MINUTES OF HRS COMMITTEE MEETING Z40

Friday 17th October 2025 at 7.30pm by Zoom

Present : Penny Smith (chair), Jean Campbell (vice chair & publicity), Andy Cordery (treasurer), Angie Jones (concert manager), Alison Raines.

Apologies : Angela Barnes, Pippa Belas, Helen Hooker (Musical Director),

1. Minutes of Z39 June 27th 2025 were approved.

2. Matters Arising : none that would not come up under this agenda.

3. Treasurer report from Andy

1. All but 2 subscriptions had been paid.
2. The SRP 3rd party insurance was in place.
3. We agreed to give Steve Raines a bottle of wine for examining and agreeing our accounts.
4. We agreed it would be too complicated and costly to set up a Zettle or similar account as the usage would be too small and infrequent.
5. We agreed to transfer £25 to Wessex SRP as a share of the £50 donation made to the Alex Loughran Memorial Fund (Alex was a volunteer at CCCC who routinely set the hall out for HRS & Wessex meetings).
6. We noted that the HRS financial position was sound and no increase in fees was envisaged.

4. Website

1. Penny reported that Bob Whitmarsh was completing the process for making the website secure.

5. Diary 2025/26

1. The diary for 2025 and 2026 had been sent out to players. Decisions re longer rehearsals in 2026 would be notified in due course.

6. Rehearsals

1. We agreed to refer the number and dates of longer rehearsals to Helen.
2. We agreed that players should be made aware that they should attend 75% of pre-concert rehearsals in order to be sufficiently prepared for concert performance. We noted that each section relied on the efficient support of all its members.
3. We agreed that final pre-concert rehearsals would be open to well-rehearsed concert players only.

4. We gratefully accepted Angela Barnes' offer to supervise refreshments and Kate Goss's offer to devise a tea rota. We discussed whether players should be encouraged to bring their own reusable mugs, but decided not to change current practice.
5. Since the hall would no longer be set out for us by CCCC staff (it isn't their usual practice), we decided Penny would contact half a dozen players each time to arrive between 9.00 and 9.15 to put out chair and tables as per her usual chart, which Jean would put in position by the door and oversee as is current practice.

7. Concerts for 2026 (8 rehearsals each)

1. Saturday May 16th 3.30pm: St James Road Church, Southampton SO15 5HE. A prom concert by invitation.

a. Friday June 26th 7.30pm : St George's Whyke Church, Chichester PO19 7AD. Part of the Friday evening invitation series and within The Festival of Chichester 2026.

8. Concerts for 2027

1. We agreed to seek out some north Hampshire venues, preferably by invitation. Suggestions from players would be welcomed.
2. We reminded ourselves of the importance of the size of a proposed venue so that the whole orchestra could be safely seated.

9. AOB

1. An initiative of the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra had come to our attention via the HRS Facebook page. *Recorder Lift Off* provides sequential sets of play-along videos created around 25 works for beginner recorder and a variety of chamber ensembles, commissioned by the TSO from composers studying at the University of Tasmania (UTAS) Conservatorium of Music.
    1. Each of the 25 sets comprises a video of the recorder part only with music notation and fingering chart displayed throughout; a video of recorder with chamber ensemble; a video of chamber ensemble only; a PDF of recorder sheet music.
    2. Full details are at https://www.tso.com.au/learning-and-engagement/recorder-lift-off/
    3. We speculated on whether we could undertake a similar initiative and would refer it on to Helen for comment.
2. We noted that CCCC has a new website at https://coldencommoncc.co.uk/ with pages for Activities and Events. We decided to investigate how we could usefully promote HRS on this - not seeking players, but making ourselves known. Jean would investigate this for HRS and also on behalf of Wessex SRP, which would welcome contact from potential players.

10. Next meeting : 7pm Friday November 28th.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm with thanks to Penny for setting up the Zoom links.

Jean Campbell
18th October 2025