

	<p>sponsorship, sales of programmes and drinks, helped to keep the deficit down to £683 which was a better result than expected. Gill suggested that a simple FCS printed carol sheet and details of works sung by the choir, along with details of upcoming FCS concerts, might be worth considering for future years. This was agreed.</p> <p>iv. Bank signatories -Signatories are currently Gill, Rosemary and Louise. Sonia agreed to be the fourth, when needed, if someone will help her set up the online account.</p> <p>v. Budget Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 30th June 2025 – showed a deficit of £2254 but we had decided to use some of the reserve to pay for a larger orchestra at Christmas along with other expenses that may enhance our concerts (e.g. trumpeter for Joy to the World). The committee have received the budget statement.</p> <p>It was decided that it was a good idea to keep the Christmas Concerts free. We received a double order of programmes this Christmas (printer’s error) 320 instead of 160. It was decided to order or produce 180 next year, as some of the second (free) boxes were used. If we do print our own carol sheet next year it would clarify which verses were being sung for the choir members. Lloyds bank is to close in Fakenham but Gill says that using the Post Office for banking is working well, with the only problem being withdrawing cash.</p> <p>There was discussion of whether it would be possible to hire a good piano (maybe a grand) for Mass in Blue. It was decided to ask Mark for advice. Will Todd Trio is not available for the June Concert.</p> <p>Funding for singing support and accompanist at concert needs to be decided. Mark to be asked for his thoughts.</p> <p>Gill presented the Trustees Annual Report for 1st July 2023 – 30th June 2024 which was agreed and signed.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Membership Matters</p> <p>We now have 86 members Sopranos 37, Altos 26, Tenors 10, Basses 13. 5 new members (1x 1st sop, 2x 2nd sop 1x bass) have recently joined for a try out and are yet to complete pitch tests.</p> <p>It was decided not to accept any more new members except for tenors and basses.</p> <p>There are some members who either cannot or prefer not to sing in concerts.</p> <p>Colin suggested that maybe it would be helpful for the men if occasionally they were at the front for rehearsals as it may boost their confidence. Also sometimes sitting 2nd sops in front of 1st sops might help in a similar way.</p>	<p>LM</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Christmas Concert round-up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need to count the seats again to calculate the possible maximum number of audience. Space has changed since the recent church building works. • The church may take out 4 pews and some radiators at the back to allow for more space for church activities but this is not likely to happen soon. This would allow more audience space. • CB mentioned that some people do not like to sit 6 to a pew and there were some refusals to accommodate people at the Christmas concert, where audience already sat in a pew said there was not room. • RD suggested inviting the local MP to concerts. • Heating is an issue especially for choir and orchestra (some of whom have complained that they cannot play if it is too cold). The vicar has stated that if we want the heating put on earlier, we would have to pay more. Space heaters were discussed and dismissed as an idea. Other venues could be considered. Alderman Peel High School, Wells and the new Baptist church being built near Morrisons, Fakenham were mentioned as possible venues to investigate • A Pop up banner near the entrance to the church that could be used for all performances was discussed. Wording “Concert Today” with time ticket price etc. TB to look at options • DL mentioned the end of rehearsal time was too close to the performance start time to allow people to get home and back. This needs to be considered in future – perhaps Christmas Concert rehearsal could start at 1.30 	<p>CB RD</p> <p>CB</p> <p>TB</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The help from Fakenham Garden Centre was invaluable and can hopefully be arranged again TB mentioned that the programme of singing required the choir to stand too long for the less robust members of the choir. Could some people sit? This would be more inclusive and could be arranged in such a way that all could see and it would not look too out of place The stairs onto the stage are a challenge for some members. It is easier when we process on but, in any case it was suggested that someone should be positioned at the bottom of the steps to help where necessary. A note needs to go on the concert info sheet to say that choir members are not entitled to free wine A separate entrance for 'Friends' would allow a ticket for one free glass of wine and a free programme to be handed to them on entry. SB to chat to Steph about this. We will need signage (SB) 	RD GA SB
9.	<p>Concert Prep</p> <p>Spring – 14.30 – 16.30 rehearsal 19.00 performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ticket Price – Early Birds £15 (before 07.03.25) then £18 . People booking early bird tickets must pay for them (BACs or card) before the 7th March to get the discount. This to be mentioned in group email Soloist is Judy Brown (Fee £400). SB to send contract 40 in orchestra (£110 and a review again in Autumn for Christmas concert as we are not paying as much as others in the area). Fixer fee to be raised to £150 Chancel door not to be locked too early as some people could not get in at Christmas Mark to be asked about folders People who just left after concert at Christmas tended to push past those trying to clear up. This needs to be highlighted in concert info sheet and possibly avoided by opening the chancel door for exit. Also more people to be encouraged to help tidy up Orchestra need a more obvious thank you after the performance – TB suggested he could put their names in the programme and GA would thank orchestral players when corresponding about payments PAT testing RD to check on which items need this and arrange <p>Please see attached Concert Prep sheet for more details.</p> <p>Summer --14.30 – 16.30 rehearsal 19.00 performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ticket Price – Early Birds £15 (before 07.06.25) then £18 . People booking early bird tickets must pay for them (BACs or card) before the 7th June to get the discount. This to be mentioned in group email. 	RD SB LM to ask RB SB SB/RD SB/RD TB RD
10.	<p>Come and Sing -update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RD and TB have set up the on-line registration form. Not many have signed up so far so more advertising needed for this It would be good to have a soprano soloist for the Verdi RD has asked Elle but hasn't heard back yet RD needs to confirm timings with MJ TB can adapt the Verdi poster for sending out / including with group email/website/social media. Early Bird price of £20 and £22 for those registering later to be implemented. Louise has offered to do refreshments and will ask Alison Smith to help, as she usually does. Nelson's Journey organisation to be asked to bring along display etc DL to arrange raffle prizes 	RD TB RD MJ TB LM DL
11.	<p>Fakenham VE Day Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angela Glynn (Mayor) is yet to provide details and these are needed before we can decide. RD has asked JD is moving job to Swaffham Church so will not be continuing with FPC choir 	RD

