

Minutes of the First Annual General Meeting of the Sing Healthy Choirs held on Tuesday 25th May 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom.

<p>25.5.21 1</p>	<p>Welcome - Chris Edwards - chair Chris thanked everyone for attending and joining this very special meeting. He said It was officially the first annual general meeting of the choirs as a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation. He also pointed out that this was an exciting time in the history of Sing Healthy Choirs.</p>
<p>25.5.21 2</p>	<p>Apologies Fred Reece, Debbie Hore, Nigel Barlow, Gill Coulson, Alison Roberts, Mike Hardman, Jenny Boddington, Kate Nugent, Jane Dier, Simon and Pat Taylor and Teresa Stapley.</p>
<p>25.5.21 3</p>	<p>Chair's Report Chris gave thanks to the Trustee Steering Committee for securing charitable status. He gave particularly thanks to Ann Stainton for preparing all the documentation, checking it and for making sure everyone signed the correct document in the correct place! He also thanked the Trustees for putting together such a coherent and informative report on the work of the Trustee group to date. Louise and Kieran were especially singled out for thanks for all the hard work they had put into keeping the choirs active, engaged and enthusiastic during the lockdowns. He also thanked Kieran's dad, Andrew who had temporarily acted as pianist and became famous for his weekly renditions of "Happy Birthday". Two particular superstars were Brenda and David who have regularly supported and run the CLASP sessions and are now stepping down. Chris said that their leadership and teaching had been second to none. In addition he thanked all the SH members who helped on a regular basis to set up and support the CLASP rehearsals. Finally Chris gave many, many thanks to Chris Wright who he described as a technical genius. Chris explained to members that the choirs would continue to operate in the same way but would now have some added benefits - being able to claim gift aid on memberships and raise money not only for ourselves as well as others. But the ethos of the choirs would not change. Chris said he was sad to step down but he felt the time was right. He wished both choirs all the best and said he would follow their fortunes with interest.</p>
<p>25.5.21 4</p>	<p>Election Of Trustees Lynn conducted the elections. Chair Ann Shaw had volunteered to stand as Chair. Nicola proposed and David seconded. She was unanimously elected. Lynn congratulated Ann. Election of Trustees Barry Utting had decided not to stand for a permanent Trustee post. Treasurer - Mike Gale had volunteered Secretary - Lynn Marshall had volunteered . Trustee - Paul Dunn had also volunteered. His trustee statement was read out. Marilyn Chalke proposed and Ann Stainton seconded that all three be elected. There was a majority vote. Ann Stainton will continue to serve as a co-opted Trustee.</p>

<p>25.5.21 5</p>	<p>Thanks to Chris Edwards from Ann Shaw Ann gave thanks to Chris in his role as Chairman. She said that following Dorian's sad and untimely death Chris had taken up the baton stoically and successfully. She particularly highlighted how well he had hosted the first SH Christmas concert following his father's death and how hard that must have been. She also outlined the support he had given SH through thick and thin always looking out for the best interests of the choirs. He had provided sound systems, hosted quizzes, compered events, joined in enthusiastically at concerts, karaoke, Red Nose Days, CLASP concerts and has now taken up the cudgel of trying to find a new CLASP leader. A photobook of SH over time had been made by Ann as a gift for Chris. Ann to deliver the next day.</p>
<p>25.5.21 6</p>	<p>Annual Report - a brief written report of the work of the Trustees since their inauguration in January 2021. Mike introduced the report and explained some of the points in a little more detail. 1. He highlighted the number of new songs we had learned and sung and said how uplifting and fun they had been. 2. That Kieran and Louise had done a great job in keeping us all involved and singing. 3. That as a group of Trustees we had had to work really hard to establish the nuts and bolts of running a charitable organisation. This entailed a constitution and lots of policies. 4. That SH had had some financial issues, mostly around lack of members and the cost of the cancelled Faure concert. 5. As a result of the above Mike urged members to help if they could by encouraging family, friends and neighbours to join our choirs if they were remotely interested. That keeping numbers up once we are back to full rehearsals will be a priority. As music is such a tonic and great for mental health this aim should not be difficult. 6. The financial projection for the end of the year is looking good and we are so grateful to Kieran and Louise for taking a temporary salary cut. In addition the Trustees had saved money in a number of other areas, such as subscriptions. 7. Ann Shaw thanked the Trustees for such a comprehensive report.</p>
<p>25.5.21 7</p>	<p>Questions from the Floor There were no questions.</p>
<p>25.5.21 8</p>	<p>Events and Thanks to Louise and Kieran Louise and Kieran outlined how they planned to end the choir year in July. A joint concert at St Crispins under the canopy with an audience of family and friends. Should it be impossible to hold this event because of Covid restrictions then individual final rehearsal concerts would take place. Ann Shaw thanked Louise and Kieran for their amazing work during the last year. She outlined how energising the "in person" rehearsals now were and how they were a great boost to mental health. Chris Edwards also added his thanks and looked forward to Louise and Kieran leading many future events. He also hoped that they would continue with workplace choirs.</p>
<p>25.5.21</p>	<p>Closure Ann Stainton thanked everyone for their membership and reminded members that the SH priority was now to establish in person rehearsals for everyone and then work to increase membership. Ann Shaw thanked Mike Hardman for the article in Wokingham Word promoting the choirs. She also ended by thanking everyone for attending the first AGM and hoped in the future to see everyone in person. The meeting closed at 8.15.</p>