

MINUTES OF FAKENHAM TOWN BAND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 27 JANUARY 2022 AT 7.30PM AT SCULTHORPE VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Trevor Wright (Chairman), Steve Wakefield, Catherine Moore (Minutes), Trish Hays, Mark Hays, Keith Mayes, Caroline Dawson, Keith Sharples, Julie Long, Simon Moore, Yvonne Clipston, Alan Gibson, Stevie Baxter, Wendy Bailey, Peter Dixon

APOLOGIES: Brian Wheelhouse, Stuart Grout, Dean Davies

MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD 28TH JANUARY 2021 were considered. It was felt that an additional wording should be included to say it had been a terrible year 'due to Covid and national lockdowns'. With this amendment the minutes were agreed and were signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING: None.

REPORTS

Chairman: Trevor Wright reported that it had again been an interesting year due to Covid and lockdowns, however rehearsals were resumed in May, and Trevor thanked everyone who had sat out in cold rehearsals during restrictions. Rehearsals were at Sculthorpe on Thursdays and Fakenham on Mondays, and some still had not been able to return. One concert was cancelled due to the worsening Covid situation, and the Fakenham lights were cancelled due to weather, however the band had been able to go out a lot over Christmas. Adverts had gone out for new players and there had been a good response. Some had come to rehearsals and it was hoped they would come back. Trevor was thanked for his radio interview regarding recruitment, which had built on the Fakenham and Wells Times newspaper report. The band needed to support recruitment and to attend rehearsals to make the band appeal to new people.

Booking Secretary: Catherine Moore reported that the band had done 14 engagements in 2021, which was good considering that Covid was not over. There were 16 engagements booked for 2022 so far, and a list was circulated for peoples diaries.

Senior Musical Director: Steve Wakefield started by offering his condolences to Dean whose mother had died this morning, and she was a great and regular supporter of the band. Steve reported that attendances had gone up in the weeks towards Sparham, which gave the band something to work towards. Rehearsals would start for the Spring Concert programme next week. Media enquiries regarding recruitment had been welcomed, and recruitment was everyone's responsibility. Steve suggested that to help build the band, a guest conductor could be invited occasionally to take the band.

Treasurer: Julie Long presented the accounts, thanking Catherine for sorting out the accounts, and for getting the grants in the year. Subs were much better, and Julie asked for outstanding subs to be paid up. The Racecourse had paid. The Town Council were thanked for their support, and the Christmas jobs had been a welcome boost. Julie was thanked for continuing with the treasurer job.

Junior Musical Director: Trish Hays reported that not much had been sorted due to Trish's working situation, as she had not been able to make Mondays. She would get in touch with the two young people.

Band Manager: Trish Hays reported that bookings and other things were a voluntary job, and thanked Catherine for this. She thanked Steve for taking the band and leading, and she thanked everyone for prompt replies for jobs.

Librarian: Simon Moore reported that he had not been able to get to the band room much. Three or four pieces had been bought over the year. Alan did all the work, and was thanked for this.

Safeguarding Officer: There had been no activity over the last two years. The position needed to be filled as the band had responsibilities to children and vulnerable adults.

Publicity Officer: Simon Moore thanked Catherine for what she did on his behalf in the role. 2021 should have been the 140th anniversary and a joint concert had been booked at Thursford with the Cory Band, however Covid put paid to that. Simon noted that members should be mindful of what is posted on Facebook, the members page should be used for positive posts and information, and it did not make it easy for those who ran the band to take things forward when negative things were posted.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Adult: Steve Wakefield noted that he could easily give the award to every person in the band. There were numerous people who went over and above, and turned up every week of the year. The award was made to **Stevie Baxter** and **Caroline Dawson** who worked tirelessly in the NHS and still made it to the band whenever they could.

Junior: Not awarded.

Best Dressed Bandsman: Trish Hays noted that there had not been a lot of engagements, and noted that everyone had turned up in the right uniform. Well dressed bands people acted the part and kept it together, and wore his belt and braces to make sure his trousers stayed up! The award was made to **Steve Wakefield** to recognise his leadership in the band.

REVIEW OF BAND RULES

There were no changes proposed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Position	Elected	Nominated by	Seconded by
Chairman	Trevor Wright	Yvonne Clipston	Steve Wakefield
Vice Chairman	Steve Wakefield	Simon Moore	Caroline Dawson
Booking & Minutes Secretary	Catherine Moore	Trish Hays	Simon Moore
Senior Musical Director	Steve Wakefield	Keith Sharples	Trevor Wright
Assistant Senior Musical Director	Peter Dixon	Trish Hays	Mark Hays
Band Manager	Trish Hays	Steve Wakefield	Trevor Wright
Treasurer	Julie Long	Steve Wakefield	Simon Moore
Librarian	Simon Moore	Trish Hays	Trevor Wright
Junior Musical Director	Trish Hays	Caroline Dawson	Julie Long
Publicity Officer	Simon Moore	Julie Long	Caroline Dawson
Safeguarding Officer	Yvonne Clipston	Steve Wakefield	Stevie Baxter
Committee Member	Steve Baxter	Trevor Wright	Simon Moore

Committee Member	Mark Hays	Keith Sharples	Trevor Wright
Committee Member	Caroline Dawson	Catherine Moore	Steve Wakefield
Committee Member	Keith Sharples	Trevor Wright	Simon Moore
Band Support Officer	Alan Gibson	<i>Non-committee position</i>	

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Caroline Dawson noted that Yvonne had blended into the band very well, and had not been afraid to step up when Christmas had presented some attendance issues. Yvonne received a round of applause.

Caroline Dawson noted that young players should be encouraged into the band and that ideas should be brought forward in how to recruit. Recruitment had been attempted within the schools but this had not been successful.

Trevor Wright noted that in his role as Chairman of the Freemasons he had chosen his charity as 'Musical Keys' which did music and arts for people with learning difficulties and their carers. He had suggested that the Band could do a free concert with them which would be very rewarding.

It was suggested that the band could get in touch with the Gateway Club to have a session with them again as in 2019.

Keith Mayes suggested that the red collecting bucket could be used at most events. It was noted that most engagements took a fee so this would need to be carefully considered.

Keith Sharples noted that the band seemed to have 'flexible dynamics' and this should be worked on. Steve agreed to take this on board. Some of the interested people were new players and needed to get into an established band to be able to learn and progress. Dynamics needed to be relative to the number of people in attendance.

It was noted that the Committee needed to discuss the moving of equipment and whether the band should move back to the main band room. The possibility of moving back for the summer months, and using an air purifier, was mentioned. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Steve Wakefield noted that all avenues should be looked at including rehearsal night, starting time etc, to maximise the number attending. It was felt that Thursdays and Mondays were still the best nights for rehearsal.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next committee meeting would be Friday 4th March 2022 at 7.30pm on Zoom.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed:

Dated: