-7.20%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-4,008.62</b>	<b>-2,504.85</b>	<b>-1,503.77</b>	<b>-60.0%</b>

I have examined, without audit, the books and records of the Plymouth Philharmonic Choir provided to me by the Hon. Treasurer Anne-Marie Smith, and these accounts are in accordance therewith.

Fraser CH. Weeber.

15th October 2024.

**THE PLYMOUTH PHILHARMONIC CHOIR**

England & Wales - Charity number 261736

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# Accounts

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## **PLYMOUTH PHILHARMONIC CHOIR**

Minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** held at Meade King Hall, Plymouth College at 7pm on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Brian Gerry, our President, in his address, thanked everyone to their contribution to the success of the choir and congratulated Christopher and the Committee, headed by Margy and ably supported by other Committee members particularly Jen Millward and Anne-Marie Smith.

Brian commented that the past year has been a particularly successful one starting with the “Judas Maccabaeus” concert in the Guildhall on 4<sup>th</sup> December. Brian was sorry to miss the “Stabat Mater” concert as he had contracted Covid, however received reports that it was both brilliant and outstanding. The John Rutter “Spring of Thyme” was a perfect opening to the summer concert and this contrasted with “Benedicite” with its dramatic music with changes in mood and tempo.

Brian then passed on best wishes from Jenny Shepley, our retired accompanist.

**Present:** Chair: Margy Keene, Secretary: Jen Millward, Treasurer: Anne Marie Smith, Associate Members’ Secretary: Alan Hart, Music Director: Christopher Fletcher and approximately 85 members and associates.

- 1. Apologies;** these were received from Lucinda StJohn, Janet Loftus, Lily McConville, Maire Dudleston, Jan Langelaan, Ruth Morgan, Tony Gummow, Kate Knowles, Caroline Atkins, Corinne Collinson, Cathy Vasey, Annette Bolton, Jane Emberson, Robert Powell, Louise Courtnell, Dawn Cawley, Eve Lloyd.
- 2. Minutes** of the last **AGM** were read and approved. **Proposed** by Pauline Cornish and **Seconded** by Sue Maries.

### **3. Chair’s Report**

The season started with our first Choral Workshop in three years led by David Lawrence and organised by Lily McConville and Sarah Potter. We were joined for this day by members of the Legacy Choir who demonstrated some of their work during the breaks.

Our first concert of the season was Judas Maccabaeus by Handel sung in the Guildhall. This was a work few of us had sung before, however by the time of the concert it was clear that the Choir enjoyed it, and so did the audience.

We held a number of fundraising activities in the run up to Christmas which included 100 Club, a Christmas stalls evening, sales of a Christmas card

designed by Cathy Vasey and Christmas hamper raffles. We also introduced use of a cashless card reader, sourced by our Treasurer after research, to enable us to take payments and donations by card.

We then performed our second concert of the season in our last Guildhall appearance before its' refurbishment, Dvorak's "Stabat Mater" which was received enthusiastically by our audience. We hope to return to the Guildhall in 2025.

Our last concert of the season took place in the Minster Church of St Andrew. We sang "The Sprig of Thyme" by Rutter and were joined by some children from Fletewood School, led by their Headteacher, choir member Rachel Gray for a performance of Andrew Carter's "Benedicite". Thanks are offered to Jenny Hart and her helpers for the well organised cream tea which followed. We were hoping to repeat the success of this concert at the Garden House the following week unfortunately, poor weather resulted in the event being cancelled.

We have lost a number of Choir members and supporters during the year, including Colin Curtiss, Elizabeth Opie, Penny Shrimpton, Tim Briggs, Charles Crighton and Bill Beatty and our thoughts and condolences are offered to their family and friends. We also received the sad news recently of the passing of valued and long standing choir members Greta and Nicola White. Led by our President, Brian Gerry, 18 choir members participated in their funeral service in Loddiswell.

We offer our gratitude to John Hobbs who has led some of our early rehearsals this term for "Samson" following Christopher's unfortunate car accident.

