

NEW MUSIC MAKERS COMMITTEE MEETING - Minutes 22nd September 2026

Present:

Eric Gerrey (Chairman), Sarah Turl (Stu), Sharon Thomas (ST), Jacqui Clifft, Eunice Deuchar, Saffron Armstrong, Jerry Gamble, Elaine Walter

1. Apologies: Gen Marsh

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting: 4th August 2026

Agreed by all as correct.

3. Matters Arising

Local Vocals photograph for website. Martyn Thomas has volunteered (via ST) to do this when everyone is available. Waiting for an opportunity at Snowdrops care home. **Action ongoing ST**

Bishops Waltham Event - GM has been asked if NMM would like to join a band (details to be determined) at the Jubilee Hall, Bishops Waltham, in November. Agreed in principle by committee. GM advised that the event was being postponed so no further action. Will re-introduce at a later date. **Action complete**

Freegrounds Christmas Fayre timings – Action complete

Mayor's Office re performance 22 May 2027 for his charities Wessex Cancer Support, Wet Wheels Hamble and 1216 Squadron Eastleigh Air Cadets. **Action ongoing EG**

Fair OK WI – re concert Wed 24th Nov 2027 - 1945 for an hour. Chris available. Charge will be £100. Need to report back to WI by 23 Sep for their next meeting – **Action JC**

Air Ambulance – details supplied of the amount collected in their tins (£495.10), so now need to organise payment of our contribution £1196.43 and have official presentation for total £1691.53. Website to be updated with this final total. Committee agreed on 8th October to do this before the evening rehearsal. **Action JC**

Interview Clips - Saffron offered to do interview clips with choir members for the website.

Ongoing SA.

Policies - ST suggested that the current choir policies should be put onto the website.

Committee agreed – ST to send policies to JC. Policies were forwarded but have not been posted yet. Only Data Protection and Equal Opportunities showing. **Action JC**

Welcome Leaflet – To be updated to include welfare policy. This has been done but will need amending as ST wished to change the content. **Action JC**

Choir folders – It was requested at AGM that two folders per member be purchased to hold their music for each half of concerts to save removing music. ST had purchased a sample folder which was shown to the committee. Folder is currently £5.17 with Amazon, with no bulk buy reduction. It was agreed that 120 be purchased. **Action ST**

Local Vocals new music – ED and ST have chosen the new music and words are ready for printing by EG. Vote of thanks to JG for his help. **Action ST/EG**

4. Correspondence

JC had contacted one of the tenors who came to the first rehearsal, and he will hopefully be returning in the next week or so. It is also thought that the third man will also be returning which will give us a full choir.

STu received enquiry from Andark Lake requesting we join them for their Christmas festival 19th December 2026 between 12.00 pm and 4.00 pm. Committee declined as we have a lot of other things on already in December.

5. Finance

Total assets currently £17762. Payment to go to Air Ambulance of £1196.43. Deposit account re-invested as agreed by committee via WhatsApp £5k. Another £4k has been added to this today. Interest will be 4.26%. Profit from Summer Spectacular was £898 of which £311 will be going to Air Ambulance.

It was agreed that NMM would pay £114 charge by KCC for a keyholder to be present for our summer concert in June 2027. ST advised if tickets remained at £10, we would need around 70 to be sold to break even. It was considered that this was viable so EG will report back to KCC agreeing the £114. **Action EG**

6. Publicity

Committee agreed on the usual format for the Christmas poster (green)

7. Website and Facebook

STu advised that one of the new prospective tenors had come to us after seeing our postings online.

8. Local Vocals

New music now completed and words passed to EG for printing. ST suggested that instead of binding the pages as we currently do, the choir members could use ring binders. They will be able to use their current concert folder if we go ahead and order new ones for the choir concerts. This was agreed. ED thanked JG and ST for all their help in compiling the music and words.

9. Forthcoming events

Bishops Waltham Christmas Fayre – 26th November 2026.

Freegrounds School – 28th November 2026 Two performances of 45 mins 11.30 am and 12.45 pm. Songs from Local Vocals selection with boom box. Small stage and chairs available.

NMM Christmas concert Hedge End Village Hall – 12th December 2026. Hall booked.

Haskins - 13th and 20th December 2026.

Mayor's concert – 22 May 2027 (Venue West End Parish Hall tbc)

Summer Concert 2027 - 12th June 2027. Hall booked at KCC.

Summer Spectacular 2027 - 17 July 2027. Hall booked.

Christmas Concert 2027 - 11 December 2027 (1.00 pm sound check, 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm performance). Hall booked. Auditions to be arranged for soloists nearer the time.

Sign-up sheets have been prepared by JC.

10. Choir welfare

ST wishes to amend the policy to include grievances against committee members. It was agreed that the Vice-Chairman would act as principal contact in these cases. The amended policy will be sent to JC to use for the welcome leaflet, and to put on the website. The role description for Vice-Chairman will also need to be amended. **Action ST/JC**

11. AOB

Virus Protection – JC brought to EG and ST's attention after the last meeting that the virus protection with McAfee had run out. ST advised we do not need to renew as we can use Defender which is included with Microsoft 365. She sent details to JC as to how to download it and this has now been done.

Ladies Tops – GM suggested ladies wear tops of own choice for Xmas in black (with sparkle) with sleeves of some sort, and a splash of colour as a nod to Louise's colour scheme. However, GM, STu and SA are going to approach a retailer in Botley who may be able to help with bulk buys for a Christmas uniform. **Action GM**

New logos – Committee agreed that a new logo was required to bring the choir more up-to-date. One was chosen from a selection submitted, and STu will work with it to make the words the same size. **Action STu**



Charity for 2026/27 – committee agreed that the same format as last year for choosing our next charity to support will be used. This will be done once the Air Ambulance cheque has been presented.

Meeting closed at 9.36 pm. Next meeting 20 October 2026 at 7.30 pm.