

EASTBOURNE & DISTRICT CHOIRS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

of the AGM held on Saturday 30 September 2023 at 10.00am

Trinity Church, Willingdon

Present: Jennie Macfadyen (Chair, Downland Singers), Milly Clark (Hon. Secretary & Treasurer, Hailsham Choral Society), Liz Barker (Eastbourne Choral Society), Sue Dickinson (Concentus), Fiona Evans (Phoenix Choir), Carole Josey (Seaford Choral Society), Ruth McDermott (Heathfield Choral Society), Jenny Meteyard (Bexhill Choral Society), Paula Nicholson (Sussex Harmony), Rosemary Rowett (Downland Singers), Rachel Shouksmith (Noteworthy)

1.	Apologies - Adrian White (Concentus), John Thornley (ESO)
2.	Minutes of the last AGM 3 September 2022 - These had been circulated and were approved. They were signed by the Chair as a correct record.
3.	Matters arising - there were no matters arising.
4.	Chairman's Comments - It has been a real pleasure to welcome Sussex Harmony to the Association this year which adds even greater diversity to the group. Our meeting in April was productive and it was good to have three additional MDs with us - Rachel Shouksmith, Jozik Kotz and John Thornley. Our meetings are open to all MD's as well as the various choir representatives so please encourage yours to come along and join in the discussions. Sincere thanks go again to Milly Clark, our Secretary and Treasurer for her continued management of the finances and administration and also to Chris Thompson for his continued maintenance of the website. As you will have heard, Chris will be stepping down from this role next year and serious thought is needed as to how this major part of the Association's function will be taken forward.
5.	Treasurer's Report - Milly presented the attached report. The balance in the bank on 31.8.23 was £786.84. Paula Nicholson asked about the necessity of being members of Making Music and having insurance. Milly explained the benefits (useful resources, access to website platform for choirs, support), especially for smaller groups, of being part of MM, and that having insurance is necessary for our group meetings and in case EADCA organises a joint event. The insurance element of the subscription is small in any case - £46 for 2023. The insurance element will need to be reviewed, as MM is changing the way it arranges insurance at the end of the year, but no details are known yet. Following last meeting's suggestion to increase the subs for EADCA there was some discussion about the level of increase and the amount to retain as a contingency. It was proposed to keep £500 as a minimum in the account and increase the subs by £5 this year with a further increase of £5 next year subject to review. This was put to the vote and carried with all in favour. Subscriptions for the year 2023-24 of £20 therefore are now due and an email will be sent with details of how to pay. Jennie, on behalf of the group, thanked Milly for her hard work on behalf of the association.
6.	Election of Officers – Chair: Jennie Macfadyen: proposed: Liz Barker seconded: Jenny Meteyard Secretary and Treasurer: Milly Clark: proposed: Carole Josey seconded: Fiona Evans All were elected unanimously. Chris Thompson is resigning as Webmaster, but has agreed to continue for the next twelve months for succession planning to take place.
8.	Dates of next meetings: Committee Meeting: 2 March 2024 at 10.30.a.m. AGM and Committee Meeting: 28 September 2024 at 10 a.m.