Margy offered thanks to all on the committee who have worked so hard this season including new additions Anna Lewoniewska and Sue Maries. Mark Newberry has stepped down from his role as Deputy Chair and Stage Management Co-ordinator. Robert Jeffery has put his name forward for the latter role.

Thanks are also offered to Irina, our wonderful accompanist, and to Christopher for his energy and creativity which enables the Choir to deliver its best.

The new Constitution agreed last year stipulated that the Chair will be in post for five years before stepping down. This is my final year as Chair and Jen Millward will also be stepping down next October after many years of service to the Choir. The Choir are encouraged to reflect on considering putting themselves forward for roles on the Committee to ensure seamless succession.

#### 4. Director of Music's Report

We gave the audience three great concerts this year. Handel is neglected, with the exception of the Messiah, so it was fantastic to perform "Judas Maccabaeus" which we learned together. The Choir performed this work with communication and discipline and did the work full justice.

Dvorak's "Stabat Mater" is another neglected masterpiece, however this performance was gorgeous, and performed to a higher standard than when the Choir previously performed it. Another neglected masterpiece by Dvorak is the "Requiem" which may be considered for performance in the next couple of years.

Christopher reported that he enjoyed the final concert less than the previous two as he felt that the Choir did not learn the music quickly enough.

Christopher offered thanks to the Committee and to three people in particular for their support; Pete Cook, Charles Morgan and finally Irina whose inspirational playing makes an important contribution to the Choir.

(Full report can be found as APPENDIX 1).

#### 5. Treasurer's Report

The figures quoted in this report are mostly rounded up or down to make them easier for the listener to take in – the exact figures are on the P&L and Balance Sheets sent out to the Choir.

The 2 concerts with orchestra made a loss (around £5,500 and £7,500). The summer concert made a profit of just under £2,000.

At the end of every financial year, money is transferred from Fundraising throughout the year (this year it was just over £3,000) and put it into the Suspense Account so that it can be seen, how much has been raised and has accumulated over the previous years. The figure in the Suspense Account, ie: Fundraising, is just under **£19,000**.

Although our bank balance is healthy (nearly **£50,000** less by about £2,500 from last year, and down by about £10,000 from the previous year), we should be able to manage another year at £150 subs per person.

Subscription Income this last year was over £21,500 (including Associates) an increase of £6,000 from the previous year.

Fundraising. Last year we raised over £3,000, an increase of £2,000 on the previous year.

Concert programmes have done well this last year with more advertisers. This means a profit on these programmes of £1,155 over the last year.

We've managed to boost the total received from Gift Aid this last year to over £4,000, with an increased number of membership subs.

The increased total in Gift Aid was also helped by the inclusion of refreshment donations and programme donations in our application for Gift Aid, which was a new venture this last year, and was successfully accepted by HMRC.

As an overview, our **Total Income** for this year was over **£34,000** whereas **Total Expenses** were nearly **£42,000**, a difference of around £7,500, much better than last year's difference of £15,500.

The income received from Gift Aid, and increased interest rates over this last year (just over £5,000), the amount we actually lost over the year was only **£2,500** as opposed to the previous year's nearly £10,000. It is important to note that the £2,500 end-of-year loss would have been profit, had we not repaid an anonymous donation of £5,000 (received before Covid) – as we were unable to use it for the purpose it had been donated.

### **Financial Recommendations**

We've done better financially last year than we did the previous year, and considering the effects of Covid and lockdown, our finances are still reasonably healthy, even though reduced by about £14,000 over that period. This reduction would have been more, had it not been for the generosity of the choir members throughout the lockdown period.

It was **proposed** by Pat Brodie that the accounts were accepted and this was **seconded** by Ruth Gozzard. The motion was passed by choir members.

## **6. Subscriptions**

It was **proposed** that Choir subscriptions remain the same at £150 by Frances Spencer and this was **seconded** by Delia Crichton. The Choir voted in favour of the motion with one abstention.

