

Endcliffe Orchestra Committee 12 June 2025

Draft Minutes

Present: Chris, Alison, Clare, John W, Katrin, Lisa, Ralph, River.

1. Apologies: John G, Neil, Matt,
2. Draft Minutes of the Meeting of 8th May: matters arising

From item 4b. It was agreed that section leaders have been asked to send details of the members of their sections to Katrin, and also check on the email addresses. Following from this there was a discussion about membership of the orchestra in general and particularly about details of vacancies that may occur in the various sections. **It was agreed that** Katrin and Lisa would devise a policy for joining the orchestra. **This should be an item for the next meeting.**

The Minutes were then accepted as a true record.

3. Declaration of items for A.O.B.

Two items were raised:

- a. Rehearsal schedule for 2025-26
- b. Marketing

4. Agenda items:

- a. Finalising the July Concert arrangements

Several points were raised about the July Concert: first, whether there were to be any paper tickets (this should be **taken up with Matt**); also whether we would have a QR code for purchases (**likewise to go to Matt**); finalising the refreshments (**this would be done by Sally and her team**); there should be no overselling of tickets and so we would not fall foul of the limitation of numbers in All Saints Church; the percussion instruments and their transportation had been arranged and it was said that we could leave instruments in the Church from the Monday rehearsal until the Saturday performance (**it was highlighted that this was subject to the agreement of those providing the percussion and also to the fact that all instruments left at the venue were covered by insurance.**)

- b. Gift for Marc Kawwas

It was agreed that a suitable box of chocolates would be a suitable gift, together with seat reserved for Marc's family members.

c. 2025-2026 Concert Programme:

We discussed the two January concerts and whether the venue might be the Victoria Hall. It was suggested that in view of the potential popularity of the concert items it might be possible to fill the Victoria Hall. The timing of the two concerts on January 31st would be at 3:00 pm and 7:30 pm. There was no firm decision as to the venue and we would ask **Nick Baynes** to do a **cost comparison** between All Saints and the Victoria Hall for those date and timings.

In view of the generous funding we might need complementary tickets for those providing funding.

We also discussed the need for a narrator for Peter and the Wolf and also for the Beatles Guide to the Orchestra. A number of suggestions were made and **Nigel Hildreth** and **Polly Ives** were to be approached as to their willingness, availability and fee.

For the July concert next year, **it was agreed** that we would play - Beethoven Coriolan Overture, Elgar Enigma Variations, and Borodin Second Symphony and maybe some pieces composed by the finalists in the composing competition to be run next year.

d. Funding bids: to review progress

It was reported that we have been granted 1,500 from the Sheffield Grammar School Foundation Trust. We thanked River and Chris who were instrumental in applying for this bid for their work on this. We were told of other bids for grant funding that were in the pipeline. We are very hopeful that some of these may be successful and enable us to hire or purchase music or otherwise enhance our orchestra's performances.

e. To decide on whether to incorporate the orchestra as a company limited by guarantee; also to consider named directors of Endcliffe Orchestra Ltd.

We decided to defer the incorporation issue to the next meeting. We quite understood Matt's wish to have other people named as directors for Endcliffe Orchestra Concerts Ltd. People expressed some doubt as to what they might be taking on so **Clare agreed to prepare a paper for the next meeting on the duties and liabilities of directors.**

In addition to this, Chris expressed an interest in the orchestra having charitable status. A number of those to whom we had applied for funds had asked whether we were a charity. **Chris agreed to look into this for the next meeting.**

f. To arrange the date of the AGM and consider committee vacancies

It was **agreed to hold the AGM on September 15th** and to announce this date in the Newsletter. We knew of one Committee vacancy - that of Concert Manager and we considered those who might potentially fill this vacancy.

g. Composing competition: to consider a further competition for 2026

It was agreed that it would be desirable to have a composing competition as we had done in the past. We discussed the various stages of developing and judging such a competition and decided to set up a **sub-group to carry forward this venture**. The group would consist, in the first place of **Clare, Matt and River** with requests thrown open to the orchestra for other to join this group. We decided to get the ball rolling immediately with a request for those interested to be put in the Newsletter and announced at a rehearsal in the near future.

5. A.O.B.

- a. The rehearsal schedule for the whole year has been prepared by River and this embeds sectionals and holiday dates into the annual programme so that there is clarity for all orchestra members and deputies. The question was raised as to when should rehearsals finish in the summer? It was thought that we should have a short rehearsal at the end of each 'term' followed by a social gathering
It was pointed out that we need to give out the timings of rehearsals not only in the Newsletter and on the website, but also orally at rehearsals.
- b. Marketing (it was noted that **this should be a permanent item on the agenda**). The Programme for the July 2025 concert should contain the dates and concert titles for the forthcoming year. **River to liaise with Lisa with information and titles.**
- c. The question was also raised as to holding a ceilidh for the orchestra which had been requested by Martin as a 'leaving present'. It was

agreed that a small group should look into organising this around
Christmas time in 2025.

6. Date of Next Meeting.

10th July, 7:30 pm at Chris's