

Endcliffe Orchestra Committee
Thursday, 19th March, 2026
Draft Minutes

Present: Chris, Alison, Clare, John, Karen, Katrin, Lisa and River

1. Apologies: Alex, Matt, Ralph
2. Draft Minutes of 19th February, 2026

These were agreed as a true record. Any items held over from that meeting are On the current agenda.

3. Declaration of items for AOB
Three items were raised: a) the Newsletter; b) a theme for the next concert and c) New screens for use in the orchestra.
4. Agenda items
 - a. Review and update on the composing competition

The winners of both section of the competition have been announced:

Sam Lake : Restless

John Hackett: War Suite

The parts for these are being printed and will be available for Monday 23rd March. The rehearsal schedule will be updated to include approx. three rehearsal for these pieces.

We discussed having photos and biographies of the winners to include in the programme notes.

We also discussed the theme for the July concert and decided on **Bold Sounds needs New Worlds.**

- b. Marketing assistant to help Lisa

We discussed the workload attached to marketing. Lisa felt that it would be desirable to have some help with dealing with social media. **It was agreed that Chris would make an appeal for an orchestra member (s) to assist with this task.**

We also discussed whether some external help might be engaged to assist in the design of flyers for the concerts. This was left for further consideration.

There was a discussion of the need for help with ticket sales particularly with the use of TryBooking which requires those who assist with the sales - and those assisting on the door - to have the app, on their phones.

We recommended that all sales in future should be **by card only** using the TryBooking system.

c. WhatsApp Protocol and guidelines as to communication.

Katrin has agreed to produce the 'Newsletter' on a quarterly basis and this was the first item in our discussion. **It was agreed** that the purpose of the 'Newsletter' (or whatever it would be called) is essentially 'outward facing'. It becomes a medium for advertising future concerts, providing comment on previous concerts and ventures of the orchestra, such as the composing competition. It might also contain articles about orchestra members and information for recruiting drives. It would no longer contain information such as the rehearsal schedule etc which are available now on the website and also on WhatsApp.

The 'Newsletter' would be emailed to people who had requested to receive this information and were on the orchestra mailing list. It would also be emailed to members of the orchestra who 'opted in' to receive it.

Since the meeting various suggestions have been made as to the new name for the 'Newsletter' to distinguish it, especially in terms of its purpose, from the previous version. A suggestion has been made of calling it 'Endcliffe Notes' and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

Katrin then put forward suggestions as to the Protocol for using WhatsApp. First, it was agreed that documents such as the Policy Documents, Committee Job Descriptions and a placeholder for emailing the Committee should be available on the Website in a 'Members Only' section that is password protected. Likewise, the Members Only section will contain the Rehearsal Schedule and Committee Minutes (available for the whole orchestra). The 'Committee Documents' section of WhatsApp is to be removed.

The Protocol for using WhatsApp, which will give guidance as to what should feature on 'Announcements', 'General' and other sectional areas will be available on the Website.

Overall we felt happy with the use of WhatsApp as a means of communication and the way in which the Website and WhatsApp were working together to give effective communications to members.

d. Finalise the programme for 2027

The January 2027 concert programme and the Christmas Concert collaboration with SYO are fixed (see Minutes of 19th February).

We agreed that the January concert would also have a child-friendly short concert as in previous years. This would follow immediately after the morning rehearsal on the day of the concert e.g. the timing would be approx. 1:30 - 2:00pm giving time for orchestra members to have a break between the rehearsal and children's concert and the main evening concert.

We agreed to ask Nick Baynes to book All Saints Church, Ecclesall for the January concert.

Several suggestions were made by River as to the programme for the July 2027 concert. They could coalesce around the theme of 'Music as Visual Experience' So far, the suggestions are: A violin concerto, possibly by Saint Saens, Holst 'Japanese Suite', Debussy 'Petite Suite' and maybe Mussorgsky 'Picture at an Exhibition' or Bliss 'Colour Symphony'. We undertook to listen to these suggestions and River agreed to firm up his suggestions and present them at the next committee meeting.

5. AOB

John raised the issue of the number of screens that the orchestra possesses which are designed to protect members against the brass sounds. At the moment we have 3 screens and it would be desirable to purchase 4 more. These should, if possible, be stored downstairs and be used for each rehearsal. We also need more information as to their effective use.

The theme for the next concert is 'Bold Sounds meets New Worlds'

The Newsletter has been dealt with in the Agenda items.

6. Date of Next Meeting : 16th April, 2026 at Lindsay's 19, Yeoman Rd., S6 3JD