## **7. Associate Members**

Alan Hart reported that since Covid, Associate Member numbers had reduced from around 100 to 60. He encouraged the Choir to invite others to renew Associate Memberships or consider becoming one. New publicity material had been agreed to promote its appeal. Associate Membership would cost £50 this year. Margy offered her thanks to Alan on behalf of the choir.

## 8. Election of Committee

There are 5 Officers of the Committee, 4 of whom were prepared to stand again:

Chair	Margy Keene
Secretary	Jen Millward
Treasurer	Anne Marie Smith
Membership Secretary	Pat Brodie

Deputy Chairman                      Mark Newberry has resigned from this role and Charles Morgan offered to undertake this role. He is also Concert Manager for the choir.

Rachel Gray **proposed** these members for the Committee and this was **seconded** by Jackie Visser. The Choir voted in favour of the motion.

Sue Maries (previously a co-opted member) and Robert Jeffery had been proposed and agreed to be on the committee. This was **proposed** by Charles Morgan and **seconded** by Mary Johnson.

The other Committee Members willing to stand again were:

Press Secretary	Mary Johnson
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator	Janet Perks
Voice Representative	Jenny Hart
Publicity Officer	Anna Lewoniewska

These members were **proposed** by Catherine Teague and **seconded** by Penny Boocock. The Choir voted in favour of the motion.

## 9. Any Other Business

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 7.54pm.

## APPENDIX 1

### PLYMOUTH PHILHARMONIC CHOIR Annual General Meeting Thursday 12th October 2023 CHAIR'S REPORT

Despite the lingering effects of Covid over recent years, the choir has had a wonderful season since our last AGM, starting with our first Choral Workshop for three years led by David Lawrence. The day was excellent and very much enhanced by members of the Legacy Choir who joined us to sing and also entertained us with some of the music they would shortly be performing in the United States

Our thanks must go to Lily McConville and Sarah Potter who valiantly took over the organisation of the Workshop from Pauline Cornish's capable hands and delivered it in real style.

Our autumn concert was Judas Maccabaeus by Handel performed at the Guildhall. This was a work many of us had never sung before but, by the time we performed it we thoroughly enjoyed it and it was plain that the audience did too. Christopher will no doubt want to say more about this piece in his report.

In the lead up to Christmas we had several fundraising projects on the go including the 100 Club, a Christmas stalls evening, a specially designed choir Christmas card by Cathy Vasey and Christmas Hamper raffles for the choir and the concert audience. These raised some valuable extra funds for the choir. However, as change waits for no man, with our fast growing cashless society it became very evident that it was time for the choir to step into the 21st Century regarding how we receive money from now on and thanks to Anne-Marie's efforts we now have a card reader for non-cash payments and donations.

Coming into 2023, we began rehearsing Stabat Mater by Dvorak. This was a wonderful work to sing and we had an amazingly enthusiastic response from our audience when we performed it at the Guildhall in March.

This was our last concert at the Guildhall before the start of its' major refurbishment and we don't expect to sing there again until 2025 at the earliest. So, for our summer concert this year, we moved to our new home at the Minster Church of St Andrew.

To ring the changes, we held an afternoon concert on a very hot day in June, which also coincided with Armed Forces Day and a large pop concert at Home Park. Despite this busy day in the city, we had a good size audience as we sang The Sprig of Thyme by Rutter and Benedicite by Andrew Carter. For the latter we were joined by children from the Fletewood School led by their headteacher Rachel Gray one of our 2nd altos. They sang beautifully

and completely stole the show as guidance to the audience to hold their applause until the end of the work completely went out of the window! When the concert was over, Jenny Hart and her trusty choir helpers served delicious cream teas in the Abbey Hall and I know you will totally understand when I offer her a massive thank you for her magnificent organisation of this part of the afternoon.

A week after our concert we were due to enjoy singing these pieces again at The Garden House in Buckland Monachorum, but sadly the weather got the better of us and it rained for the whole day resulting in the event being cancelled. So our season ended slightly earlier than planned.

