

Minutes for the Skye and Lochalsh Orchestra Committee meeting dated 12th October 2013

Present: Judith Bullivant, John Hockett, Chris Manvell, Ilona Morison and Iain Roden.

Apologies: Sam Nicolson.

Item		Action
1.1	Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the previous (30 th June) meeting, having been read (JB & CM), were approved.	
1.2	Appointment of officers. The following individuals were appointed. Chairman Chris Manvell Vice chair Judith Bullivant Secretary Judith Bullivant Treasurer Ilona Morison Librarian Sam Nicolson In addition, Maggie Manvell was co-opted as independent minutes secretary. Other posts may need to be created in future, e.g. publicity.	
1.3	a) Thank previous committee members for their service b) Welcome and thank Iain Roden as our conductor and, <i>ex officio</i> , member of the committee.	a) CM b) Done at meeting.
1.3.1	Iain pointed out that would be unable to conduct after 9 th November. It was agreed that Becky Milne be asked if she could cover the last rehearsal and concert. However it was felt that it was really not feasible to undertake a concert this session and that this be put to the orchestra. (Also see below.)	
1.4	Communication with orchestra members. It was agreed that a summary of the committee meeting minutes be sent to all orchestra members after the minutes had been vetted by the committee members.	JB
1.5	Spring Session. Iain Roden requested details of rehearsal and concert dates for the spring session so that he could make necessary business arrangements. Post meeting note. From the 30 th June meeting the following dates had been agreed and Laurence Perkins informed. Item 5c. "... [concert] date of 5 th April was agreed with rehearsals on 11, 25 Jan, 8,22 Feb, 1,15,22 and 29 March". Note that the concert data cannot be changed due to LP's other, professional, engagements.	Complete
1.5.1	Iain Roden requested details of the spring programme so that he can work on the pieces to be played. CM to speak with LP.	CM
1.5.2	<i>À propos</i> 1.5.1 above, a number of comments were offered. Early Schubert or Beethoven? Gabrielli? Bach (for strings only)? To do a full symphony in second half, e.g. Beethoven 5? (CM felt that this might be too difficult.) Any programme must make full use of Laurence Perkins.	Email? discussion
1.6	As there is little or no chance of doing a concert this session, it was suggested that the orchestra hold an 'open day' on the 9 th November, running from 10am to 3pm and open to all in an endeavour to gain new members. The suggested piece to be Beethoven's 6 th symphony (the Pastoral) and for there to be an informal 'concert' at the end. o The open session to be advertised in the WHFP and elsewhere: everyone welcome. o The idea to be presented to the orchestra a.s.a.p. and to be discussed at the rehearsal on the 26 th October.	JB & others Committee

1.7	Rehearsals. It was requested that Iain lets orchestra know what pieces he intended to work on at the following rehearsal.	IR
1.8	It was suggested that there should be a social event (e.g. after the concert) where people arrange to meet and chat, say in a local hotel bar, etc. [CM. Could this be put to the orchestra on 26 th October?]	
1.9	Date of next meeting TBD.	

Note: Minutes of meeting of the 30th June appended for information.

Skye and Lochalsh Orchestra

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 30 June 2013

Present: Chris Manvell (CM), James Merryweather (JM), Judith Bullivant (JB), Mike Cormack (MJC), Margaret Cormack (MC)

Apologies: Sam Nicolson, Janice Taylor, Jo Cumine

- 1) New Secretary
 - a) Jo has resigned from the Committee.
 - b) **JB** has volunteered to act as Secretary.
 - c) A new committee member will be co-opted in the autumn and the secretary post confirmed at the next full committee meeting.
- 2) Cheque signatories
 - a) The current signatories are Laura and Jo, neither of whom are on the committee..
 - b) **JB** volunteered to act as signatory and we need another.
 - c) **MC** will investigate the possibility of transferring the bank account to the Bank of Scotland in Broadford, which would be more convenient than the Royal Bank in Kyle.
- 3) Updating the website
 - a) **JM** and **CM** to update the website for the autumn session.
 - b) **CM** will upload a PDF file of the orchestra catalogue once it is sent to him.
 - c) A 'Useful contacts' type page will be set up as a place to provide details of people offering music tuition etc.
 - d) **MJC** will revamp the history page and send a Word file to **CM** for uploading. onto the website
- 4) Loch Carron invitation
 - a) MJC has been contacted by Ann MacKay from the Howard Doris Centre in Loch Carron asking if members of the orchestra would be interested in putting on a concert there in October (the venue would be unsuitable for the full orchestra).
 - b) It was agreed that the wind group and the string quartet would put together a programme for a concert on Friday October 25th. This concert will form part of Luminare Scotland programme which is putting on concerts in old folks homes.
- 5) Concerts
 - a) The dates of the autumn/Xmas concert and rehearsals have all been booked.
 - b) Doubt as to the playability of the Brahms Academic Festival overture was expressed and it was thought advisable to abandon it. Thus the programme will be
 - (1) Schubert Rosamunde Ballet Music no.2 (music to be got from Caithness)
 - (2) Tchaikovsky 2nd movement from 6th Symphony (Good Music - music already acquired)
 - (3) Selection from Bizet Carmen Suite – Les Toreadors (i.e. what is usually known as the overture), Prelude to Act 1, Aragonese, Intermezzo, Les Dragons d'Alcala, Habanera, Danse Boheme (Music to be downloaded from Petrucci, by **CM**, **MJC**)
 - (4) While Shepherds Watched (**JM** to provide music)
 - (5) possibility of Hely-Hutchison Carol symphony (**JB** to investigate)
 - (6) An appropriate opening piece e.g. Mendelssohn Scottish / Reformation symphony movement. Still to be decided.
 - c) The Spring concert will have to be at the beginning of April as Easter is on 21 April in 2014 preceded by 2 weeks of school holidays. The date of 5th April was agreed with rehearsals on 11, 25 Jan, 8,22 Feb, 1,15,22 and 29 March

- d) **MC** will investigate the availability and cost of using the Fingal Centre in Portree for the concert. Having rehearsals at the North end or at Sligachan was discussed but rejected as Broadford is more central (with members in Glen Elg & Ratagan as well as Uig & Dunvegan)
 - e) The offer of Laurence Perkins to play solo bassoon with us was approved. **MJC** will contact him accepting his offer of doing a concert on the 5th April. He will be offered a fee of £200 and the profits of the concert donated to a charity of his choice.
 - f) LP has suggested various works and can provide the orchestral parts (Weber Op 35, Gounod 'Hitchcock theme', Hebridean selection arranged by himself).
 - g) Doubts have also been expressed about the playability of Beethoven's 5th at the Spring concert (all or part). 'Echoes of Ossian' by Gade was agreed. The rest of the programme will be discussed at a later date.
- 6) Variety in Rehearsals
 - a) It was unanimously agreed that, while it would be enjoyable to play non-concert music at rehearsals, the orchestra needed all the rehearsal time (8 rehearsals at most) to get the concert music to an acceptable performance standard.
 - 7) Repertoire
 - a) It was agreed that we do not need a more explicit policy about non-classical music, nor should we change our name. It was agreed to continue with the current policy of playing orchestral music of varying types.
 - 8) Dealing with Members' suggestions
 - a) The committee will make themselves better known to the orchestra, and players encouraged to make their suggestions known to any member of the committee. For non-standard / more recent works any suggestions of music should include where to get the music from.
 - 9) Setting up an SLO Online Forum
 - a) The committee did not feel there was a need for one. The orchestra meets every 2 weeks and, as in 8 above, players should be encouraged to take suggestions / discussion points to members of the committee.
 - 10) Future rehearsals
 - a) Ways of improving the effectiveness of rehearsals was discussed. **JB** is to speak to Rick about some of the points raised.

Date of next meeting: 2nd week in August – **MJC** to organise.