12.	Sponsorship and Fundraising None planned so far for Spring or Summer	RD
13.	Policy Review Rules and Regs Committee members had all looked at this before the meeting and decided that no changes were needed. Signed by RD and given to TB to scan to website and return to SB for filing.	SB
14.	Website Update Nothing to report	
15.	Digital Archive , progress TB gave brief view of the docs already uploaded. Only docs that are really needed to be scanned mainly policies & minutes- just the signed copies.	TB
14.	Librarian Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All music for this year is either purchased, hired or will be loaned by MJ. SR not happy with condition of some scores returned. People at fault here need to be advised of this and everyone told that in future scores returned in poor condition (i.e. pages turned over and creased, indelibly marked) will need to pay for replacements 	SR/RD
15.	AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the Community Centre is not available at Easter and SAH cannot confirm that they won't need the hall themselves, the Scout Hut, behind the library may be used. Some committee members not happy with the Baroque music choice at the Summer concert. Some discussion of alternatives both at and after the meeting. This to be discussed by RD and TT 2 music stands are broken RD to replace TT and RD to look at possible ideas for concert music for 2026-7, make a list and pass it to MJ for consideration. Some members mentioned carols not in white book for a change. RD asked committee to make any suggestions they have to her and/or TT before 27th January 25 LM has asked CB to cover her absence of four weeks in January and February, for registration/absences etc. LM asked SB to send a copy of the sign- up sheets. <p>The meeting closed at 16.40</p>	RD RD
16.	Date and Location of next meeting 2pm 24 th February 2025 at Sally's house – directions will be sent to committee members.	

Signed as a true record (name).....

Print Name.....

Date.....