

# YORK ROSE SINGERS: CONSTITUTION

## **1. TITLE**

The name of the choir shall be the “York Rose Singers” hereinafter referred to as “the Choir”.

## **2. STATUS**

The Choir shall be a Registered Charity No. 502350 and shall be a member of the “Making Music” organisation, formally known as the “National Federation of Music Societies”

## **3. OBJECTS**

The objects of the Choir shall be to

- a) foster the appreciation of music through promoting concerts for the benefit of the general public
- b) to give free concerts to institutions such as care homes and churches or for a specific charity.

## **4. MEMBERSHIP**

- the members of the Choir shall be those persons who pay the annual subscription as determined by the members at the Annual General Meeting, the subscription being paid within six weeks of the AGM
- the members shall provide such evidence of musical ability as the Musical Director may require
- students will be offered free membership of the choir on production of a recognised student membership card
- members who receive Social benefits shall be eligible to apply for a 50% reduction in the subscription paid, if they so wish

## **5. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

The management of the Choir shall be in the hands of a Board of Trustees consisting of a Chairman, Honorary Treasurer, Correspondence Secretary, Minute Secretary and a maximum of four representatives from the Choir. Members of the Board of Trustees shall hold office for one year and shall be eligible for re-election. The Board of Trustees shall have the power to co-opt any person/s whose services they consider will be helpful at any particular time. Such co-opted members shall not have voting rights on the Board. One half of the total membership of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum. The Board of Trustees shall appoint, if it so desires, an Executive Sub-Committee to deal expeditiously with day to day matters concerning the running of the Choir. The actions and decisions of any such Sub-Committee shall be subject to ratification by the full Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees hopes that the Musical Director would attend all meetings of the Board as a non-voting member.

## **6. FINANCE**

- the Financial Year shall end on 30<sup>th</sup> June
- the existing bank account, opened in the name of the Choir, shall have cheques signed by any two out of the persons holding office as Chairman, Honorary Treasurer, Minute Secretary or Correspondence Secretary

- the Choir may receive donations, grants in aid and financial guarantees
- tickets for any or all of its concerts and other events may be offered for sale to the public
- the income and property of the Choir whencesoever derived shall be applied solely towards the objects of the Choir as set forth above
- no portion of the income shall be paid or transferred, either directly or indirectly, to any member/s of the Choir except in payment of legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Choir
- in the event of the winding-up or dissolution of the Choir, any remaining assets, after all liabilities have been discharged, shall not be paid or transferred to any member/s of the Choir but shall be transferred to a charitable organisation whose objects are similar to those of the Choir and whose rules preclude the distribution of income and assets among its members

## **7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

An Annual General Meeting shall be held within fourteen weeks of the end of Financial Year. At least fourteen days' notice of the date shall be given in writing.

Twenty percent (20%) of the membership of the Choir shall form a quorum.

Proposals to be put to the meeting, including nominations for the Board of Trustees, shall be made in writing to the Minute Secretary at least seven days before the date of the meeting and shall be signed by two members of the Choir.

## **8. AMENDMENTS**

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

## **9. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time by the Board of Trustees or by at least twenty per cent (20%) of members giving notice in writing to the Minute Secretary.

## **10. TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

A copy of the Trustees' Report and Accounts shall be subject to such external scrutiny as is required by law and shall be submitted to the members of the Choir at the Annual General Meeting. A signed copy shall be sent to the Charity Commission

***The trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.***

***In pursuing our aims for the public benefit, the choir believes it impacts on people's lives in two ways. First, for participants (young and old), we involve more people in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational activity, providing them with opportunity to develop vocal technique and musical repertoire. Second, for audiences, we present exciting, innovative and high quality performances which should always be a pleasurable cultural experience, but will sometimes challenge them and educate them by extending their musical knowledge.***

***In addition to the public educational benefits to participants and audiences mentioned above, the Committee is conscious that its activities must be affordable, so concessionary rates are available for both membership subscriptions and audience tickets. We continue to offer free membership to the under 25s, and any other member with financial difficulties can privately discuss a special reduced subscription arrangement with the Treasurer.***

***Extract from Information sheet 72 on public benefit***