

Endcliffe Orchestra Committee Meeting
11th December 2024
Draft Minutes

Present: Chris, John G, Katrin, Clare, Matt,

1. Apologies: from Alison, Alex, Ralph, Neil and John W.
2. Draft Minutes of the meeting of 21st November 2024
These Minutes had been circulated and were agreed as a true record.
There was one item for comment and this was the idea of incorporation of the Orchestra as a company and/or with Charitable status. This would be placed on the agenda for the January meeting.
3. Declaration of items for A.O.B.
There were no items for AOB
4. Agenda items:
 - a. Confirmation of contracts and references for Jack and River.

Clare explained the main changes to the contracts for service for Jack and for River. There was the addition of the word ‘potential’ in respect of reputational loss to the orchestra and also of the words ‘each and every term’ in respect of breaches of the contract to ensure that all the terms of the harassment policy were duly incorporated into the contract.

References for both Jack and River were now on file and were all good.

- b. Membership matters: holding of data, data protection issues etc.

Katrin spoke about the number of issues relating to the keeping of membership records and other matters in connection with membership of the orchestra.

One issue was the question of who makes decisions as to the occupancy of orchestral seats particularly in the woodwind and brass sections. We need some kind of policy with regard to this; does it depend on audition? Or on prior entry to our waiting list? Or both? It was thought that for principals in the wind section (and maybe others) a requirement of Grade 8 should be clarified. It was also suggested that people wanting to enter those sections should be invited to come to rehearsals and a subset of the committee (including a woodwind/ brass player) would decide on whether to invite the person to a seat in the orchestra.

We then discussed, without reaching a conclusion, whether there should be an upper limit on the number of string players in the orchestra.

We also discussed how to compile a complete list of orchestra members. This could be via a Google Form and information could include emergency contact details as well as individuals’ details.

We need to have a Privacy Document on the website and also a short notice on any Form indicating why we are requesting and then holding data on members and for how long.

We should also write to all on the Deps. list and ask their consent for information and indicate purposes and time limits for holding the info.

- c. January concert: confirmation of arrangements and any issues arising.
The concert programme requires 4 percussionists and the recruiting of these was in hand.
We also need someone to give gifts to the conductor/soloist.
The Front of House arrangements are in order, as are the refreshments arranged by Sally and her team.
We discussed the need for a raised dias for the soloist.
The programmes were being printed, and we should have approx 250 printed.
- d. Confirmation of the final programme for the July concert.
It was **agreed** that the concert should consist of Copland: Rodeo; Steve Reich: Music for 18 Musicians; Grant Still: Symphony (No ?); Amy Beach: Bal Masque and Gershwin: Piano Concerto in F.
River also mentioned Williams: Olympic Fanfare, but it is not clear whether this is included.
- e. To finalise decision re responding to LADO request for information.
There was a discussion as to our response to the request from LADO that we make disclosure to that body about NA. This would be a response to a request made by LADO and not a referral by us.
The phrase to be used was ‘inappropriate and unwanted physical contact’.
Matt wished it to be made clear that he objected to using the phrase ‘sexual harassment’ as this could lead to an misleading interpretation about the scale and severity of NA’s actions.
In the end there was agreement as to Chris’s response to LADO’s request.

4. A.O.B.

There was no ‘official’ AOB but we agreed to hold over to the February meeting a reflection on the January concert, including issues relating to marketing and the possibility of a newsletter for people who had indicated interest in forthcoming orchestra events.

5. Date of next meeting.

Thursday, February 6th 2025 at 34, Edgedale Road, S7 2BR

