



## MINUTES OF TUTBURY BAND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SATURDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2014

### Present

Vicky Ambrose	Adam Hawkins	Emma Palmer
Diane Armshaw	Alice Hawkins	Elaine Pountney
Laura Bell	Teresa Hawkins	Di Redfern
Chris Buckley	Gabrielle Kelly	Rachel Reilly
Elizabeth Cartwright	Roy Marrison	Clive Sherriff
Paul Cartwright	Sue McLoughlin	Steph Tipper
Richard Cartwright	Alec Money	Abbey Watson
Lindsey Cox	Trish Money	Patsy Watson
Gabby Crooks	Geoff Naseby	Stuart Wolfenden
Bill Crossley	Clive Orton	Richard Woodberry
Ian Hartshorne	Kevin Orton	Graeme Wright

### Apologies for Absence

Eric Fern	Ron Rowsell	Hannah Wolfenden
Barbara Harvey	Janice Suso	Lucy Wolfenden
Phil Harvey	John Thompson	Viv Wolfenden
Helen Kirkby	Maurice Watson	

### 1. Senior Band Report – Kevin Orton

The 2013 concert season was good with fewer weather issues and a stable band with good attendance levels. Derbyshire Day and Alrewas Show were particular highlights. The Christmas Concert at the Town Hall was excellent with lots of positive feedback received on the revised layout.

Early 2014 was a sad time for the band as we lost two of our members, David Walford and Derek Bailey, both of whom are still in our thoughts and very much missed. Playing for David at Barton Hospital before Christmas was a very moving experience, as was playing at his funeral and wake.

The 2014 practice season has generally been very successful with the sectional rehearsals allowing players to focus on the particular challenges in some of our more difficult pieces. The improvements have been dramatic and it is intended to continue these after the concert season. Huge thanks were expressed to Gill Wroughton, Steph Tipper, Eric Fern, Diane Armshaw and David Armshaw for their support with this. Rehearsal attendance has also been up and it is hoped that this will continue throughout the season.

The forthcoming concert season is probably the busiest that we have had for a few years, with two great concerts so far at Tutbury and Linton, and bookings for most weekends through the summer. At the last AGM it was discussed how we could get more concerts and this has certainly been achieved. It is hoped that the good concert attendance continues throughout the season.

Kevin finished his report by thanking the whole band, especially the new members who have joined this year. Particular thanks were given to Barbara and Phil, Richard, Graeme, Alec and Sue for the roles they carry out in support of the band, as well as to the people who have towed the gazebos to concerts and Diane and Paul Armshaw for running the Christmas concert raffle.

## 2. Junior Band Report – Richard Woodberry

The Junior Band has welcomed several new members this year, both young new players and some older ones. Although it has only had a few concerts, the band has played brilliantly, particularly at the Town Hall Christmas Concert, which included an excellent performance of 'Wicked'.

The band has had some new music this year and has worked hard to get them to performance standard. These included a medley from 'Frozen', Skyfall and Gangnam Style, all of which are very tricky pieces.

Richard expressed huge thanks to the entire band for their commitment throughout the year. Particular thanks were given to Rachel and Lindsey for looking after the young clarinet players, and to Izzy Fisher for her support with the flute section.

## 3. Treasurer's Report – Graeme Wright

Copies of the accounts had been sent out to all members prior to the meeting (copy attached to file copy of minutes). Surplus income for the year was around £2100 mainly as a result of a better summer concert season (no cancellations). Less money had also been spent on new music over the past year.

## 4. Election of Officers

Chairperson: The Band constitution requires this to be Kevin; seconded by Diane Armshaw.

Secretary: Sue (proposed by Kevin, seconded by Elizabeth Cartwright)

Treasurer: Graeme (proposed by Kevin, seconded by Chris Buckley)

Alec agreed to continue his role looking after band equipment.

## 5. Band Database and Register

Barbara has indicated that she no longer wishes to continue the job of maintaining the Band data base and register. Ian and Sue have agreed to take on this role; this was proposed by Kevin and agreed by the meeting. The possibility of a self-register was mentioned.

Barbara is still willing to continue transposing music for the band and thanks were expressed for her support in this vital job. Thanks were also given to Stuart Wolfenden for his help in printing music for both bands.

## 6. Publicity

David Cousins has done a great job managing the band website and publicising the band more widely in local publications etc. Vicky was also thanked for keeping the band Facebook page updated.

The issue of advertising was raised. It was suggested that concerts need to be advertised sooner and the option of appointing a Band Press Officer was discussed along with a possible budget for advertising.

Diane Armshaw has a contact at the Burton Mail if anyone would be willing to write an article about the UK's biggest Community Wind Band.

## 7. Storage of band instruments and music

Many of the band instruments and 14 boxes of music are presently located at David Walford's. It may be necessary to look at renting a secure unit for storage. Diane Armshaw has a list of all the band instruments. It was suggested that unused instruments could be offered to local schools or be sold. Clive Sherriff offered the use of loft space for storage if required.

## 8. Any other business

Diane has several students who she is hoping will join Junior and/or Senior band in the near future.

Paul Cartwright raised the issue of the trailer – the hitch alignment on this is not good. He suggested that we should either buy a correctly aligned hitch or consider replacing the trailer with a lightweight model. It was agreed that enquiries should be made regarding the cost of buying a new trailer, bearing in mind that it needs to be strong enough to carry the gazebos that have a total weight of 300kg.

Maurice Watson asked if more room could be allocated for the tubas when arranging seating at concerts. It was suggested that a new seating plan for concerts need considering.

Steph Tipper suggested that there needs to be movement within sections with experienced players swapping between parts (1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>) to ensure there is balance and also to allow progression for younger players.

Lindsey Cox raised a concern that younger players in Junior Band are not attending concerts. She suggested that letters need to be sent home with JB members so that parents are aware of the dates of concerts in advance so that any transport arrangements can be made.

Trish Money brought up the subject of Band Uniform. It was generally felt that there was a need to tighten up on all band members conforming to the standard dress code at concerts. The issue of whether or not ties should be worn was also discussed. Kevin agreed that this needed to be addressed and decided that he would write an e-mail to be sent to all band members reminding them of the expected band uniform for concerts.

Richard Cartwright said that he is considering starting up the Swing Band again.

Diane Armshaw suggested running a Tote alongside the traditional raffle at the Town Hall Christmas Concert this year.

Kevin as chair thanked everyone for attending and closed by commenting that the Band is continuing to improve in standard all the time.

The meeting closed at 1.20pm.