

THE DERBYSHIRE SINGERS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT, YEAR ENDING 31st AUGUST 2021

Our objectives and activities

The objectives of the charity remain:

to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

The objectives are laid down in the Constitution, which is the Society's governing document.

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's aims and objectives are to:

- present a broad range of concerts for the enjoyment of and musical education of the local community
- offer an opportunity for people to get involved in producing music through singing.
- provide facilities for all people to develop their skills in and understanding of singing.

Under normal circumstances these strategies are put into action through three major areas which are: concerts, regular choir evenings and educational programmes.

It has not been possible to hold concerts or regular choir sessions this year because of the Covid pandemic so the choir has concentrated on holding educational evenings over the internet via Zoom.

The choir's current plans are focused on ensuring that the choir is in a position to fully restart its activities as soon as restrictions allow, ensuring that the appropriate safety measures are in place.

Financial review

The Covid pandemic led to a dramatic drop in income due to the inability to hold concerts or choral days. The choir has been supported by donations by its members and by a one of payment of £1,500 for transferring banking to the Co-op bank from RBS. Membership subscriptions were suspended for the year since we were unable to provide the full range of activities normally available to members. The choir's income was £3013 (compared to £26,940 last year). This is made up as follows

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Subscriptions | £ 294 |
| Donations | £ 2346 |
| Other | £ 373 |

Due to the lack of income a major emphasis has been placed on reducing costs. Central costs were reduced to £2740 from £4260 the previous year. Total expenditure stood at £4271.

All receipts are fully documented before being passed to the Treasurer for inclusion in the accounts. All invoices are documented and all cheques issued are countersigned. The accounts are reconciled against the bank account and independently reviewed. The Trustees have set a budget and regularly review this throughout the year. This has enabled the Trustees to limit the financial impact of Covid to a small loss of £1258 this year.

Reserves policy

Reserve funds are held to cover 12 months normal operational costs in the event of a loss of income and to support the high cost of holding concerts. The Reserves at 31 August 2021 stood at £73217 despite the loss of income during the period. The Charity is thus in a strong financial position and remains very much a going concern well able to meet its future commitments.

Risks

The main financial risk to the charity remains the loss of income from the cancellation of concerts and the reduction in subscriptions due to an inability to hold the choir evenings and similar choral activities.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity Trustees are responsible for preparing a Trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards

Company law and the law applicable to charities in England and Wales require the Charity Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity. In preparing the financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities' Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Companies Act 1985, the Memorandum & Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2019). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity by taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Structure, governance and management

The choir is governed according to the policies laid down in the choir's constitution

Membership of the choir is open to members of the public.

The Trustees oversee the day to day running of the choir. The Trustees seek the views of members in deciding the strategy, programmes and direction for the choir. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and have received no remuneration or other benefits. In this year no related party transactions were reported.

The Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting. Other members of the management team may be elected at the Annual General Meeting or co-opted by the existing management team, according to the rules laid down in the Constitution. Trustees must seek re-election after 3 years. Three Trustees were due for re-election during the year 2020/2021 the chairman, secretary and concert secretary. They were re-elected unopposed.

Reference and administrative details

Charity number: 5169212
Principal office: Lime Grange, Drovers Way, Ambergate, Derbyshire DE56 2EZ

Independent Examiner: Annabelle Harling FCA MIFT

Bankers: Co-op Bank

During the year the following served as Trustees:

Chairman: Pauline Holden, Asker Farm House, Asker Lane, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5LA

Secretary: Chris Baker, Lime Grange, Drovers Way, Ambergate, Derbyshire DE56 2EZ

Concert Secretary: Helen Stafford, The Old School House, Bradbourne, Derbyshire DE6 1PA

Treasurer: Paul Thompson, Aston Grange, Oker, Derbyshire DE4 2JJ.

Other Trustees:

Lesley Butcher
David Jackson
Shelley Towe
Terence Libby

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Date

Pauline Holden - Chairman