

Minutes of the Drifffield Silver Band

Annual General Meeting-

January 2023

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Drifffield Silver Band held at the Village Hall, Nafferton on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**APOLOGIES** B Hall, C Purcell, D Massey, K Duck.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Members as in attendance sheet passed around.

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

This year has been a roller coaster ride for a lot of us. The year started well, and then went downhill. Simon announced his departure in July, although thankfully he did continue with a dual role between DSB concerts and Swinton Excelsior band. We lost our slot for Driff Show, had to cancel Hornsea due to it being in August as we could not raise players or deps. Peasholme park was a scramble but we managed to put on a good show. 17 weeks of MD auditions 19<sup>th</sup> Aug through until 11<sup>th</sup> Nov were to follow. It was a very unsettled time for everyone, it was a scary time for me. We still managed to put on some spectacular concerts at Brighton, Burton Constable Hall, also the Christmas concerts at Nafferton, Drifffield and Brid Spa.

I have to thank everyone for their continued commitment to these events, including the Deps. There was a lot of support from James holding on to the bit in the middle of the MD auditions and initially planning the set lists for a Christmas Concert in Nafferton and Brid Spa.

Then Peter took over as MD on the 18<sup>th</sup> November and walked straight into the Nafferton Christmas Concert followed closely with Brid Spa Carol Concert. He needed to make some adjustments to the set lists with very little rehearsal time, and a ricochet of empty seats around the rehearsal nights, illness, holidays, other bands. Peter embraced all of this and has settled in really well with the players and supporters around the band.

We begin 2023 with a new broom, the introduction of Subscriptions to cover outgoings has been successfully introduced. We have some excellent bookings coming in. From my conversations with members there is a healthy anticipation of good things to come for the band.

The new website was launched in January and as we work with it, things will come to light that need a tweak, so it is very much still under construction. As far as the day-to-day management of the coal face of the website goes, limited access is available to authorised band members, normally on the committee, to maintain policy documents, in conjunction with a Band google drive where loan agreements and new members' signed agreements are to be stored.

Fiona Trewartha has offered to fulfil the Website and Media role. This would just leave a vacancy for someone else to work in conjunction. being the band focal point liaising with the local press, radio, and even local TV, organising and distributing posters and media advertisements for future concerts.

**MUSICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT.**

Firstly, I'd like to say thank you for the welcome I have received at DSB. Everyone from the committee, the volunteers and members have been so kind. It has been a relatively straightforward transition into the role. This is a challenge and journey that I am enjoying and I sense that the players and the band are too.

Importantly, this is the start of a new chapter for DSB. I think it's imperative that all members are on board with development and change, whilst being open to new ideas

to innovate and progress the band. I have a lot of ideas that musically are hard work but will make us an ever-improving and entertaining ensemble.

We must all remember that everyone of us is a custodian of DSB for the future. As such, we must be conscious that DSB must always be better and left in a place where it is best set up for the future.

As an MD, I stand by my ideology that I will challenge every player member of DSB and strive for the best from all of us (including and especially myself). This isn't an easy process and clearly requires hard work. However, I believe this is a vision that we can rise to and I look forward to that happening in the coming months. Importantly, this band reacts well to being worked hard and that is a standard that I aim to maintain moving forward. The process can be frustrating and difficult but the ultimate rewards are always worth it.

Our reward is playing amazing concerts and venues, as well as improving our standard of playing. It is for this reason I have been working hard with the committee to secure some concerts that we can be proud of and enjoy. However, I think we should generally strive for more indoor concerts. Whilst community jobs are important for the band, the band ultimately benefits from far more quality concerts with larger audiences. To that end, I am keen that the band takes the risk of putting on its own concerts, with guests where necessary, in higher profile venues. I'm happy to support this and help drive it, where necessary.

In the coming discussions, there'll be conversations about a potential tour. I personally think this would be a fantastic opportunity to the band. It would improve both our media presence, our standing in the community and give us a tangible goal to work toward. I hope this is a direction that the band choose to go on. Similarly, in last year's minutes was reference to creating a CD/recording. This is something that I think would be fantastic for the band. I'd be more than willing to push for this to happen, with the committee's and members' support. I'll facilitate and ensure that we create an exceptional product. Again, I have several ideas for a CD.

As a special note, I want to thank all members of the committee. Having worked with several other bands closely, this is a committee that works hard to improve and develop the band. I hope this continues into the future.

I've worked particularly closely with Helen with library matters and I thank her for her hard work (you make all of our jobs so much easier and we couldn't do what we do without you).

Also, Mal, it's clear how hard you work for the band and I can only thank you for that. A big thank you from me for making my part in this organisation, and the running of it, as smooth as possible.

Margaret, thank you for the cups of tea and all of your work behind the scenes. Mike thank you for all of your work; the band is nothing without its concert organisation and administration.

I look forward to working closely with all the committee on our upcoming projects.

