Endcliffe Orchestra : AGM, 2025

Minutes of the AGM, 15 September, 2025

1. The meeting confirmed the Minutes of the AGM of 2024 as a true record. There were no matters arising from those Minutes.
2. Election of Officers

   Chris, as Chair of the Committee and the meeting, indicated that all members of existing committee were happy to stand again save for John Goepel, concert manager, who after many years ably steering our concert arrangements has decided to retire from this post. Also, during the year Fiona Robinson, who was our hardworking Membership Secretary resigned. This position has been ably filled by Katrin Hackett.

   The existing committee were re-elected en block and unanimously. The concert manager post would now be a shared post between Lindsay Aitkenhead and Karen Bradley. Both these appointments were duly proposed and seconded.

   Particular mention was made of Lisa Price, our Marketing officer whose magnificent work in promoting concerts through social media, flyers and other means has been notably effective and very much appreciated.
3. Treasurer's Report

   Matt had prepared a report which is appended to these Minutes. He indicated that in the last financial year the orchestra made a surplus and this was mainly due to the increased concert attendance. The orchestra also had increased the subs (which it had not done for many years). Additionally, we benefitted from tax relief on our profits. Without the tax relief we might have made a loss, but with that continuing at the same rate and with additional finance made available through grants of £1,500 and a further £1,000 from charities, we are in a good position to both experiment with more expensive music hiring costs and hiring different venues.
4. Chair's Report

   Chris prepared a report, again appended to these Minutes. She indicated that although the year 2024-5 started fairly inauspiciously, the committee coped with the difficulties we encountered and came together as a stronger, resilient group and this too was reflected by the whole orchestra's response.

Chris expressed her thanks to the conductors - Martin and Jack - who had stepped in to help us through our winter concert. Jack Capstack had taken us from December through to a very successful concert in January.

Appreciation was expressed for the work of River, our new MD, whose energy and enthusiasm has certainly made a strong impression and difference to our orchestra. Chris and the orchestra were looking forward to many more exciting years and performances under his baton. Gratitude was expressed also to Ralph, our leader for his constant support during this year.

The Committee had worked hard over the year in preparing and disseminating policies on Bullying and Harassment and Risk Assessment and a Code of Practice covering rehearsals etc. This type of activity would continue in the coming year.

Chris concluded her report with a very positive view of the place of our orchestra in the musical life of Sheffield and of its members.

5. A.O.B.

There was one item in AOB and that was that a member of the orchestra had already expressed their willingness to be Social Secretary - ….. And this had been gratefully accepted.

Clare Campbell (Committee Secretary).