As once again there was no Summer Choir Trip this year, we had a long summer break with rather mixed weather. However, this offered us plenty of time to enjoy trips, see family and friends and generally refresh ourselves before meeting up again in September.

Unfortunately, we've lost a few members and choir supporters during the year including Colin Curtiss, Elizabeth Opie, Penny Shrimpton, Tim Briggs, Charles Crighton and Bill Beatty and we offer our thoughts and condolences to their families and friends. In addition, we recently heard the very sad news that two of our valued and long standing choir members Nicola White and her mother Greta White had both died within a couple of weeks of each other. This was an enormous shock and we paid due tribute to them in the weekly Rehearsal Notes and our musical participation in their funeral service in Loddiswell by 18 choir members, well supported by our President, Brian Gerry.

We were really delighted to get back together again for the start of our 2023/24 season to begin rehearsals for Samson by Handel. However, just after our second rehearsal we heard the news that Christopher had been involved in a nasty car accident and had fractured his sternum.

This was a shock to us all and we began to plan for the short term uncertainty this created for our rehearsals as Pete Cook, our deputy conductor was abroad at the time. Luckily Christopher was able to contact John Hobbs, who came down from north Devon to cover two of our rehearsals. We send our grateful thanks to John and offer Christopher continued best wishes for a full recovery very soon.

I would like to offer my thanks to everyone on the committee for their support this season, including Sue Maries who was co-opted earlier this year. In particular perhaps I could mention Anna Lewoniewska who has brought a new and creative energy to the group as Publicity Officer and engendered some positive changes which you will all begin to notice in our publicity material and in other areas as the season progresses.

My thanks too to Pat Brodie, Jenny Hart and Janet Perks who took on the task of creating our new Members' Handbook offering really helpful guidance for new members and established members alike.

Mark Newberry has informed us he will be standing down from the committee this year as Deputy Chair and I'd like to offer him special thanks for all his wise counsel over the past season. He is also standing down as Stage Management Coordinator and we thank him for all the time and hard work he has put into this role.

We recently put out an appeal to the choir for someone to take on the role of Stage Management Coordinator and we are delighted that Robert Jeffery has offered to do so and he has also put his name forward to be elected on to the committee this evening, so many thanks go to him.

Our wonderful accompanist Irina has given us fantastic support again this year and we have all enjoyed her playing enormously. Thank you Irina. Last, but never least, I'd like to thank Christopher for continuing to offer us such wonderful music and for sprinkling it with that special energy and magic that makes this choir the very best. Thank you so much Christopher.

You may remember that last year you voted to accept our new Constitution. This states that the Chair will only be in post for 5 years and will then stand down. So, if I am re-elected this evening, it will be for my final year as your Chair and I will stand down in October next year. In addition to this, Jen Millward has informed me that she too will be standing down as Secretary next October after many, many years of amazing service to the choir.

Succession in any organisation is a very important element of planning and is one which we are all very aware of in our various roles, so I would like to invite you all to consider stepping forward for the committee or the roles of Chair and Secretary over the next year in order to take this wonderful Philharmonic Choir community forward to sing yet more great music under Christopher's baton. Thank you.

Margy Keene  
12th October 2023

**Plymouth Philharmonic Choir**  
**Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison**  
 As of August 31, 2023

	Aug 31, 2023	Aug 31, 2022	£ Change	% Change
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Electronic keyboard	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.0%
Tiered staging	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>				
<b>Other Current Assets</b>				
Suspense Account	18,814.04	15,814.04	3,000.00	19.0%
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>18,814.04</b>	<b>15,814.04</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>19.0%</b>
<b>Current/Savings</b>				
COIF Charity Funds	6,495.08	6,326.95	168.13	2.70%
National Savings Income Bond	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.0%
NatWest	7,659.71	14,083.04	-6,423.33	-45.60%
Virgin Money	14,834.68	14,084.33	750.35	5.30%
<b>Total Current/Savings</b>	<b>30,989.47</b>	<b>36,494.32</b>	<b>-5,504.85</b>	<b>-15.10%</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>49,803.51</b>	<b>52,308.36</b>	<b>-2,504.85</b>	<b>-4.80%</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>49,803.51</b>	<b>52,308.36</b>	<b>-2,504.85</b>	<b>-4.80%</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>49,903.51</b>	<b>52,408.36</b>	<b>-2,504.85</b>	<b>-4.80%</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>49,903.51</b>	<b>52,408.36</b>	<b>-2,504.85</b>	<b>-4.80%</b>
<b>Equity</b>				
Opening Bal Equity	13,327.03	13,327.03	0.00	0.0%
Retained Earnings	39,081.33	48,902.33	-9,821.00	-20.10%
Net Income	-2,504.85	-9,821.00	7,316.15	74.50%
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>49,903.51</b>	<b>52,408.36</b>	<b>-2,504.85</b>	<b>-4.80%</b>

*FW*

**Plymouth Philharmonic Choir**  
**Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison**  
September 2022 through August 2023

	Sep '2022 - Aug 2023	Sep '2021 - Aug 2022	£ Change	% Change
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
Income				
Fundraising	3,245.35	1,256.74	1,988.61	158.20%
Gifts and Donations Income	-4,630.00	1,344.90	-5,974.90	-444.30%
Miscellaneous Income	268.45	16.00	252.45	1,577.80%
Subscription income	21,515.00	15,641.00	5,874.00	37.60%
Ticket & Programme sales	13,973.15	16,497.15	-2,524.00	-15.30%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>34,371.95</b>	<b>34,755.79</b>	<b>-383.84</b>	<b>-1.10%</b>
Expense				
Concert expenses	23,908.55	25,121.69	-1,213.14	-4.80%
Donations	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00%
Dues & Subscriptions	632.36	334.77	297.59	88.90%
Hire of premises	4,575.00	4,515.00	60.00	1.30%
Hire of scores	658.60	1,218.24	-559.64	-45.90%
Insurance	269.00	182.00	87.00	47.80%
Postage and Delivery	202.44	357.32	-154.88	-43.30%
Printing and Reproduction	229.20	947.19	-717.99	-75.80%
Programme Expense	1,318.53	1,119.03	199.50	17.80%
Publicity	870.06	864.46	5.60	0.70%
Stipends	10,532.00	10,207.00	325.00	3.20%
Sundry Expenses	-1,396.58	5,388.58	-6,785.16	-125.90%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>41,899.16</b>	<b>50,255.28</b>	<b>-8,356.12</b>	<b>-16.60%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-7,527.21</b>	<b>-15,499.49</b>	<b>7,972.28</b>	<b>51.40%</b>
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
Dividends	46.01	6.63	39.38	594.0%
Gift Aid reclaimed	4,057.87	5,660.28	-1,602.41	-28.30%
Interest Income	918.48	11.58	906.90	7,831.60%
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>5,022.36</b>	<b>5,678.49</b>	<b>-656.13</b>	<b>-11.60%</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>5,022.36</b>	<b>5,678.49</b>	<b>-656.13</b>	<b>-11.60%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-2,504.85</b>	<b>-9,821.00</b>	<b>7,316.15</b>	<b>74.50%</b>

I have examined, without audit, the books and records of the Plymouth Philharmonic Choir provided to me by the Hon. Treasurer Anne-Marie Smith, and those accounts are in accordance therewith.

*Theresa CH Hooper*

13th October 2023

**THE PLYMOUTH PHILHARMONIC CHOIR**

England & Wales - Charity number 261736

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# Accounts

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## PLYMOUTH PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** held at Meade King Hall, Plymouth College at 7pm on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

Brian Gerry, Our President, in his address thanked everyone for their contribution to the success of the choir and congratulated Christopher and the committee under Margy's leadership.

Brian commented that there were countless celebrations to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee but that the recent performance of "Orb and Sceptre" fell into the category of "exceptional" and this inspiring concert would be remembered for a long time. Christopher was outstanding and the choir surpassed themselves. He added that, having heard two choruses from "Judas Maccabaeus" as part of this concert, he was positive that we were all looking forward to the concert on 4<sup>th</sup> December in the Guildhall.

**Present:** Chair: Margy Keene, Secretary: Jen Millward, Associate Members' Secretary: Alan Hart and approximately 70 members and associates.

- 1. Apologies;** these were received from Anne-Marie Smith, Christopher Fletcher, Peter Evans, Jackie Visser, Ruth Morgan, Frances Tait, Tony Gummow, Jane Emberson, Fiona Covell, Corinne Collinson, Maire Dudleston, Michael Atkinson, John Perry, Julian Hall, Annette Bolton, Sue Maries, Meg Norris, Alison Tate, Janet Loftus, Chris Gunning, Janet Clarke, Louise Courtnell, Adrian Wardle, and Anna Lewoniewska.
- 2. Minutes** of the last **AGM** were read and approved.  
**Proposed** by Charles Morgan and **Seconded** by Pauline Cornish.
- 3. Chair's Report**

Margy began by reminding us that at our AGM last October we had only just started rehearsing for our first concert in two years. The autumn concert of Mozart's Coronation Mass, Haydn's Nelson Mass and Mozart's Exsultate Jubilate had been a great success. The Choir also performed carols at the Garden House in Buckland Monachorum.

Our planned new year celebrations for Christopher's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as Director of Music and Jenny Shepley's retirement were postponed because of rising Covid cases and instead took place after Easter, helped by a generous anonymous donation from a choir member. We all enjoyed a glass of bubbly and some delicious cake made by Jenny Hart.

Our performance of Verdi's Requiem, which was almost cancelled as a result of Covid and took place in April, was amazing. After the concert, the audience were invited to donate to a retiring collection to be divided between "Plymouth Together" (remembering the tragic events in Keyham in 2021) and DEC to support Ukraine. The collection raised £1,200.

In July, the Choir held a highly successful “Orb and Sceptre” concert at St Andrew’s to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee which was compered by John Suchet.

The Choir started its’ new season on September 8<sup>th</sup> a few hours after the Queen’s passing. As a mark of respect, we dedicated our rehearsal to her.

The committee had continued to meet regularly both on Zoom and in person. Margy thanked all the committee for their hard work, in particular Jenny Kinder in producing our updated constitution. In addition, she also thanked Jenny Kinder and Alan Hart for their service to the Committee as they had made the decision to step down, both have made a significant contribution to the team over a number of years.

Our cheerful and efficient Ticket Manager for ten years, Ruth Gozzard, had also decided to step down from this role and Margy offered her our gratitude. She welcomed Rachel Gray who had stepped forward to take on this role.

Margy also welcomed our new accompanist, Irina, and look forward to a long and rewarding relationship with her as she shares her wonderful skills on the piano with us.

Our choir fundraising had recommenced which includes refreshments during the breaks. Some of these funds had been put towards the purchase of a new keyboard which will be used for the benefit of the Choir in future years.

Lastly, she thanked Christopher for all the wonderful music he had offered us this year and for being courageous when needed.

We would be holding our first choral workshop since 2019 with David Lawrence on 8<sup>th</sup> October, and would be preparing for our first concert of the season, Judas Maccabaeus, in the Guildhall on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

With the efforts of all choir members, Margy looked forward to the choir continuing to grow in strength.

#### **4. Musical Director’s Report**

Pete Cook offered some initial thoughts in Christopher’s absence commenting that he had been looking at the Choir’s Facebook page and how amazing it was to be able to sing together in person after not being able to for nearly two years. He recalled the days of attempting to do so via Zoom. The Choir feels more relaxed having gone through Covid. He offered thanks to Christopher on behalf of the Choir.

On 13<sup>th</sup> October, addressing the Choir in rehearsal, Christopher responded that the last season was a triumph over adversity. The Choir did not sing for

18 months, a period of time when it was possible for everyone to lose confidence in what it was possible to achieve. It was a huge shock and source of sadness when Jenny Shepley, our hugely talented accompanist, decided to retire. Accompanying a large choir is a highly skilled role. Many scores are challenging and this must be balanced with a sensitivity towards the choir. Our new accompanist, Irina Kosogova, joined us two weeks before our Autumn concert in 2021. The Choir is a group of people coming and working together for a specific purpose and there is a huge value in being part of a wonderful group which works so well together. Christopher encouraged us to have another wonderful season by working hard both individually and collectively.

## 5. Treasurer's Report (read by Jen Millward in Anne-Marie Smith's absence)

The concerts were all good, although audience numbers were lower than before Covid. The Choir incurred losses for the first two concerts of the season of £11,000, whilst the "Orb and Sceptre" concert made a slight profit. On this basis, it would appear prudent to raise the Choir subscription from £140 to £150 to offset these losses. We receive between £30 and £40 a week profit on refreshments, Frances Spencer raised approximately £200 on the sale of books and CD's, £120 profit was made on the sale of the Choir calendar. The 100 club was now up and running. The EasyFundraising and Amazon Smile resulted in us receiving £422 last year. £1,500 was received from Charles Stanley towards the "Orb and Sceptre" concert, whilst £3,697 was received in Gift Aid. £15,500 was received in subscriptions. Concert expenses minus ticket sales resulted in a loss of £9,822 this year. It would therefore be prudent to raise our ticket prices from £18 to £20 for tickets purchased in advance and from £20 to £22 when purchased on the door.

There was some concern expressed about the raising of ticket prices during the cost of living crisis.

It was **proposed** by Ruth Gozzard that the accounts were accepted and this was **seconded** by Barbara Shillabeer. The motion was passed by the majority of choir members.

## 6. Subscriptions

It was **proposed** by Pauline that Choir Subscriptions be raised from £140 to £150. This was **seconded** by Mary Johnson. The motion was passed by the majority of choir members.

## 7. Associate Members' Report

Alan outlined the advantages of becoming as Associate Member for the benefit of new members of the Choir which include: supporting the Choir, discounted concert tickets, complimentary programmes, the choice of sitting in the

Balcony at the Guildhall. Lastly, they make ideal Christmas presents for singers' family members. Alan made enrolment flyers which were dispersed through the hall to encourage members to inform others about the scheme.

**8. Resolution: that the new updated choir Constitution be formally adopted by the membership.**

The draft Constitution had been e-mailed to all members. Charles Morgan **proposed** its' adoption. It was **seconded** by Rachel Gray. The motion to accept the new constitution was passed by the membership with 5 abstentions.

**9. Election of Committee**

There were 5 Officers of the Committee who were all prepared to stand again;

Chair	Margy Keene
Deputy Chairman	Mark Newberry
Secretary	Jennifer Millward
Treasurer	Anne-Marie Smith
Membership Secretary	Pat Brodie

Mary Johnson **proposed** these members for the Committee and this was **seconded** by Ruth Gozzard.

The other Committee Members also willing to stand again are;

Press Secretary	Mary Johnson
Concert Secretary	Charles Morgan
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator	Janet Perks
Voice Representative	Jenny Hart

These Committee members were **proposed** by Rachel Gray and **seconded** by Delia Chrichton.

**10. Any other Business**

We will be able to use the Guildhall for our concerts in December '22 and March '23 after which it will be closed for refurbishment. Our summer concert will therefore be held in St Andrew's Church and will include a cream tea. Tickets for this concert will be the same price as our other concerts because of the inclusion of the cream tea. Our next AGM will be held in October '23.

The Meeting closed at 19.58pm.

**Plymouth Philharmonic Choir**  
**Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison**  
 As of August 31, 2022

	Aug 31, 2022	Aug 31, 2021	£ Change	% Change
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Electronic keyboard	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.0%
Tiered staging	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>				
<b>Other Current Assets</b>				
Suspense Account	15,814.04	18,500.00	-2,685.96	-14.50%
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>15,814.04</b>	<b>18,500.00</b>	<b>-2,685.96</b>	<b>-14.50%</b>
<b>Current/Savings</b>				
COIF Charity Funds	6,326.95	6,315.37	11.58	0.20%
National Savings Income Bond	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.0%
NatWest	14,083.04	21,229.66	-7,146.62	-33.70%
Virgin Money	14,084.33	14,084.33	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Current/Savings</b>	<b>36,494.32</b>	<b>43,629.36</b>	<b>-7,135.04</b>	<b>-16.40%</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>52,308.36</b>	<b>62,129.36</b>	<b>-9,821.00</b>	<b>-15.80%</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>52,308.36</b>	<b>62,129.36</b>	<b>-9,821.00</b>	<b>-15.80%</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>52,408.36</b>	<b>62,229.36</b>	<b>-9,821.00</b>	<b>-15.80%</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>52,408.36</b>	<b>62,229.36</b>	<b>-9,821.00</b>	<b>-15.80%</b>
<b>Equity</b>				
Opening Bal Equity	13,327.03	13,327.03	0.00	0.0%
Retained Earnings	48,902.33	49,948.67	-1,046.34	-2.10%
Net Income	-9,821.00	-1,046.34	-8,774.66	-838.60%
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>52,408.36</b>	<b>62,229.36</b>	<b>-9,821.00</b>	<b>-15.80%</b>

**Plymouth Philharmonic Choir  
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison  
September 2021 through August 2022**

	Sept '2021 - Aug 2022	Sept '2020 - Aug 2021	£ Change	% Change
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
Income				
Fundraising	1,256.74	499.27	757.47	151.70%
Gifts and Donations Income	1,344.90	7,775.00	-6,430.10	-82.70%
Miscellaneous Income	16.00	-10.00	26.00	260.0%
Subscription Income	15,641.00	270.00	15,371.00	5,693.0%
Ticket & Programme sales	16,497.15	118.00	16,379.15	13,880.60%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>34,755.79</b>	<b>8,652.27</b>	<b>26,103.52</b>	<b>301.70%</b>
Expense				
Concert expenses	25,121.69	-200.00	25,321.69	12,660.90%
Dues & Subscriptions	334.77	486.92	-152.15	-31.30%
Hire of premises	4,515.00	1,200.00	3,315.00	276.30%
Hire of scores	1,218.24	-314.92	1,533.16	486.80%
Insurance	182.00	248.00	-66.00	-26.60%
Postage and Delivery	357.32	0.00	357.32	100.0%
Printing and Reproduction	947.19	119.00	828.19	696.0%
Programme Expense	1,119.03	0.00	1,119.03	100.0%
Publicity	864.46	182.26	682.20	374.30%
Stipends	10,207.00	7,628.00	2,579.00	33.80%
Sundry Expenses	5,388.58	358.97	5,029.61	1,401.10%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>50,255.28</b>	<b>9,708.23</b>	<b>40,547.05</b>	<b>417.70%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-15,499.49</b>	<b>-1,055.96</b>	<b>-14,443.53</b>	<b>-1,367.80%</b>
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
Dividends	6.63	7.15	-0.52	-7.30%
Gift Aid reclaimed	5,660.28	0.00	5,660.28	100.0%
Interest Income	11.58	2.47	9.11	368.80%
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>5,678.49</b>	<b>9.62</b>	<b>5,668.87</b>	<b>58,928.0%</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>5,678.49</b>	<b>9.62</b>	<b>5,668.87</b>	<b>58,928.0%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-9,821.00</b>	<b>-1,046.34</b>	<b>-8,774.66</b>	<b>-838.60%</b>

I have examined, without audit, the books and records of the Plymouth Philharmonic Choir provided to me by the Hon. Treasurer Anne-Marie Smith, and these accounts are in accordance therewith.

*Froese CH. Weeber*

29th September 2022