

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Driffield Silver Band held at the Village Hall, Nafferton on Friday 16th February 2024

APOLOGIES B Hall, I Buckton, C Buckton

MEMBERS PRESENT

Members as in attendance sheet passed around.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Firstly, I would like to thank the committee for all their help in maintaining the day to day running of the band including organising the logistics for transport and uniform for the different events this past year. Not to forget the members who have also helped loading and unloading Mike's trailer. As the band has grown in membership and assets (thinking of percussion) this will be needed even more as we enter the 2024 season. I think that we would all agree that Peter as MD has put an awful lot of work and thought into our prestigious jobs, including of course Hull City Hall and the Lions Concert. What a surprise we got last year when we were accidentally re located into the Hornsea Church next to the carnival. We have had nothing but more than positive messages about the quality of the band's sound, the programme that was presented, but what has come across at every concert has been how Peter has engaged with the audience. He has certainly won them over at every venue.

We have not however, won over Driffield Showground for Driffield Show 2024. We have had a message stating we are "not required". Bridlington Excelsior are starring. Over the past 2 years we have held many phone calls with David Tite to try to recover the situation where we were told that we were not necessarily ruled out for the next Show, therefore, we are not intending to ask again.

Muzodo is such a valuable planning resource, but some members, you know who you are, could help the MD and Secretary out by responding more frequently, but more so when specifically asked to do so. [mobile app \(muzodo.com\)](http://mobile.app(muzodo.com)) saves a lot of phone calls and pestering.

Easy fundraiser is another thing that is so easy to use and could gain the band a load of free cash currently there are 24 supporters but there are only about 6 to 8 using it. Fiona is the greatest earner £77.81 at the time of writing and Alexander L (This is a non playing supporter) who has earned the band £33.56. There is so much more that could be done, down load the app and the easyfundraiser reminder on your laptop tablet and phone. Open the link, type the store you want to online shop with and then browse your account as normal, make your purchase as normal and the donation will find its way to the band account.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/driffieldsilverband/>

Looking towards the coming year, the actual growth of the band (which is brilliant) might prove to be challenging with regards to uniform or space, so we are going to have to plan what we are going to do and how best to do it. To start with we need more music stands. Nearly all members have bought a polo shirt, so they will be good for wearing out at any suitable summer venues. We are still trying to source a band Shell Jacket at a reasonable price.

The online Library is beginning to work, although it was a bit frustrating for Helen in January due to gaining new starters (welcome to you all) and there being no music for them to initially share because the pads they needed were not available. This should settle down now as people get used to using the online resource. Peter will eventually keep an updated play list on what should be in your folders, the excess, as things get dropped, can be kept at home until you need it again, unless Helen asks for you to return anything she needs for her files.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

Firstly, I'd like to congratulate all members on a fantastic year in the band's history. I think, for many of us, having such a successful concert season with challenging music was incredibly rewarding. In the last year the standard of playing has improved significantly and I feel the band are up to the challenge of being pushed by ever-increasing challenging and innovative music.

The band is in an excellent position as an organisation. It is fantastic to see an influx of players and to be in a situation where we are above a full complement of players. It is also very much rewarding to see such a positive group mentality in the organisation where everyone is willing to work hard for the band; Driffield Silver Band is proudly greater than the sum of its constituent parts. It is fantastic that the members see themselves beyond themselves as an individual.

Expanding membership

The band is blessed with having far above the standard number of players in the band. With more members joining, this is excellent for the organisation but does raise considerations long term:

- * At what point are we saturated in terms of space, uniforms etc. i.e. will we have a limit on sections and playing members?
- * Consider a waiting list, if one becomes necessary, in the future
- * Where necessary, how the members want to decide who plays which concerts where space is limited
- * How members, as a collective, want the decision of which players sit in which seats ie. Is this the conductor's decision, the section leader, the committee, members themselves?
- * Uniforms (see proposal at AGM)

Adopting ERYBB

With the expansion of DSB, comes the need to have a band to ensure the longevity of our organisation. It is for this and many other reasons that I make the proposal to adopt ERYBB into Driffield Silver Band. This would mean a change of name for the organisation; I propose the 'Driffield Silver Training Band'. This has a financial implication on our organisation as we would cover the training band's rehearsal costs. The new arm of our band would maintain a sub-committee. Members who pay would have access to all ensembles and a decision on youth players paying would need to be made. However, amalgamation will take several months and requires re-written constitutions etc. At this stage it is just a proposal to seek general acceptance. When the steps are in place both organisations will hold an extraordinary Annual General Meeting to accept. Long term it may be the case that we can have a youth band as a lower tier to the training band.

