



Charity No. 1124762

West Sussex Guitar Club AGM
Saturday 28th September 2019
at Regis School of Music at 9.05 pm

Committee Members present:

Julian Bobak (Chairman/Charity Officer) **JB**
Sasha Levtov (Artistic Director) **SL**

David Clarke (Treasurer) **DC**
Debbie Burford (Secretary) **DB**

JB welcomed club members to the 25th AGM of the WSGC, and the beginning of the 26th year of the guitar club.

1) Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Terry and Moyria Woodgate, John Mason, Sue McQuillan, Sue Reeve, Angela MacTavish and Julie Insull. 18 members (excluding the committee) attended the meeting.

2) The Minutes of the last AGM

The minutes of the 21st September 2018 AGM were approved as a true record.

3) Chairman's Introduction

Julian Bobak welcomed club members to the AGM noting that many were the youngest people we've ever had at the meeting! As we begin the 27th year of the club, the financial position of the club was good and he wished to thank the rest of the small hard-working committee, that is Sasha Levtov, Debbie Burford and David Clarke. He also wished to thank Terry and Moyria Woodgate, Julie Insull, Jez Rogers and Richard Prior (for renewing/managing our website) and Nina Levtov for helping behind the scenes. He added that the committee was currently working very hard covering the posts of Membership Secretary, Publicity Officer and Librarian which had been vacant for one year. However, he was pleased to announce that Baz Boxall had agreed to take on the role of Membership Secretary which was greatly appreciated.

4) Matters Arising from the last AGM

None.

5) Receive the Artistic Director's Report

Members had received by post the Artistic Director's report of the club's 26th season and SL said that it had been a very successful year with wonderful performances. He added that it was very encouraging to see more and more youngsters joining the club and making us all feel younger! He looked forward to bringing forward a new generation of guitar-lovers. He has been working with JB to refurbish the library and said that we have one of the best collections in the country of classical guitar music and even a complete set of Classical Guitar Magazine. When the cataloguing is finished it will be much easier for members to find music. He said that more people were needed on the committee but he was delighted that Baz had taken on the role of Membership Secretary as we are a big club. He stated that Jez Rogers in New Zealand is currently re-designing our website which will be more modern and attractive-looking. He also reiterated the need for a Publicity Officer - he thanked David Clarke and Julie Insull for their work on this but said that with a dedicated officer much more could be done in terms of distributing posters and doing press releases (*). Ideally he would also like to have a Hospitality Officer to meet new people joining the club. Finally he would like to thank everyone who participates in the club.

DC confirmed that membership numbers remained roughly the same as last year with currently 96 memberships. As this included family memberships it was thought to equate to the 121 members quoted at last year's AGM.

(continued)

6) Adoption of the Club Accounts

DC presented his accounts for the Club for the period 1/8/2018 to 31/7/2019. He said it was good news that there was a healthy bank balance of £9374.75 to start the year which was only £222.82 down on the balance last year. The five professional concerts made an average loss of £200 each and the six club evenings an average loss of £40. He would like to encourage more people to attend our events to reduce these losses and asked members to spread the word about concerts. He added that our orchestral concert in the Festival of Chichester made a modest profit of £60 which was a very good start for a first concert and he would like to thank Linda Kelsall-Barnett for organising it. JB thanked DC and the accounts were proposed by SL as a true record and seconded by Steve Hines.

7) Election of Club Officers

JB stated that re-standing for the committee were JB, DC, SL and DB. Currently there are **vacancies** for the posts of **Publicity Officer (*)** and **Librarian**. **He asked members to let the committee know if they wished to help.**

The committee was voted in as follows:

Julian Bobak	Chairman /Charity Officer	David Clarke	Treasurer
Sasha Levtov	Artistic Director	Debbie Burford	Secretary

For the non-committee posts Terry Woodgate would carry on as Newsletter Editor and Moyria Woodgate as Photographer/Archivist. Richard Prior and Jez Rogers would continue to look after the club's website. Baz Boxall would become the new Membership Secretary.

8) AOB

Linda Kelsall-Barnett queried why for the past two years the West Sussex Guitar Festival had coincided with the last weekend of half-term, making it difficult for some school pupils to attend.

The meeting closed at 9:20 pm.

Debbie Burford (14/10/2019)

** In the week following the AGM, Teresa Henley kindly volunteered to become the club's new Publicity Officer.*