

Beaumaris Singers of Newport Shropshire: Constitution January 2023

1. The society shall be known as the Beaumaris Singers of Newport, Shropshire.
2. The aims of the society shall be the study and practice of Choral Music in order to foster public knowledge and appreciation of such Music by means of public performance.
3. Full membership shall be open to anyone aged 18 years or over following a successful audition and on payment of the subscription by the agreed method, see Section 13, the amount to be recommended each year by the committee and approved by the membership. The society shall also be open to non-singing members who will pay a subscription. Membership will also be open to junior members aged 16 to 18 years but such members who will pay a reduced subscription will be unable to vote or serve on the committee. Junior members will need to be supervised at all times by a parent, guardian or suitable adult responsible when with the choir.
4. The officers of the Society shall be as follows: Hon. Chairman, Hon. Secretary, and Hon. Treasurer elected annually.
5. The committee shall be elected annually and shall comprise the following: the three officers (ex officio), and six ordinary members of the Society. The committee shall have the power to co-opt up to three members who will be able to vote at meetings of the committee.
6. A committee quorum shall consist of two Officers and three other members.
7. The Hon. Chairman shall exercise a casting vote only.
8. The Musical Director (MD) and deputy MD shall be appointed by the committee and shall receive an honorarium as determined by the committee. The MD shall have a contract agreed by the committee.
9. The Annual General Meeting shall be held within three months of the end of the financial year, which is 31st July. The business of the AGM. shall be to elect the Officers and committee, and to receive reports from the Officers, including a checked financial statement. A quorum shall be constituted by one third of the members subject to a minimum of three.
10. The committee shall appoint annually an Hon. Checker who will check the accounts for the financial year.
11. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be summoned by the Chairman on the instructions of the committee or on receipt of a request stating the objects of the proposed meeting and signed by at least twelve members. A notice of 7 days must be given for such a meeting.
12. Membership subscriptions and other monies shall be deposited in a suitable financial institution. Two people are needed to commit expenditure for the choir, the Hon. Treasurer and one of the other officers.
13. Subscriptions shall be due each term within the first four weeks, or within four weeks of a member joining the society, but not before they have passed the audition. Subscriptions may also be paid by regular Standing Order to the choir's bank account. In special circumstances the committee may reduce or waive a member's subscription.
14. Choir practices will normally take place on Tuesdays, or on an evening recommended by the committee and approved by the membership.
15. Members wishing to sing in a concert must attend 80% of the practices preceding that concert. The MD and committee may vary this requirement at their discretion.
16. All choir members will be required to re-audition at regular intervals at the discretion of the MD and committee.
17. Minutes of each committee meeting will be made available to members of the choir within fourteen days of the meeting.
18. If the committee decides that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Charity it shall call a meeting of all members of the Charity, of which not less than 21 days notice (stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed) shall be given. If the proposal is confirmed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting the committee shall have power to realise any assets held by or on behalf of the Charity. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Society as the members of the Charity may determine, or failing that shall be applied for some other, similar charitable purpose. A copy of the statement of accounts, or account and statement, for the final accounting period of the Charity must be sent to the Commissioners.
19. (1) Subject to the following provisions of this clause the Constitution may be altered by the committee.
(2) No amendment may be made to clause 1 (the name of charity clause), clause 2 (the objects clause), clause 18 (the dissolution clause) or this clause without the prior consent in writing of the Commissioners.
(3) No amendment may be made which would have the effect of making the Charity cease to be a Charity at law.
(4) The committee should promptly send to the commissioners a copy of any amendment made under this clause.
20. A copy of this document shall be given to all new members on receipt of their first subscription.