



## **Minutes of Meeting held at Manor Farm, Wootton Courtenay**

**7.30pm Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024.**

- 1. Apologies for Absence** – None, all members present.
- 2. Minutes of last Meeting.** – agreed by committee as correct and signed by Chairman.
- 3. Matters arising.** – As yet a social event has not been arranged but the possibility of organising one at the Ship Aground on Tuesday September 3<sup>rd</sup> was discussed.
- 4. AGM** – apologies from Tina and Marcus.

Jane Jones has kindly offered to provide the refreshments.

Reports- Chairman to do a brief report and read out Marcus's report. Audrey will not do a Librarian's report this year.

The Committee were asked if they were prepared to stand for re-election. Everyone said yes, but Jill said this would probably be her final year. It was suggested that a volunteer be found to shadow Jill with a view to continuing her role in the future. Audrey asked that a volunteer also be found to shadow the Librarian post so we have some back up.

Subscription prices were held last year but now need to be increased, so it will be recommended to the members that we pay £80.00 for the year or £43.00 per term for anyone who needs to split the cost.

As our orchestral concerts make a loss and we have a reduced membership the Society needs to increase its income, so Jenny and Val are applying for Grants. One is for £500.00 from Minehead Town Council and the other is £2000.00 from the Somerset Community Fund. They were thanked for all their hard work and we shall have to wait to see if we are successful.

Jill expressed concerns about booking the orchestra for our Spring concert as the cost was definitely going to go up. Marcus asked her to go ahead and book them.

It was suggested that more Friends of the Society could be found to help boost funds and that The Feldberg Foundation be approached for a possible donation.

The date of the next AGM was set for Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7pm with a pre AGM committee meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

It was suggested that the rehearsals start at 7.30pm as it is difficult for working people (including Marcus and Angela) to make the 7pm start. Marcus would like the session to be

7.30pm to 9pm with a short break but the flexibility to stay a bit later when needed. This proposal is to be put forward at the AGM.

Our next concert is November 30<sup>th</sup> 2024 and we will commence rehearsals on 10<sup>th</sup> September.

The Spring concert is April 5<sup>th</sup> 2025 and rehearsals will commence on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

**5. AOB** It was suggested and agreed that the Society should give Simon Strong a gift as a way showing our appreciation for his work auditing our accounts.

We are running low on the paper cups that are used for Interval refreshments and a decision was made to source another box rather than use cups and saucers which would need washing up after the concert.

Tina reported that only five orchestra members had eaten from the buffet provided by the members, so there was a lot of wasted food. It was suggested that orchestra members are asked in advance if they would like some food provided.

Jill mentioned that the Society have bought some Faure Requiem orchestral parts, at a cost of £50.00, which were needed at the last minute for our concert. Marcus was sure they would be used by us again and could be lent/hired out.

The concert review was not very flattering, which was a shame as the audience feedback was very positive.

The post concert gathering at the pub was considered a success and more members would be encouraged to come along.

The next Committee meeting will be on 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024 7.30pm at Tina's, 10 Queens Rd, Minehead.

Marcus was thanked for his hospitality and there being no further business for discussion the meeting closed at 9.06pm.

**Chairman to sign**