



# AGM 1999

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting held at 7.30pm on Saturday 11 September 1999 at the Regis School of Music, 46 Sudley Road, Bognor Regis.

Committee in attendance:	Richard Prior (Chairman)	Pam Davis (Librarian)
	Sasha Levtov (Artistic Director)	Jonathan Parrott (Treasurer)
	Graham Bengé (Press Secretary)	Helena Bengé (Events Liaison)

## 1. Chairman's Address

The chairman declared the AGM open and welcomed those assembled. He expressed his gratitude to the committee members for their efforts in making the previous season a successful one; adding his thanks to those already expressed by Sasha in the Artistic Directors Report.

## 2. AGM 98 Minutes

Names were added to the minutes, which were accepted on a show of hands.

## 3. Artistic Director's Report

The Artistic Director stated that those present had already received a printed copy of his report in the Notice for the AGM and there was no need for him to cover the events of the preceding year. The report was accepted on a show of hands.

## 4. Adoption of Accounts

The Chairman thanked South East Arts for their substantially increased grant. He also stated that it was in the best interest of the club if we could raise sufficient funds to provide for an emergency reserve so that we would be in a position to meet the expense of a cancelled concert or any other unexpected expense.

There were no amendments to the club accounts as printed in the Notice for the AGM and it was proposed 'THAT THE FINANCIAL REPORT BE ADOPTED'.

The motion was CARRIED on a show of hands.

## 5. Election of the Committee

The Chairman stated that no application to stand had been received from any non-serving member and that as all committee members incumbent in the posts were prepared to serve for another year he proposed 'THAT THE COMMITTEE BE ELECTED'.

The motion was CARRIED on a show of hands.

## 6. Any Other Business

The procedures for electing committee members were brought into question (Geoff Lunn), the point being expressed that the current method was confrontational in that any non-serving member would have to 'oppose' a current committee member. It was suggested that without a change in the committee there was less likelihood of fresh ideas and a propensity for stagnation. GL recommended that there should be a constitutional change putting an upper limit on the length of service. After discussion the Chairman proposed 'THAT THE COMMITTEE EXPLORE THE CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES SURROUNDING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND PRODUCE SUGGESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE THE MEMBERS AT A LATER DATE'.

The motion was CARRIED on a show of hands.

## 7. Open Discussion

- The meeting was opened to the floor for members to voice their ideas and concerns for the future of the club.
- Sasha thanked all those who had returned their questionnaires as they were considered very important in establishing the targets the committee would set for the forthcoming seasons. The number of questionnaires returned was the highest since inception.
- It was asked whether anything could be done to provide a better view all round at professional concerts. Regrettably the answer was no as the club is limited by the size of the stage.
- A desire was expressed for more mixed concerts, guitar + other instrument. Following a discussion it was the general consensus that the current mix was about right, 1 or 2 duos, 1 mixed, 1 flamenco when possible and the rest solo.
- Sasha reminded all present that an extra effort in applauding at professional concerts should produce at least a second encore.
- Following a discussion of club evenings it was the general opinion that:
  - the Christmas and Summer parties should be restricted to club members and their guests. Possibly tickets should be produced to give a better forecast of numbers attending.
  - club orchestras were entertaining for participants and audience and the format should not be changed.
  - club evenings need a bit more variety, group working, not all performances to be on the stage.
  - timing needed to improve, often there was a delay in starting and the evenings frequently ran late.
  - there was general agreement for more club evenings to be held in a season. Although dates have been fixed for the current season Sasha offered to accommodate an extra evening if there was a specific theme suggested.

## 8. Close

The Chairman thanked all those present for their time and expressed how important it was for the committee to receive the opinions and desires of the club members, he declared the Annual General Meeting closed.