

2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**The Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 17th April 2016 at 19:00hrs.
Clowes Memorial Methodist Church, Greenwood Avenue, Hull, HU6 9NA**

- Order of Business
- Members Present.
- Apologies for absence.
- Minutes of previous meeting 3rd May 2015 to be agreed and signed as a true record.
- Matters Arising
- To receive reports of the years working from the Chairman and Musical Director.
- To receive the Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet.
- To elect or re-elect Presidents, Trustees and other Officers of the Band.
- To agree fees to be paid to the Musical Director and sum payable as subscription by Band members for the following year.
- To transact any other business relating to the affairs of the Band, of which due notice has been given in writing to the Treasurer.

EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE BAND

Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on Sunday 3rd May at 7.00 pm in the Clowes Memorial Methodist Church, Greenwood Avenue, Hull, HU6 9NA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joel Asbrey, Adrian Bell, Hayley Cotterill, Christine Dunn (Treasurer), Michael Hedley, William Howells, James Kerridge, Michael Kerridge (General Secretary), Richard Mackinder, Richard Morrell, Gill Rice, Emma Robinson, Jennifer Russell, Christopher Theaker, David Vivian (Chairman), Michael Waudby, Malcolm Whitfield, John Whittles, Adam Wilson, Peter Wilson, Rosie Wilson.

In Attendance: Ian Scott (Musical Director)

2. Apologise for absence: John Butt, Adam Gallimore, Craig Halsey, James Johnson, Susan Shepherd, Alex Bosch, Rev Martin Batstone (President).

The Chairman David Vivian had advised that he would be arriving late for the meeting, Michael Kerridge **Proposed** that Christopher Theaker Chair the meeting until the arrival of The Chairman. **Seconded** Richard Morrell. **Agreed.**

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27th April 2014 were **Proposed** Christine Dunn, **Seconded** Adrian Bell, **Agreed** and **Signed** as being a true record.

4. Matters Arising.

Subscriptions. After a short discussion it was generally agreed that subscriptions would not be introduced and would be left to the Incoming Committee to decide if and when the need for subscriptions were required.

5. General Secretary's Report:

During 2014 the band undertook 18 engagements and also played at Ian Walshaw's Performance for his University Finals. 2014 also saw The East Riding of Yorkshire Band win the 3rd Section at the Regional Contest which resulted in our promotion to the 2nd Section for 2015. For the second in succession we qualified for The National Championships of Great Britain at Cheltenham, finishing in 8th Place. This could not have been achieved without the hard work of our Musical Director, Ian Scott who has made such a difference in the playing quality of the band.

Thanks once again to Chris Theaker, for his generous use of his Company vehicle and his willingness to drive from Scunthorpe via the band room to load up for engagements and then doing the return journey resulting in many a late night. This saved the band a considerable amount of money, however there was still a drastic shortage of willing helpers to load and unload the equipment before and after engagements. Hopefully this will change in 2015.

I said in my report last year that we are members of a remarkable friendly band, everyone gets on well together. Our outings to Darlington and weekends away at Cheltenham have helped to get to know each other better. In closing I would like to thank everyone who has helped during the past year, with a special mention to David Vivian our Chairman and Treasurer Chris Dunn.

6. Musical Directors Report: Attached

The Last 12 Months

Individual band members have continued to progress although not quite at the rate that I had hoped for. However, personnel wise we have slipped a little in that 3 or 4 very good players have left our ranks and not always been replaced. This has meant that the band has gone backwards a little. It is essential that the cornet vacancy is filled ASAP with a good quality player who is totally committed to the band.

There are other sections of the band which need strengthening. Attendance has been pretty good throughout the year, but there has been a bit of a problem with getting rehearsals started on time.

Concert performances

Concerts have generally continued at a good level, but I always feel that new music is under rehearsed, due to the constraints of available rehearsal time.

It's been great to feature so many soloists. We've had James, Liz, Mike Hedley, Craig, Mike Waudby, Hayley, Jim, Joel, Adam and Garry playing solos.

Contest performances

I do feel we could and should have done better at both the 3rd Section Final and Area Contest. Both performances had nervy moments, errors and lapses in tuning and intonation which weren't apparent during rehearsals or had been fixed in rehearsals.

The only real way to overcome these problems is for the band to increase the number of high pressure events it participates in.

I am sure that with 3-4 good quality recruits, lots of hard work and more high pressure exposure, the band will come good on the contest stage.

We need to win the regional contest to stand any chance of promotion to 1st Section for 2017.

Standard of the band and commitment

The standard of the band playing is pretty good and gradually improving. Unfortunately, rehearsing weekly means the progress is slower than we would achieve with twice weekly rehearsals.

