

Annual General Meeting of The Taborers Society
Held on Sunday 12th September 2021 on line
“The Silly Hat AGM”

The meeting began at 10.30a.m. with most participants sporting strange headwear !

Present

Andy Richards, Clive Du'Mont, Terry Carter, Chris Walker, Atsufumi Ujiie, David Bush, Jim Grant, Bob Tyson, Mary Jo Searle, Bill Tuck, Rob Guest, Gillian Guest

Apologies

Gez Pegram, Elizabeth Christina, Neil Parker, Kathryn Wheeler, Rebecca Parris, Fiz Markham, Steve Rowley, Helen Richards

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true and correct record. (Rob/Clive)

Matters Arising

The Morris Liaison Officer, Clive, expressed thanks to Terry for his work on sharing music to the Dropbox, and also thanks to Bob for his contributions.

Treasurer's Report

Rob has circulated the financial reports for the past two financial years. He stated that Terry has made a donation to TTS from the sales of his books. We gain about two dozen new members per year and now have 224 members. The sale of Generation pipes continues (at cost to help promote the instrument). Sales have been made to ca15 countries. Andy passed on a message from Steve that the update to Zoom will cost less per month. Bill wondered whether we should be using our funds in some way. Andy pointed out that the cost of international travel is increasing and international guests expect that to be covered by TTS. Mary-Jo pointed out that venues may well be more expensive when things open again. Accepted (Clive/MJ).

Chairman's Report

This had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Accepted (Chris/Rob)

Jim commented that the website is very helpful, with resources for players just beginning.

Atsu commented that the zoom sessions have been great for players in Japan, and they have been able to join in workshops this way.

Bill thought that the on-line sessions have been so successful that possible they should continue in some form even when life is back to pre-pandemic normality.

Election of Officers

The present officers were willing to continue to serve, and were elected en bloc: (Chris/Terry)

Chair – Andy Richards

Treasurer – Rob Guest

Secretary – Gillian Guest

Director of Symposium – Bill Tuck

Archivist – Rebecca Parris

Morris Liaison – Clive Du'Mont

Youth Liaison – Ollie Simons

The business of the AGM being completed, the meeting closed at 11.06a.m. and was immediately followed by a general meeting of TTS

General Meeting

Present – personnel as above.

Review of Virtual Meetings and Sessions

While members are wary of meeting in person, the monthly Zoom sessions with YouTube watching access and this on-line AGM have proved popular and successful. In the future we could even arrange for lectures or workshops to be conducted from e.g. Australia.

Friendships formed by the gatherings have driven the strength of the society and the monthly sessions have been a spur to learning new tunes and to experimentation.

A Winter Meet

By moving the Winter Warmer around, it gives us an opportunity to inspire local folk musicians. Andy suggested the Surrey/St Albans area for 2022 as he has a keen 11-year-old player there. We already have an invitation to the wassail at the National Perry Pear Centre on Friday 21st January.

Because most people would need to travel to these venues, it would have to be a whole weekend. If a number of small events were organised locally, our visibility would be increased.

Clive suggested that we might have a “bulletin board of opportunities” where members could post events and others could indicate whether they could attend.

Organisation of a winter warmer would have to wait until the Covid situation becomes clearer.

Future Festivals

It is impossible to plan with any certainty while the pandemic lasts. Lincoln is still a possibility, and the cathedral has a dedicated space for our type of activity. There is no date yet decided for the next York Mystery Plays, but TTS would be keen to take part.

Promotion

Members are again urged to promote the playing of p&t whenever and wherever possible. There are many festivals where a presence could be useful

Any Other Business

Learning

Jim brought up the subject of fingering charts. EMS has sent out the wrong charts with pipes, and Terry has an arrangement with them now to send out his correct charts. They stock Terry's P&T music books too.

When TTS sells a pipe, we send out with it an instruction sheet, a sheet of music and an invitation to contact us if advice is needed.

There is also the learning zone on the website.

Terry has a link to TTS in all his publications and on-line material. He has asked for TTS to link to his work, but nothing has happened so far. Andy will action this.

The meeting expressed thanks to Andy and the committee Bill/Chris

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.49