



The Plainsong and Medieval Music Society

Annual General Meeting
British Library, London
Saturday, 29 March 2014, 1:00 pm

Minutes

18 members were present

1. Apologies for absence

Sophie Burton, Susan Rankin, Hana Vlhova-Wörner

2. Minutes of the last meeting

approved *nem. con.*

3. Chair's report

Emma Hornby presented the chair's report.

A highlight of the past year had been the annual conference in York in conjunction with the York Early Music Festival celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Society.

The society had supported the 'Montpellier Fascicle 8' conference in Oxford in March 2014 and had pledged support of the Med-Ren Conference in Birmingham in July 2014 with a keynote lecture by Ardis Butterfield.

Council had proposed to change the rules for the small grants to include support for research students presenting a paper at a conference. The chair stressed that the aim of the society should be to support more events of a less strictly academic nature than had hitherto been the case.

No new online 'mini-editions' had been added; David Hiley had promised to submit material, but had not yet done so.

Vicki Cooper from Cambridge University Press had approached the society with a proposal for a monograph series in Medieval Music. This proposal was warmly welcomed, and the editorial board of PMM, given that it already worked closely with CUP, was tasked with conducting the initial negotiations with the publisher.

4. Financial report

Christian Leitmeir presented the financial report.

After the transfer of the deposit account, the treasurer was finally in control of all financial aspects of the society. The financial position of the society was fundamentally sound.

The York conference had been less costly than originally anticipated (*retrospective note: after a late catering bill, this was no longer accurate*)

The Journal costs are now outstripping the income from membership subscriptions. Although this shortfall is not great, this situation needs to be addressed in the not-too-distant future.

The website costs had risen exponentially; a new provider is being sought. The treasurer, together with Matthew Salisbury, would explore and implement this changeover.

The treasurer thanked the administrator, Emma Hembry, for her support.

5. Council Elections

All council members had expressed their willingness to be re-elected, and the council was thus re-elected *in toto, nem. con.*:

i. Officers:

Chair: Dr. Emma Hornby

Secretary: Prof. Thomas Schmidt

Treasurer: Dr. Christian Leitmeir

ii. Executive Trustees:

Dr. Nicolas Bell, Dr. Barbara Eichner, Prof. Owen Rees, Dr. Matthew Salisbury, Dr. Hana Vlhova-Wörner

iii. Advisory trustees:

Prof. Jeremy Llewellyn, Dr. Mary O'Neill, Prof. Susan Rankin

iv: Honorary independent examiner

Examiner: Alison Armstrong (Bangor University)

Given the absence of one student council member and the graduation of the other, it was decided to appoint student members by executive action, with a view to a proper election at the next AGM.

6. Future Conferences

Emma Hornby reported that the ERC project on Old Hispanic Chant directed by herself at the University of Bristol would hold a conference in May 2015, and proposed that the AGM and annual study day be made to coincide with that event. This was approved.

7. Online Newsletter and Membership

Barara Eichner asked the members to supply her with newsworthy items for the upcoming newsletter, including a report of this conference.

There were 104 members in good standing (with 26 behind in aying their membership dues). Attracting non-academic members remained an unsolved issue; any suggestions how to improve this situation would be gratefully accepted. The Society was active on Facebook and now on Twitter as well, reaching a constituency far beyond its membership; this might be one way to increase the size of the Society.

8. AOB

Magnus Williamson announced the imminent start of his AHRC-funded 'Tudor Partbooks' project which would include a series of workshops and study days in the BL, the Bodleian

etc.; he mooted the idea that the PMMS AGM and study day might coincide with one of the project events in 2016.

Matthew Salisbury called attention to the recent death of Andrew Hughes. Condolences were recorded.

9. Date of next meetings

Council: November 2014, BL

AGM: May 2015, Bristol