I still feel that there is nowhere near enough home practice happening. It is obvious when individuals haven't practiced, and this detracts from the standard of the band. Anyone not on top of their instrument and individual parts are letting down themselves, me and the rest of their colleagues

We are still suffering from having to engage deputy players for engagements. With the advance warning of engagements that everyone gets, we shouldn't really be having so many absences.

Thanks

I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to the following people for their efforts with the band over the last year.

Mike Kerridge: Mike has again done a brilliant job for the band, but it is only right that Mike should hand over a lot of the tasks he has undertaken.

Jim Johnson: Jim continues to be a great right hand man to me musically and generally.

John Butt: John did a great job as band compere. It's a shame that his personal circumstances stopped him continuing.

David Vivian: Dave has been great for the band as Chairman. He's always looking at ways of promoting the band and getting us into the limelight.

Chris Theaker: Chris was again a great help to the band by letting us use his van to transport the band kit to engagements.

The future

The first 2 of the last 3 years has seen the band on a definite upward spiral. However, I do feel that we have gone backwards over the last 12 months and we have now reached a crossroads where difficult decisions have to be made.

- The band needs to recruit 3-4 very good players to continue our progress. Obviously some of these players are required to fill vacancies. However, we also need more flexibility from existing players voluntarily moving onto different positions and making way for better players to join the band,
- The band needs to compete in more contests to gain experience in pressure situations.
- The band needs to rehearse more frequently than once a week and the loss of Sunday rehearsals following a weekend engagement needs to be addressed.
- The band really could do with a better rehearsal room, as the church acoustic is very flattering and doesn't really help when we appear in drier conditions. There are also problems of having to remove kit from playing areas between rehearsals and waiting for church services to conclude before we can get set up. A lot of precious rehearsal time is lost because of this.
- Obviously to compete in more contests, increase the rehearsal schedule and find other premises would result in considerably more expense and the band has a lack of finance.
- I don't think that the band should take on any more engagements as the balance is about right. I also don't really think that the introduction of subscriptions is the right way forward, as there are a lot of players who lose money in lost work when attending rehearsals and engagements and also those who are already paying out a lot in travelling expenses.
- I do appreciate that one of the main drains on finances is the fee paid to me.

Therefore I think the time is right for the band to decide whether the band want me to continue as MD. The alternative being to recruit someone more local, who wouldn't incur the expenses that I do, and who would therefore cost the band less money.

If the band wants me to continue, then the band would need to commit to my proposals outlined earlier:-

1. Recruitment and movement of current players.
2. More rehearsals.
3. Additional contests.
4. Investigate the feasibility of changing band-room.

It's probably better that I leave the band room now, so that you can discuss openly.

Ian

Christopher Theaker thanked Ian for his report. Ian was invited to stay in the meeting. Chris commented of the cost of having a band room of our own. It cost Barrow Concert Band in the region of £100 pound a week in expenses of running the band room, and they had owned theirs for many years.

Incoming Committee to discuss Ian's proposals.

7. Treasurers Report and Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet. (Attached)

The Treasurer was thanked by the meeting for her work during the past year. It was agreed that the Signatures at the Bank would remain the same.

8. TO ELECT OR RE-ELECT PRESIDENTS, TRUSTEES, AND OTHER OFFICERS OF THE BAND

1. **President.**

The Minister of Clowes Memorial Methodist Church was Re-elected.

2. **Chairman.**

David Vivian Offered to continue as Chairman,
Proposed by Michael Kerridge. Seconded by Chris Dunn. **Elected.**

3. **General Secretary.**

Michael Waudby offered to be the Secretary.
Proposed by John Whittles. Seconded by Christopher Theaker. **Elected.**

5. **Contest Secretary.**

Christopher Theaker offered to be the Contest Secretary.
Proposed Emma Robinson. Seconded by Michael Kerridge. **Elected.**

6. **Concert Secretary.**

Michael Kerridge offered to be the Contest Secretary as most organizations who booked the band knew him as the contact.

Proposed David Vivian Seconded by Christopher Theaker. **Elected.**

7. **Treasurer.**

Chris Dunn was willing to continue as Treasurer.
Proposed by James Kerridge. Seconded by Michael Waudby. **Elected.**

8. **Property/Librarian.**

James Kerridge was willing to continue as Property/Librarian
Proposed by Chris Dunn. Seconded by Michael Hedley. **Elected.**

9. **Three additional Band members to serve on the Management Team.**

Adam Gallimore and Adrian Bell offered to continue as Members. **Elected**
Emma Robinson was propose by Michael Kerridge to be the 3rd Band member. Seconded by Richard Mackinder. **Elected.**

10. Trustees. The following members had confirmed their willingness to continue and were duly elected. Chris Theaker, Richard Morrell and Shane Foster.

11. Musical Director. The Musical Director confirmed that no increase in his fees were required. Agreed that the current rate of fees and expenses payable to the MD be confirmed.

12. Any Other Business.

There being no further business The Chairman declared the meeting closed.

Signed.....