Should this amalgamation not happen, I would propose Driffield Silver Band formulating its own training band.

My ideas for the future (with members' approval):

- * Own concerts arranged
- * Friends of Driffield Silver Band
- * Website and marketing
- * Create a CD

* Interactive concert- I will have to explain this in person

* Band tour

* Casual band competition:(as an unregistered band) event out of the area: Whit Friday, Hardraw, Ripon etc.

Concerts

I think an important next step for the band is for it to start organising its own concerts at high status venues. I hope that the committee and members moving forward are willing to work towards this end.

Special thanks

It is difficult to thank individuals because every member brings something to the band; for all of your individual contributions, I thank you hugely. I'm reserving this section to people that consistently go above and beyond in our organisation and don't always get recognised.

I thank all of the committee for their continued hard work: Mal for continuing to be a great glue for the band; Helen for her monumental work in the library; Margaret as band Mum (which is the highest compliment I can pay her for all of her hard work); Mike for his amazing work with CRBs and allowing us to get to concerts with everything we need on the back of his trailer; Jane for her level head and pragmatic approach to band improvement; Mark for all of his work with the accounts which is often unseen and his drive to improve the band; Luke for being dependable and I know I can make a suggestion and he'll try his best to make it happen.

Uniforms

Peter to make proposals at AGM

Feedback from member's questionnaire

Peter to present at AGM

Overall, to each and every member, thank you for an exceptional year. I, personally, can't wait to see what Chapter 2 of our journey together has in store.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was proposed by J McLelland, seconded by A Waters, that the minutes of the last AGM be accepted as a true record of that meeting. This was carried.

MATTERS ARISING

TREASURER'S REPORT

It was noted that the subs from the year had covered the MD's expenses. It was therefore proposed to continue. Direct Debit is the preferred payment method.

Merchandise sales had produced a good income.

There had been similar expenditure to the previous year, excepting the costs associated with instrument maintenance.

J McLelland volunteered to make social arrangements similar to the previous year.

The audited account sheets are to be found in a separate document.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Members were reminded to keep their Muzodo entries up to date to support the MD and Chair in advising whether or not to proceed to accept bookings. Often organisers are in a hurry to confirm bookings, as there are other bands only too pleased to take up our space!

It was confirmed that we would not be attending the Driffield Show again this year. It was decided not to make any further representations, leaving it to the organisers to contact us, should they wish to book us in the future.

CRB/DBS- Hull City continues to act as 'umbrella body' for our CRB/DBS clearances. This facility continues to have importance as we have younger members- especially if we continue our steps to amalgamate with the East Riding Youth Brass Band. We must continue to be vigilant in ensuring that we do not inadvertently allow situations to be created where our younger members could be at risk from approaches related to inappropriate behaviours.

BoPA- Our Application under the exemption scheme was successful. Our certificate is on display in the Rehearsal Room.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

Title	Name	Proposer	Seconder	Carried?
President	G.Riggs			
Honorary Vice Presidents	B.Hall M.Buckton C.Buckton C Wilson W Wilson M Clark T Sugdon			
Chairman	M Kellett			
Musical Director	P Kench			
Asst MD	G Appleton			
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			
Publicity Officer	M Kellett			
Website Co-ordinator	F Trewartha			
Trustees	T Sugdon J Buckton A Beal			

Vice Chair	M Buckton	} Proposed by G Appleton, Seconded by L Gledhill, and carried
Assistant to Asst MD	S Miller	

BAND MATTERS

The MD thanked all members for their contributions in their many different forms.

Size of Band- The MD highlighted issues relating to the numbers of members increasing, especially in some sections, and related to the physical area of some settings, eg Peasholm Park in Scarborough- on the island! Who should decide where people sit etc. It was decided that these issues should be settled by the MD in consultation with the committee. In case of dispute the committee would have the final say.

Amalgamation with ERYBB- There was much discussion concerning our relationship with ERYBB, not least in terms of the financial support which we have been offering, through, say, rehearsal space, CRB clearances etc. Concerns were shared over the long- and short-term issues. The problem of establishing a 'Training Band' to support both youngsters and returners/mature arrivals was also considered.

Proposal: That the options related to the amalgamation of Drifffield Silver Band and East Riding Youth Brass Band be investigated. Proposed by G Appleton, seconded by I Twinn, and carried.

Uniform- There are not enough green jackets- M Naylor demonstrated a suggested new jacket, and C Rogers will arrange demonstration of a further sample. Short list to be set by the committee, and final decision made by membership.

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