



Leicester Music Society

Minutes of the 75th Annual General Meeting

at Christchurch Baptist-Methodist Church, Leicester on 10th June 2025 at 7:30 pm

Chair: David Fisher; Attendance 22

1. Apologies Sibyl Fry, Phil Harvey, Carrole and Graham Thompson,

2. Minutes of the previous AGM in 2023 Proposed as a true record by Aftab Khan, seconded by Sue Vernon and so agreed.

3. Matters Arising None

4. Hon Treasurer's Report The Treasurer talked through his report, copies of which had been distributed. It has been a good year. Funds had increased due to 1) the increase in subscription fees 2) increasing visitor attendance, double last year's figure. Thanks were due to the continuing generosity of donors. We had been fortunate in securing speakers and the use of Church facilities at reasonable rates. Other significant outgoings were FRMS dues, website expenses, and a donation to supplement monies raised at the Christmas event for the Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust. Our end-of-season balance of £1,724, exceeds the £1,050 in 2024.

Bryan Lewis asked why room rent appeared to have gone down from £446 in 2024 to £363 this year. This resulted from last year's change to the accounting year from end of April to end of May. The previous accounting year covered 13 months, which meant it contained one extra month's rent. Room rent remained the same. The Chairman commented that we'd latterly been allowed to use the atrium and kitchen at no extra charge; the Church being pleased at how neat and tidy we leave the kitchen. The Treasurer had continued the lengthy process of having Ron Mitchell authorised to be a cheque signatory; the forms had now been sent to Bolton. He wondered if we might be able to change the type of account to a "community" one. Neil Roberts asked why the increase in visitors? Possibly because we've had some 'celebrity' speakers; also a little bit of extra advertising. Pauline Galea had put up a poster in the Attenborough Centre which had brought in Stuart Emmerson. The change of venue also seems to have helped.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's report was proposed by David Fisher, seconded by Neil Crutchley and agreed by the meeting.

5. Chairman's Report Chairman David Fisher did not propose to read his report aloud. Paper copies had been given to those present at the start of the meeting, and the report will be posted on the Society website. Bryan Lewis paid tribute to the Chairman, saying that the Society has revived during his stewardship.

6. Election of Officers and Committee Members Mary Whittaker has stepped down from the Committee. Pauline Galea is also resigning, but she will continue to look after interval refreshments. She needs a volunteer to assist her.

Alan Herringshaw and Ron Mitchell have been asked to review the Society's Constitution with a view to simplifying it.

Re-election of the remaining Committee and Officers was proposed by Wendy Brooks, seconded by Bryan Lewis and agreed *nem con*.

7. Any Other Business The Chairman talked through the programme for next season (see below). As his own talk will fall on the 11th November its theme will be 'In Memoriam'. Stuart Emmerson said that his talk, entitled 'Such Sweet Thunder', will be based around Duke Ellington's album of that name, each track of which features a reference to Shakespeare. Alan Herringshaw cautioned that the April and May talks had yet to be confirmed.

There was a question about the 'noises off' we experience during meetings. The theatre group rehearsing 'Little Women' is not so intrusive as the Romanian singers. The Church is monitoring the situation and has told us that groups making too much noise will be spoken to.

David Calow asked about the hosting of our web site. Ron Mitchell replied that we used Zen Internet and he was satisfied with the service.

David Fisher encouraged members to support the 'absolutely wonderful' Bardi Wind Orchestra.

The meeting closed at 8:25 pm.

Draft Programme 2025–2026

14 Oct	Paul Morley	TBA
11 Nov	David Fisher	In Memoriam
9 Dec		The Joy Of Christmas
13 Jan	Stuart Emmerson	Such Sweet Thunder
10 Feb	Ron Mitchell	Minimalism
10 Mar	Robert Calow	Respighi
14 Apr	Sam Dobson	Malcolm Sargent
12 May	John Malpas	Rachmaninoff
9 Jun		AGM and Quiz