



The Plainsong and Medieval Music Society

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Council of PMMS and the Editorial Committee of PMM in the Panizzi Room, British Library, Friday 27 October 2006, 11 am

Present

PMMS: Nicolas Bell*, Helen Deeming, Jane Flynn, John Harper* (Chairman), Liz Leach*, Mary O'Neill, Owen Rees*

PMM: Joe Dyer, Bruno Turner, Manuel Pedro Ferreira, and those marked with an asterisk above

In attendance

Anna Burson (Administrator, PMMS), Martine Walsh (CUP)

Council of the Plainsong and Medieval Music Society

1. Apologies

PMMS: Margaret Bent, John Caldwell, Lisa Colton, David Mateer, Susan Rankin

2. Minutes of last Council meeting, 4 November 2005

The minutes of the last meeting were approved by the Council, with some small amendments: All Souls College (no apostrophe, p.1), Liz Leach's minutes are from 2003, rather than 2004 (minute 2), J-store to be corrected to JSTOR (minute 3.2), deletion of 'There would therefore be a need for' (minute 4.5.1).

3. Matters arising not on agenda

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's report

John Harper reviewed his report, which provided a background to the principal items of the agenda.

5. Conferences and other plans

5.1 2006 report

John Harper reported that this year's conference on Music in late medieval English cathedrals had been a success, and that the conference was well attended.

5.2 2007 plans: Proposal from Helen Deeming

Helen Deeming requested speakers for the proposed conference on medieval song which is to be held at the Faculty of Music, Oxford on 28 April, 2007. The possibility of organising a concert in conjunction with the conference is being explored by Helen Deeming. Owen Rees suggested that scholars from Somerville College may be interested to take part in the conference. Mary O'Neill would assist, not least with arranging performance. The question of funding of performance was raised. [After meeting note: This was not resolved, as was intended, later in the meeting, and will be dealt with by circulation when the likely figures are known.]

5.3 Other events or initiatives

5.3.1 Prosopographical study of minor clergy

At the last conference, there was a proposal that we should initiate a project for a prosopographical study of minor clergy c.1485-1645. David Lepine and Roger Bowers are keen to support this project. Nicolas Bell noted that this type of project would produce a similar database as the *Fasti* database managed by the Institute for Historical Research. Though this may be beyond the scope of the society alone, it may be an opportunity for collaboration. Various options are available for funding such a project; they include an application to the Leverhume trust and AHRC.

6. Publications

6.1 Hartzell catalogue

Drew Hartzell's *Catalogue* will be available from 16 November 2006. John Harper praised Boydell's work on this project. Boydell's were prepared to offer 30% discount for members. This would need to be taken forward with Boydell.

6.2 Wulstan, *Play of Daniel*

David Wulstan's *Daniel* is being worked on by Sally Dunkley (editorial) and Alistair Warwick (typesetting), with the intention of publication by the time of David Wulstan's 70th birthday celebration in January 2007. John Harper will review with RSCM how to promote this, including the possibility of including a CD of the Clerkes recording as part of the package.

6.3 Compline

John Harper reported that Compline will shortly be reprinted.

6.4 Future projects

6.4.1 Latin Compline

John Caldwell has previously expressed interest in preparing an edition of Compline in Latin. Downloadable editions of small publications such as this could, in due course, be available from the website. Bruno Turner encouraged the Society to consider new modes of

production: short print runs (no capital costs) with copies produced on demand. Joe Dyer suggested that Latin Compline could usefully be distributed by G.I.A. in the U.S.A.

Margaret Bent is keen to encourage a reconstruction of Vespers, Compline and the Marian antiphon to coincide with the Early English Organ Project conference which will take place in Oxford during April 2007.

7. Publicity and communications

7.1 Website

John Harper expressed his thanks to Helen Deeming and Alistair Warwick for their work in setting up the new PMMS website (www.plainsong.org.uk)

7.2 Letterheading

The logo has been frustrated by lack of response from St Gallen Library. Council discussed the samples circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the logo needed to reflect something of the medieval identity, while – at the same time – providing clarity and neatness in presentation. Council agreed that up to £200 can be allocated to further work on the logo.

7.3 Postcard

This has been delayed due to problems over the logo. Production is planned in time for promoting PMMS at conferences in 2007.

7.4 Advertising of publications and activities

Jane Flynn agreed to look into possibilities for a presence at the Leeds Medieval Conference in 2007. It is hoped that Jane Flynn, Helen Deeming, Lisa Colton and Liz Leach will be willing to oversee PMMS's involvement at the conference. Other advertising is planned in time for next year's Med and Ren, and at the 2008 Med and Ren in Bangor, with help from CUP.

8. Finance and membership

8.1 Current position

Assets at the beginning of the month were £13,742.

8.2 Liabilities

There are immediate liabilities for subvention to Boydell for the Hartzell book (£2,500) and a fee to John Commander (£500) for preparing the specification for the book. By early 2008, the Society to about £10,000. That is still a substantial reserve.

8.3 Implications for future

Some members have left PMMS, choosing to access the journal electronically through institutional subscriptions. To recruit new members the Society may do well to consider its interdisciplinary appeal. Council has the authority under the new rules to separate the subscription to the journal from membership, and may need to consider this.

8.4 Levels of subscriptions for 2007

John Harper and Anna Burson will review the subscription lists. It is hoped that one database can be prepared (and held by CUP), so that there are no discrepancies between PMMS and PMM subscriptions. Council may need to review subscription rates next year.

8.5 Recruitment

Martine Walsh presented a flyer for PMM which can be circulated with PMMS subscriptions, as well as to others expressing interest in the Society. Bruno Turner suggested that a recruitment drive needs to promote the Society's current activities and publications: Drew Hartzell's *Catalogue* and David Wulstan's *Daniel* may provide a suitable opportunity. Joe Dyer suggested that more materials should be available to download; this would particularly benefit overseas members.

9. Implementation of new constitution and customary

9.1 Council membership and rotation

Under the constitution there is a scheme for rotation of Council membership. The intention is that a member of Council should serve for 8 years in any one capacity, and for a maximum of 12 years. They should then stand down for at least one year. John Harper reported that Margaret Bent had indicated her intention to step down. Anna Burson and John Harper would investigate lengths of serve. Those who have served for longest terms may be most suitable for rotation: they may return to Council after one year. Any rotation needs to bear in mind the balance of officers, executive group and senior advisers.

9.2 Chairmanship and other officers

John Harper expressed his wish to stand down as chairman next May at the AGM. He encouraged the Council to contact him with nominations for a new Chairman and members of Council. He expressed his willingness to serve for one year as Treasurer should this be helpful to the Society.

9.3 Vice Presidents

John Harper and Anna Burson will look through previous PMMS minutes to establish who has been appointed as a vice-president. Our present Vice-Presidents include: Prof Michel Huglo, Prof David Hiley.

A number of distinguished scholars associated with the society might be considered for the office of Vice-President or President, as might former officers.

10 Administration

10.1 Arrangements with the RSCM

Council needs to review its partnership arrangement with RSCM over administration and publications.

11 Any other PMMS business

There was no other business.

Editorial Committee of Plainsong and Medieval Music

John Harper welcomed Manuel Pedro Ferreira and Martine Walsh, Commissioning Editor for Journals at CUP, attending their first meeting.

12 Apologies

Margaret Bent, Susan Boynton, John Caldwell, Richard Crocker, Alexander Lingas, Susan Rankin, Ruth Steiner, Leo Treitler, Jerome Weber

13 Minutes of the last meeting, 4 November 2005

The minutes were approved.

14 Matters arising

14.1 Former CUP staff

It was agreed to send letters thanking Joe Mottershead and Gwenda Edwards for their work for the journal.

14.2 Editorial Committee

The editors of PMM are to consider the composition of the editorial committee. John Harper will step down as chairman of the editorial committee, as well as chairman of PMMS Council, at the AGM in May 2007. Liz Leach plans to leave her role as co-editor of PMM by Autumn term 2007 due to work commitments. Joe Dyer suggested that it is preferable to have one overseas member on the editorial board (along with two from the U.K), as well as one member who is a specialist in chant. He also expressed hope that there can be improved means of communication between members of the editorial committee. Joe Dyer has contacted Ron Woodley (Birmingham Conservatoire) to be a member of the editorial committee. The length of this new appointment awaits clarification.

15 Report from the editors

Joe Dyer thanked specialist readers for their help, and reviewed recent submissions to the journal. It is proposed that, following the death of Dom John Claire, issue 16/2 will be a special publication dedicated to his work.

Editorial deadlines were met this year, and Joe Dyer reported a breakthrough in the efficiency of the journal's production. John Harper thanked the editorial team for their work on the journal. He will also write to Joe Mottershead to thank him for his input to the journal and for strengthening links between CUP and PMMS.

16 Report from CUP

Martine Walsh thanked the editors of PMM for their work this year, and reviewed circulation figures for the journal. She reported that a flyer has been produced to promote the journal, and that subscriptions to the journal was now included in a package offered to Universities by CUP. It is hoped that copies of PMM can be taken to Med and Ren in 2007 (by members of PMMS) to promote the journal.

17 Any other PMM business

There was no other business.

Both groups

18 Date for joint meeting in 2007

The next joint meeting will be held on Friday, 26 October 2007 (venue to be confirmed).