

Island Chorus AGM 2023

When Wednesday 28rd June 2023 19.45 to 20.15
Where Tigh na Mara Skeabost
Who Present were 20 choir members.

Robert Muir as Vice Chair opened the meeting and welcomed every one. Apologies were received from Kristy Shaw and Sylvia Porter and it was noted we had a quorum

The minutes of the EGM of 9th March 2022 and the AGM 7th September 2022 were adopted.

As no nominations for new committee members had been received, the meeting approved the re-election of the existing committee who had all indicated their willingness to stand again.

Rob then handed over to Nick for the Treasurer's report. The accounts had been circulated before the meeting and Nick explained that although the accounts looked healthy the choir might want to buy a new keyboard, however should the funds continue to raise then at the end of 2024 the committee would consider reimbursing members maybe with a free term. Further discussion ensued re the accounts and it was pointed out that if we required a new key board which would be in the region of £1500 we may not have sufficient funds. The possibility of fund raising was mooted by exploring local grants (wind farm) busking and concerts. Rob asked if the accounts could be adopted and it was agreed they could. Rob then handed over to Elaine for the musical director's report.

Elaine thanked everyone for their efforts and achievements over the year. She mentioned the number of pieces and the diversity of the pieces that we had learnt and performed had been no mean feat. The classical concert in February 2023 had its largest audience yet (around 200) and the feedback had been hugely positive and complimentary. The concert we performed at last Sunday (25th June) had been a large success, many comments received after the concert from the audience was around how powerful some of the pieces had been and what a good diverse programme it had been. Elaine again thanked everyone for their efforts which were demonstrated by how far we had come. Elaine recognised that Tony's tutelage had been invaluable to us in achieving the standard of performance we had reached.

Looking forward Elaine said the plans were to continue a balanced and diverse programme of music some classical and some popular, to this end she would conduct a survey where for example a number of classical pieces would be selected alongside and number of popular tunes say six of each and each member could vote for three of each type, the most popular three from each group to be taken forward (as an example).

Elaine also advised that it was planned that in conjunction with the South Choir we would aim to perform Mozart Requiem next March or April. There are many aides on line to help with this and a bit of home work will be required. Elaine conveyed that going forward the South Choir much prefer classical music and are not overly interested in popular music. General discussion ensued throughout this and the point was raised that how to read music lessons might be helpful for those who couldn't. Whilst it was recognised this was a good idea it was also recognised that it would need time and someone to do it but Elaine thought there might be a way, which needed to be investigated further.

Before the meeting was closed Elaine was thanks for her efforts which are considerable and which are recognised by the choir. Rob presented Elaine with some flowers and it was further mooted that maybe we should seek to recognise her efforts through a nomination for a formal award but Elaine does not want us to go down that line.

Rob closed the meeting.

Yvonne Gerrard Secretary 29.06.23