

MILTON KEYNES YOUTH CHOIR CONSTITUTION

ADOPTED ON 6 JUNE 2017

1. Title

The name of the society shall be the Milton Keynes Youth Choir, hereafter referred to as 'the choir'.

2. Objects

The objects of the choir shall be the study and practice of choral music in order to foster public knowledge and appreciation of such music, particularly amongst young people, in the Milton Keynes area, by means of public performance and for the general purposes such charitable bodies or for such purposes as shall be exclusively charitable as the Committee may from time to time decide.

3. Membership

Membership shall be open to singing members aged 8 to 18 years and one associated adult member for each singing member. The adult members of the choir shall be those who pay the half termly subscription at the appropriate rates as shall be determined by vote at the Annual General Meeting, all subscriptions being payable in advance.

4. Officers and Committee

The management of the choir shall be in the hands of a Committee consisting of a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, plus not less than three and not more than six ordinary Committee members. All adult members are eligible to stand for a position on the Committee. (A quorum shall be formed by 3 members of the Committee, including two of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, or one third of the total adult members whichever is greater.) If Committee positions cannot be filled by adult members then membership of the committee shall be open to parents and carers of current and previous singing members.

The Officers and other committee members shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting (AGM). The Officers shall hold office for one year and be eligible for re-election. Nominations for Officers and Committee members shall close one week before the AGM.

In the event that there are insufficient nominations, then Committee posts may be filled during the AGM.

5. Management

All the arrangements for the concerts and other events and the control of finance shall be in the hands of the Committee.

6. Musical Director

The Choir shall appoint a suitably qualified person to rehearse, educate and inspire members in preparation for and in performance at public concerts. The Musical Director shall be paid for their services. The amount(s) to be paid shall be agreed annually by the Committee at the recommendation of the Chairman, immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting. The Choir shall similarly appoint and pay competent persons to act as Deputy Conductor and/or accompanist.

7. Equal Opportunities

No individual shall be excluded from membership of the Choir or de-barred from any official capacity on the Committee on the ground of sex, race, colour, religion, sexual orientation or political affiliation.

8. Finance

- i. The financial year shall end on 31 May.
- ii. A banking account shall be opened in the name of the choir and cheques shall be signed by any two officers of the Choir
- iii. The Choir shall receive donations, grants in aid and financial guarantees. Tickets for any or all of its concerts and other events shall be offered for sale to the public.
- iv. The income and property of the Choir, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely to towards promoting the objects of the Choir as set forth above. No portion thereof shall be paid, transferred either directly or indirectly to any member or members of the Choir except in payment of legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Choir.

9. Dissolution

In the event of the choir being wound up, any assets remaining upon dissolution after the payment of proper debts and liabilities shall be transferred to a charitable institution or institutions having similar objects to those of the choir.

10. Annual General Meeting

Within eight weeks from the end of the financial year the adult members shall be summoned to an Annual General Meeting (AGM) of which at least fourteen days' notice in writing shall be given to those parents and carers who have provided the necessary contact details to the committee.

11. Extraordinary General Meeting

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM), of which at least fourteen days' notice in writing must be given to adult members, may be called by 2 out of the 3 committee officers OR upon written request to the Secretary signed by at least one fifths of the adult members of the Choir.

12. Audited Accounts

The financial accounts shall be audited or examined to the extent required by legislation or, if there is no such requirement, scrutinised by a person who is independent of the Committee and submitted to the members of the AGM.

13. Amendments

The constitution may be amended by a two thirds majority of the adult members present at any Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting, provided that fourteen days' notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to all adult members, and provided that nothing therein contained shall authorise any amendment which shall have the effect of the Choir ceasing to be a charity.

Dated: 06 JUNE 2017