You may have noted that the AGM minutes reflect that I may not attend regular committee meetings. This is purely logistics. I am in constant contact with the committee and consulting on ideas that I think can help with the development of the band. However, most issues and matters I can raise through Mal or another committee member. If there ever is a need for me to be at a meeting, have no doubt that I'll be there.

Communication is key. To that end, I hope that you continue to write on the blank white cards any feedback, comments or just things you're enjoying. It really is invaluable to me.

My Vision that I hope becomes a shared vision: DSB constantly innovates and improves because everyone in the organisation strives for excellence within their role.

Thank you for all members work so far! Most importantly, I hope you are enjoying the challenges and new direction. I hope we continue to grow as we move into this next chapter in the band's history.

### MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was proposed by H Gledhill seconded by G Appleton, that the minutes of the last AGM be accepted as a true record of that meeting. This was carried.

### MATTERS ARISING

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Thanks were given to O Shaw for auditing the accounts. The Treasurer explained the process related to subs, and their collection, thanking players for their co-operation. He highlighted that subs would cover the costs related to Musical Director's expenses. He also explained the new accounting method as follows-

1. I have also attached a copy of the latest inventory I have to the accounts (at the end). This should be checked by those involved with property and any updates notified to me within the next 4 weeks (please), so this can be updated as required so there is an up-to-date copy retained on file for future.
2. Clothing – there appears to be several people's names missing who I'm aware have fleeces ties etc. Likewise, there are some I believe possibly should have returned theirs. Has this happened and updated agreement obtained? Please can I have scanned copies of all missing documents, and a list of the corrections made. There is an issue with the B flat basses – contention as to who owns them. Please can this be clarified as a matter of urgency, so the inventory can be updated. I suggest you ask Simon for a copy of the one he did a few years ago so we can try to match what we have. Once obtained, please can I be scanned a copy which I will save on file.
3. Fiona's son I believe is playing a band B flat bass. Is this being left in the band room or going home with him. If going home, an agreement should be obtained asap? Is this our bass or the "Junior bands" bass?

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary thanked M Buckton for taking minutes etc during his absence in Hospital. **CRB/DBS-** The transfer from East Riding as Umbrella Body to Hull City Council had been completed with few problems. Four applications have been completed and two more are in process.

**Chaperones-** We need at least two to cover incidents etc. Their status needs to be up-to-date, noting that their certificates remain valid for only three years. A reminder was given as to the importance of informal chaperoning. It is imperative that all members keep in the forefront of their minds the importance of witnesses- never be in a confined area without someone who can vouch for you. Similarly, the importance of transporting youngsters in cars- accompaniment is essential- written permission of family should give you much confidence in this important area- Do Not Risk Anything...

**BoPA-** We need a licence to confirm that we will not take under 16s out of school for paid events. This mainly applies to theatrical groups, but has been extended to include Brass Bands. Since we aim to involve youngsters in joining us in playing, we should place no obstacle in their way. Therefore we will proceed with the application before our first concert for the year, ie Bob Dales Memorial in April.

**Bookings-** The secretary will write to Bob Dales sister informing her of the event and issuing an invitation. Posters are being distributed- B Hall has offered to cover Drifffield, and will organise the raffle.

There are two additional invitations, Lavender Court Sun 7 May and a Wedding in Beverley Wed 12 April during school holidays.

**Membership-** The Secretary reminded members that there had evolved over the years a policy that we do not take on more than two events per month, as it had been noted that over commitment loses members. This could be over-ridden by the committee.

**Fee-** following discussion, it was decided to retain the fee at £420, but subject to individual negotiation.

**Muzudo-** The programme of events was noted, and members were asked to keep up to date their availability so that Chairman and Musical Director could be confident of support at events.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The officers standing to be re-elected on bloc are shown.

Title	Name	Proposer	Seconded	Carried?
President	G.Riggs			
Honorary Vice Presidents	B.Hall M.Buckton C.Buckton C Wilson W Wilson M Clark T Sugdon			
Chairman	M Kellett			
Treasurer	M Naylor			
Secretary	M Clark	Re-elected en bloc		Yes
Auditor	O Shaw			
Librarian	H Gledhill			
Property Officer	J McLelland			
Child Protection	M.Buckton M.Clark			
Band sergeant	L Gledhill			
Trustees	T Sugdon J Buckton A Beal			

Vice Chair	M Buckton	} Elected unopposed
Musical Director	S Miller	
Assistant Musical Director	G Appleton	
Website Co-ordinator	F Trewartha	
Publicity Officer -see below	M Kellett	

**BAND MATTERS**

**Band Social-** J McLelland would organise.

**Band Tour-** A volunteer was needed to instigate and organise. P Kench would action this.

**Communications/Press-** M Kellett would take care of this, as he had been doing.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING- COMMITTEE** TBA --Tuesday at the , Nafferton pm.