



THE CORPS OF DRUMS SOCIETY

For the preservation of Drum, Fife & Bugle music

AGM Minutes

Saturday 13th October – Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall

Meeting commenced 1340 hrs. 25 members in attendance.

In the chair : Roger Davenport

Annual General Meeting to conduct the following business: -

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 2017 AGM
3. Chairman's report
4. Hon. Secretary's report
5. Hon Treasurer's report
6. Election of the committee
7. Any other business

Roger Davenport wanted to Thank Colin Dean and WO1 Will Casson-Smith for allowing the visit and the venue to conduct our AGM for 2018.

Roger Davenport Informed the AGM of the Death in 2018 of Brian Iredale and Roger Linford.

Apologies for absence

The Following apologies have been received from the following members;

Peter Foss, Paul Schofield, David Mitchell, Robert Lilley, Mike Boxall, Pam Hales, Mike Hebden, Angus Bransby, Billy Mear, Peter Nightingale, Roger Dunn, John Smithers, Steve Sellwood, Ian Forbes and Jon Emmerson.

Minutes of the 2017 AGM

Copies of the Previous AGM minutes held in 2017 were available for those member present to view

There being no matters arising, adoption of the Minutes was

Proposed By - Michael Cheeseman
Seconded By - Patricia Barber MBE
Carried



Chairman's Report

Roger Davenport opened his report by stating that the main purpose of the Society is to encourage people to play drums, flutes and bugles and it must avoid becoming just a historical society. The first two music meetings of 2018, which were held at Armoury House, had been very poorly attended for reasons which were unclear.

The next meeting would be the rehearsal for the Society Corps for the Lord Mayor's Show and would take place at Syston in Leicestershire.

Cutlers' Sword

The Cutlers' Sword had been awarded to L/Sgt Liam Gorman, Coldstream Guards. Peter Foss is our representative on the selection committee and had reported that there were only two entries, both of whom were serving at the Drums and Bugles Training Company at Catterick. This was worrying as it could indicate that the battalions did not know about the competition or did not regard it as worth entering, so enquiries would be made as to how it is promoted.

Action By: RD & PF

Richard Holmes Award - John Thompson

Mr John Thompson has been proposed to receive the Richard Holmes award by Peter Foss for the following reasons;

John Thompson has been a member of the society for many years, and for the last 34 years he has been teaching youngsters from the Army Cadets, the Air cadets and St Philips Corps of Drums.

He has trained his drummers to the highest standard, 2 of these being Michael Bennett and Jonathan Richardson of which we all know.

His administration and organisation of event was also to the highest of which a couple are the Lord Mayors Show in Liverpool and the training weekends he has arranged on numerous occasions.

All the committee feel that for the many years of dedication and service to the Corps of Drums Society that John Thompson has given, is a fitting candidate for the award for 2018.

It was also stated that John Thompson at present is quite unwell and the award would recognise his long contribution to the cause.

Action By: GF & RD

Wynne Legacy (WL)

As regards the bequest of £10,000 received from former Drum Major Ken Wynne MSM, acting on a suggestion by Colin Dean, it had been decided to produce a book using photos from the Society's extensive collection and also that of Steve Sellwood. The book would be accompanied by a CD using pieces not previously recorded for commercial sale. To pursue this project, a working party had been formed comprising the Chairman, the Hon. Secretary, Iain Pattinson, Colin Dean, Steve Sellwood and Major Richard Powell.

Action By: WL Committee

Practice venue

The most recent meeting had been held at the ACF centre in Clapham had been better attended and better fulfilled our aim because the cadets had been involved in the practice. It is intended that future meetings will take place in Clapham.

Action By: RD & IP



New Bass Drum

It had also been decided to purchase a suitably emblazoned bass-drum for the Society but the firm of AMMO & Co of Birmingham had generously donated such a drum. Their Ceremonial Projects manager, Bill Greathead, was at the meeting and supplied some photos of what the drum will look like. It is intended that it will be presented at Syston and thus be ready for use in the Lord Mayor's Show.

Action By: RD

Committee Changes

There have been two changes to the committee during the year. Christine Fairfax had stood down as Hon Secretary after many years and been replaced by David Lear MBE who had made a very good start in the job, despite having to work overseas for many weeks. Peter Hart had also retired as Editor of Drummers Call after 17 years and been replaced by Allison and Jake Thackery.

CODS Ties

The Chairman showed the design for the Corps of Drum Society Ties, but stated that they are still trying to obtain the correct Red colouring

Action By: RD

Hon Secretary,s Report

New Members

The Hon Secretary stated that over the last 12 months there has been a rise in new members to the Society, which he believes is mainly due to the increased activity on the Societies Facebook page, and that most of those new members are of a younger age, which is good for the society going forward.

Facebook

The Corps of Drums Society Facebook page has increased its membership to the page, with some joining as members to the society, which he believes is from the increased use of the page, particularly with the inclusion of Photos from the CODS Archives.

Music Archives

A fellow member Billy Mears has written to the Hon Secretary offering to have copies made of his music collection which ranges from LPs (Records) and CD

Action By: DL

Lord Mayors Show

The Lord Mayors Show for 2018, has a total of 112 members for the Corps of Drums Society taking part, which is one of the highest participation over the last few years.

Hon Treasurer,s Report

The Honourary Treasurers went through the accounts for the end of Year 31st March 2018, and stated that a separate account will be in place for the monies from the Wynne Legacy.



There being no matters arising from the treasurers report, they were adoption and

Proposed - Geoff Fairfax MBE
Seconded - Brian Shorthouse
Carried

The Hon Treasurer also discussed the following points;

IT – New Systems

It was explained that this year the society has updated the IT system used, this is hoped to simplify the use of the systems, for the production of the Drummers Call and for the administration by the committee members

Action By: Committee

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

To comply with the above regulations introduced this year, the Society has a GDPR statement in place and that we are in full compliance .

Action By: GT

Election of Officers

As stated within the Chairmans report there have been 2 changes to the elected committee at the last AGM and of which are listed below.

Prior to this AGM request were sent out for any members wishing to stand for the committee, with a cut-off date of 01st October 2018, there were no other contenders for the Committee positions, and given that all existing officers were willing to stand again, the Committee was re-elected as stated below;

Committee

Chairman	-	Roger Davenport (RD)
Senior Drum Major	-	Geoff Fairfax MBE (GF)
Hon Secretary	-	David Lear MBE (DL)
Hon Treasurer	-	Graham Thackery (GT)
Music and Training DM	-	Peter Foss (PF)
Training and Development	-	Ian Pattinson (IP)
Archivist	-	David Lear MBE (DL)

Sub-Committee Members

Editor Drummers Call	-	Alison Thackery (AT)
Wed Master	-	Jon Emmerson (JE)
Contact Australia	-	Martin Hartley (MH)
Contact Northern Ireland	-	William Mullen (WM)

Proposed - Patricia Barber MBE
Seconded - Michael Cheeseman
Carried



The Hon Secretary then explained the reasoning behind the appointment of both Representatives in Northern Ireland and Australia

William Mullen spoke on the traditions of Flute Bands in Northern Ireland and believed that there was a good source of Like minded Individuals and bands within Northern Ireland that may wish to Join the Society.

Alvin Mullen also raised the point that in the past, there were problems due to the Political Climate, which have now come along way and it is hoped that due to this, the aim to promote the Society in Northern Ireland should Improve, he made the point that the drum and flute tradition also survives in the Irish Republic and there is a friendly cross-border relationship between bands.

Action By: DL, WM & MH

Any Other Business

Presentations

The Chairman then proceeded to make 2 presentations to, Peter Hart (Previous Editor for the Drummers Call) was presented with a limited-edition print, signed by the artist, of a sailing vessel on the Thames and Christine Fairfax (Previous Hon Secretary) was presented with an original painting of sailing barges on the Thames with Tower Bridge and St. Paul's just visible through a misty background.

Drummers Call

It was explained by the Hon Treasurer that due to the updated Computer programme which has been purchased for the Drummers Call, and due to his and the Editors (AT) current work commitments, the Drummers Call for this year has been delayed in its completion, but will hopefully be out by December.

Action By: GT & AT

Dmaj Paul Blakelock – Chairty Event

The Hon Secretary riased the request for a Charity Donation for the Staff Drum Major, Paul Blakelock from the Army School of Cerimonial, in which he is competing in events from now until September 2019 and raising money for Cancer Research UK. The committee had already agreed an amount of £50.00

Action By: GT & DL

Patricia Barber MBE wanted to inform all those present that fellow member Trevor Pearce has asked to say Hello to everyone.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 14:10hrs.