



The Plainsong and Medieval Music Society

Council Meeting
The British Library
Friday, 14 October 2011, 2:00 pm

Minutes

Present: Lisa Colton (Chair), Nicolas Bell, Margaret Bent, Barbara Eichner, Christian Leitmeir, Mary O'Neill, Susan Rankin, Matthew Cheung Salisbury, Thomas Schmidt; Melissa Good (CUP)

1. Apologies for absence:

Bruno Turner, John Harper, John Caldwell, Owen Rees, Elizabeth Eva Leach

2. Minutes of the Council meeting on 22 October 2010

Approved *men. con.*

3. Unapproved minutes of the AGM on 26 April 2011

Noted.

4. Matters arising

Re 4.5: The chair reiterated the importance of collaboration with sister societies; it was reported that Jim Borders would chair a PMMS session at the Kalamazoo Medieval Congress in 2012.

Re 6: £ 500 had been awarded to Jerome Weber for his Chant Discography Online. The application form for the PMMS small grants had been used for the first time for this.

Re 7: Marianne Gillion had been appointed as new administrator of the Society.

Re 9: The PMMS support for the Birmingham conference had been earmarked for performers (John Potter and Ben Bagby) but never been claimed.

5. Chair's Report

The chair looked back on a positive year for the Society.

- Difficult financial and administrative issues (regarding membership and subscriptions) had been largely resolved.

- A successful symposium in Birmingham had led to lively debates between musicologists and performers; a report by Thomas Schmidt had been circulated in the newsletter.

- The 2012 Annual Conference (Theme: 'Music and Death') was to take place in Oxford on 10 March 2012.

- The 2013 conference would take place in York, in conjunction with the York Early Music Festival, possibly with a link to the Leeds Medieval Congress.

- PMMS had had no official presence at the Barcelona Med-Ren, but high through members' activities.

- The chair thanked the officers for their work.

6. Treasurer

The treasurer presented a brief report.

- No applications for grants had been made in the past in last year; the subsidy for the Birmingham conference was as yet unclaimed.
- Difficulties in updating the membership list had mostly been resolved thanks to Marianne Gillion's efforts.
- The Society's finances were fundamentally sound.
- It was deemed a priority that (current and former) members of the editorial board should also be full members of the Society.
- Marianne Gillion was to provide a historical list of editorial board members to Christian Leitmeir.

7. Grants

Philip Weller had applied for a small grant to support a keynote speech at the Med-Ren in Nottingham 2012. This was approved, particularly since it would provide good publicity for the Society. One would have to make sure that the PMMS sponsorship was well publicised at the event; also, it was deemed inappropriate to subsidise a speaker's fee rather than travel and expenses; this was to be communicated to Philip Weller.

It was decided that the grants should be readvertised in the next Newsletter.

8. Report from PMM

Melissa Good (CUP) circulated a detailed printed report.

- Subscriptions are globally high, especially through institutional subscriptions.
- She enquired how the society could be more effectively marketed through the journal, perhaps by distribution of free journal copies and marketing materials at conferences. MG to liaise with BE about such activities at Med-Ren, Leeds, Kalamazoo, IMS, other annual conferences.
- A hyperlink should be established from the PMMS website to the CUP Digital Archive.
- The Digital Archive sales had brought a £ 426.13 surplus to the Society.

9. Conferences

For the Oxford conference, the newsletter would provide the necessary information.

It was enquired whether the 2013 conference in York would clash with Med-Ren in Certaldo; dates to conformed with Agostino Ziino; also, it was decided to look into possible links with the Leeds Medieval Congress (1-4 July 2013). The conference might be organised in conjunction with the CD launch/concert of the 'Centum pulcriorem invenire' project at Southampton (Mark Everist, John Potter); Chris Page was suggested as another possible collaborator. Regarding a theme, Bruno Turner suggested the Blessed Virgin Mary; other suggestions were chant or cantus fractus. Any suggestions were to go to the Chair who would negotiate with York.

10. Website, Newsletter, Publicity

Matthew Salisbury would chase up the outcomes of this meeting and put up minutes, reports, etc. onto the website. He was working on an efficient way to post information from the newsletter directly to the website.

Barbara Eichner reported on the recently published newsletter.

- Twelve new members had joined the Society, four had left.
- It was suggested to encourage members of the Facebook group to join the Society.

- Another suggestion was to pick up information from the Cantus Planus newsletter – however, it was unclear whether that was still in existence.
- Mary O'Neill was to explore how to encourage more performers to join.

11. AOB

Rob Wegman had found one of the original PMM seals from Oxford University Press and had given it to the Chair.

12. Dates and times of next meetings

AGM: Oxford, 10 March 2012, during the Annual Conference.

Council: Autumn 2012, date tbc

The meeting closed at 3:15.