



MBE

Morpeth Music Society

President: Ian Armstrong

Affiliated to *Making Music*

**Minutes of the 79th Annual General Meeting of Morpeth Music Society
Morpeth Methodist Church
Tuesday 9th July 2024 at 7.30 pm**

Attendees: Neil Robinson, Kath Smith, Peter Ingham, Steve Locks, Colin Matthews, Janet Ashmore, Ronn Smith, Allan Colver, Louise Freeman, Wendy Locks, Rachael Cabey, Ros Wiseman and Elaine McMaster

Welcome: As Chairman of Morpeth Music society, Neil Robinson extended a warm welcome to all those present.

Apologies: Ian Armstrong, Kathy Smith

Presentation and Performance:

Neil Robinson, Chairman of Morpeth Music Society, introduced Isobel Ellerbrook who is this year's recipient of the annual scholarship of £300 as the outstanding young musician from KEVI this year.

A grade 8 clarinettist, Isobel has been playing Clarinet since she was 7 years old. She is currently in Year 12 at King Edwards School and is studying Music as one of her three A-Levels. Izzy plays 1st clarinet in the school's concert band, is part of the choir, and has also been made the principal alto saxophone player in the jazz band since picking the instrument up in September. She was recently promoted to 1st clarinet in the local Coquet Concert Band at Swarland, which she has enjoyed playing in for 2 years. Seeking to further broaden her musical horizons, Isobel founded a small clarinet ensemble at KEVI which she is hoping to expand next year. After completing her A-levels Isobel plans to go to university where she hopes to continue playing in music societies and bands.

Izzy played a sonata by Brahms and was accompanied on the piano by Nicholas Taylor.

There was then a photo call when Peter handed her the cheque and wished her well in all her future musical endeavours.

Minutes of the 78th AGM held 25th July 2023

The minutes were reviewed and approved as a correct record of previous meeting.

Proposed: Louise Freeman

Seconded: Colin Mathews

General agreement was indicated among those present by a show of hands.

Matters Arising: None

Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 30th April 2024 (Attached)

The report was discussed in some detail and in particular the Source of Funds that the Society receives in grants, sponsorship and donations was noted. The report is to be submitted to the Charity Commission.

Proposed: Louise Freeman

Seconded: Steve Locks

General agreement was indicated among those present by a show of hands.

Treasurers Report for Year to 30th April 2024 (Attached)

Peter Ingham explained that the financial report for the Society is always runs to the end of April so that our last concert can be included in that financial year.

He advised that the for the 2023 to 2024 Season there was a to be a loss of approximately £4,000. However, during the period MMS received a donation of £4,000 following a personal appeal by our president Ian Armstrong to Lady Margaret Barbour and also a cheque for almost £5,000 which was a legacy from Brian Gardner who had been a long standing member of the Society.

Hence the Season ended in a good financial position with a surplus of £5,000.

Proposed: Louise Freeman

Seconded: Steve Locks

Retiring Officers

As Neil and Peter are both retiring from the MMS committee Louise thanked them both for all their hard work over the previous years of service.

Many thanks to Neil and Peter from MMS committee members.

Election of Officers

- Chair Wendy Locks (retires 2027)
- Vice-Chair Louise Freeman (retires 2024)
- Honorary Secretary Kath Smith (retires 2024)
- Honorary Treasurer Steve Locks (retires 2027)

Neil confirmed that the above positions are held for a period of 3 years and then need to be re-elected or replaced.

Louise Freeman indicated that she was willing to stand for re-election as Vice-chair.

Proposed: Neil Robinson

Seconded: Steve Lock

Kath Smith indicated that she was willing to stand for re-election as Honorary Secretary

Proposed: Neil Robinson

Seconded: Steve Lock

Wendy Locks indicated her willingness to stand for election as Chairman.

Proposed: Kath Smith
Seconded: Janet Ashmore

Steve Locks indicated his was willingness to stand for election as Treasurer
Proposed: Neil Robinson
Seconded: Ronn Smith

General agreement was indicated among those present by a show of hands.

Louise especially thanked Steve Locks for agreeing to take the position of Treasurer as he is already working hard in the role of Artist Liaison as well as sourcing grants and donations for the Society.

Steve said he was happy to take up the position as Treasurer but hoped it would be a temporary measure and that he hoped to find someone to take over next year.

Committee Members for re-election

Neil Robinson confirmed that the position of a committee member is for one year only and therefor to be re-elected annually.

Allan Colver, Colin Mathews and Kathy Smith. All have indicated their willingness to re-elected.

Proposed: Kath Smith
Seconded: Janet Ashmore

General agreement was indicated among those present by a show of hands.

Committee Members for election

Rachael Cabey has indicated her willingness to be elected.

A vote was taken for Rachael Cabey to join the committee.

Proposed: Wendy Locks
Seconded: Louise Freeman

General agreement was indicated among those present by a show of hands.

AOB

Peter said that David Phillips, who has been the independent auditor of the MMS accounts for many years is retiring. The Society wishes to formally thank him for his contribution over the years. Kath to write and express our thanks on behalf of MMS.

Steve suggested that we ask Tony Batty to audit the accounts in future. Tony has previously worked in the Civil Service, NHS and Coal Board analysing data using Business Intelligence Software. He has been Treasurer of Mid Northumberland Chorus for many years

Proposed: Steve Locks
Seconded: Kath Smith

The meeting was then brought to a close.