

# Wessex Glyndebourne Association

Patron : Diana Montague

Company Number 06459686

## Notes of the Annual General Meeting of the membership for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016 held at St Peters Pastoral Centre, Winchester on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2017

About 80 members were present

1. **The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016** which had been available on the website were approved.

2. **Chairman's Report**

Peter McManus brought members up to date with the progress of some of our Wessex Award winners. He then reviewed some of the events arranged during the past year including the Glyndebourne at Beaulieu concert where we heard from 4 promising young singers from the Chorus. One of these was Huw Montague Rendell (baritone), son of our patron, who had been awarded the John Christie prize and was now training in Zurich. The Chairman also mentioned the entertaining presentation of Michael Volpe Director of Holland Park Opera. There had been two visits to performances by Glyndebourne on Tour and in December an interesting and informative presentation on acoustics in Opera and Concert Halls. There had been a large attendance by members to hear Michael Chance, Artistic Director of the new Grange Festival, in January.

At the last meeting, a trial of electronic booking for events was mentioned. This turned out to be very expensive to implement and the proposal was dropped. A change in the format for the Wessex Award event had been considered, by having canapés before the recital, instead of supper afterwards. After canvassing a number of members it was decided there will be no change for the moment.

The Committee needs to be reinforced with a couple of new members and the membership was asked to consider putting forward a couple of their number for this enjoyable and necessary task.

3. **Financial Report**

The Treasurer, Dr Max Wilson, reported that we have made a small surplus, in comparison to the deficits of the previous two years. This allowed us to make a grant of £2,000 to Glyndebourne on Tour, compared to the necessarily reduced grant of the previous year. Our positive result was due to the small increase in ticket prices, with costs being contained. Our margin for the Beaulieu event was higher because of the ticket price increases agreed with Beaulieu.

At the last AGM it was agreed that the membership subscription be increased from £15 to £20 per annum. This has been a time consuming exercise as a minority of members underpaid or overpaid.

Looking forward, the financial outlook is encouraging

Adoption of the Financial Report was proposed by Ian Dussek and seconded by Bernard Green, and then approved by members.

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting.