

North East Early Music Forum (registered charity No. 326282)

Annual General Meeting 12:30pm on Saturday 17th October 2009 held at St Paul's Hall, University of Huddersfield , HU1 1HB

Chair: Graham Coatman; **Secretary:** John Murdie.

1. Apologies

Richander Birkinshaw, Alison Down, David Young

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The last meeting minuted that 'Early Music Today' was no longer published. Kate King-Smith, MEMF's Diary Editor, had seen this and suggests we meant 'Early Music News'. The minutes were otherwise approved as correct, and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters arising

Item 6: 'Proposed Constitutional Change – Professional Fees'. John Murdie had checked to see whether the vote for the constitutional change to allow us to pay 'customary professional fees' to trustees of the charity (members of the committee) – in addition to legitimate expenses - was legal. He had found that the Charity Commission's publication CC11 'Trustee Expenses and Payments' (version of June 2008), section E, item E1: "What services can a charity pay its trustees for?". The Charities Act of 1993 gives examples of services which can be provided by a trustee in return for payment under the act, and the examples include "the delivery of a lecture", which presumably covers also the direction of a music workshop. The charity is obliged to follow other rules which are explained in the mentioned document. In particular, NEEMF must make a specific written agreement for each payment. NEEMF's 'Governing Document' – its Constitution – now gives the Committee clear power to make such payments.

4. Officers' Reports

Chair:

Graham Coatman provided a written report which forms part of the material submitted to the Independent Examiner for the Charity. He thanked Alison Down and Elizabeth Hedges for their service and welcomed Joanna Rowling, who had been co-opted by the Committee as Newsletter Editor pro-tem.

Secretary:

John Murdie had nothing special to report.

Treasurer:

Bill Hunt provided copies of the Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended the 30th June. He saw no reason to increase the members' subscription. He gave notice that he would like to stand down as Treasurer at the next AGM and would write an article for the Newsletter describing the work of the Treasurer.

Membership Secretary:

Marion Bolton said that we now had 213 members, with 13 two years in arrears.

Newsletter Editor:

Joanna said that the deadline for the next newsletter was the 1st November.

Webmaster:

Thomas Green had refurbished the web site, and included extra pictures. John Murdie had added a list of past workshops.

5. Election of Officers

Marion Bolton formally proposed Joanna Rowling as Newsletter Editor, and Gill Humphreys seconded her. She was elected unopposed. John Murdie said that the Committee required a Development/Publicity Officer and would welcome up to three more ordinary members.

There were no further nominations for any Committee post. Gill Humphreys proposed that the Committee be re-elected en-bloc, and Lesley Woledge seconded her. The Committee were re-elected unanimously.

6. Past and future events

John Murdie reminded the meeting that future events were listed in the newsletter and on the website.

7. Date of Next Meeting

John Murdie said that the Constitution required us to hold the meeting in October as far as practical. The Committee would announce the date when it could be determined.

8. Any other business

No items had been submitted for consideration under 'Any other business'.

The meeting closed at 13:18.

Signed as an accurate record of the meeting:

Graham Coatman, Chair