



Attendees: Chris Swain (MD), Gill Martin (Chairman), Alan Chambers (Treasurer), Sam Tolley (Secretary) and 23 fully paid-up members of the Choral Society.

1. Introduction, Welcome and Apologies

Gill Martin welcomed everyone to the 17th annual general meeting of the Choral Society as an independent charitable society.

Apologies were received from Vanessa Weaver, Maxine Shelton, Patrick and Angela Marks, Christie Brown, Dough Hughes.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 3rd December 2024

The minutes had been circulated to all members and were approved by those members who had attended the meeting.

- a) It was noted that, although the minutes referred to attached treasurer report, this report was not available in this copy. Sam did mention that the treasurer report had been circulated shortly after the meeting held on 3rd December 2024 when the minutes were initially circulated
- b) Point 6.2 mentioned an EGM. This was never held.

3. Matters Arising

The society's constitution should be available on the website under the member's area. The committee will take action on this point.

4. Musical Director's Report

Chris Swain presented the attached report to the meeting.

5. Chairman's Report

Gill Martin presented the attached report to the meeting.

6. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Accounts

A number of questions were raised and comments made about the content and accuracy of the financial statements as a full reflection of the society's financial situation.

- a. The professional layout and recommendations of the report was well received
- b. A deficit of just over £1700 is worrying and the health and continuity of the society was discussed. Points to note:
 - a. Income from member's subs due early in 2026. Total income from subscriptions is not lower than in previous years despite lower rehearsal attendance
 - b. All invoices have been paid for the concert held in November
 - c. The report does not include the investment account which is believed to be around £6000 (£5845.88 on 15/9/2024)
 - d. Gift Aid has not been claimed in the last 3 to 4 years and is believed to be around £1000 per year.
 - e. Soloist and instrumental sponsorship have been well received and a welcome source of new income
 - f. Status of accounts as on 3rd December 2025
 - i. Savings account: £801.39
 - ii. Current account £1270.01
 - iii. The accountant's invoice of £720 is outstanding
- c. Comments from members which will be reviewed and actioned by the treasurer
 - a. Income from significant fund raisers such as the Burn's night to be listed separately as an incentive on the treasurer's report.
 - b. Detail source/destination (such as the £800 cash paid in) to be available.

- c. Gift Aid forms to be completed by all members as the treasurer does not have access to the form completed a number of years ago. Gift Aid to be claimed.
 - d. Treasurer to get access to the investment account.
 - e. Rosemary to advise the treasurer on possible software that can be used for accounting.
 - f. If possible, not make use of a paid for accounting firm to review and audit the accounts.
- d. It was felt that the accounts cannot be approved due to incompleteness and lack of clarity. It will be done at an EGM as soon as possible.

7. Election of Officers and Committee Members

- a. Sharon Brown, Sam Tolley and Pauline Lindeque have resigned from the committee. Colin Rundall left the committee mid year. The remaining committee members are willing to stand again.
- b. It was proposed, seconded and passed by a show of hands that the following members be elected as Officers and Trustees:

Gill Dickinson	Chair
Geoff Hudson , Phil Hudson	Treasurer
(Vacant)	Secretary
Geoff Hudson	Vice Chair

- c. It was proposed, seconded and passed by a show of hands that the following members be re-elected as committee members:

Alan Chambers	Committee Member
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- d. There is space on the committee for up to four more committee members who may be co-opted during the year.
 - a. It was proposed, seconded and passed by a show of hands that the following ex-officio members be re-elected, with thanks for the support they have already given the Society;

Musical Director	Chris Swain
College liaison	Gemma Russell
Librarian	Suzanne Charlton and Sharon Brown

8. Any other business

- a. At the recent concert the sopranos where not balanced (1st and 2nd soprano) with only 4 seconds and all visiting soprano's singing first. Ideally all visiting singers attend rehearsals prior to the concert so that this and other nuances of our performance can be addressed.
- b. In the past the choir has taken part in the Stroud Christmas Festival at St Lawrence's church and it was suggested the choir to this again. Rosemary to arrange this next year.

Choir resumes on 6th January 2026