

Beaminster Raucous Chorus - Rules of the Choir (July 2019)

1. The Choir shall be called "**Raucous Chorus**".
2. It shall be non-political and non-sectarian.
3. The aims of the Choir shall be the practice and enjoyment of choral music. Occasional appearances at community events may be considered, although regular public performances are not the primary objective of the Choir.
4. Membership of the Choir shall be open to anyone wishing to join.
5. All Members will be expected to pay a subscription towards the expenses of the Choir.
6. The amount of this subscription shall be reviewed annually by the Management Committee and revised according to the needs of the Choir.
7. The Choir may receive donations, grants-in-aid or other financial remuneration to augment the funds as needed.
8. Such income, however derived, shall be applied solely to the aims and objectives of the Choir and no portion thereof paid directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or professional fee to any member of the Choir.
9. Reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by members on the authorised business of the Choir will be reimbursed at the discretion of the Management Committee.
10. The financial year of the Choir will be from 1st June to 31st May.
11. The books of account shall be independently examined by 30th June and a financial statement extracted therefrom shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), which shall be held before the end of July on a date and at a place to be decided by the Management Committee . A minimum of twenty-one days' notice shall be given.
12. The Executive Officers of the Choir shall be the Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer.
13. The Choir shall be managed by a Management Committee consisting of the three Executive Officers and a maximum of four others all of whom must be members of the Choir. The Music Director will be a permanent *ex officio* member of the committee. If committee deliberations require a vote, the Chairman will abstain unless there is a tie in which case (s)he has the casting vote. A quorum shall consist of a minimum of three members. The Management Committee will meet a minimum of three times between successive Annual General Meetings.
14. Sub-committees may be established for specific purposes to advise the Management Committee and other Choir members may be consulted by the Management Committee as required, but these shall have no voting rights.
15. Minutes will be taken of all Management Committee deliberations and the Secretary will hold a file of all minutes for the Management Committee.
16. The committee may co-opt up to two additional members if required before the AGM.
17. The committee and the Executive Officers will be elected by simple majority at the AGM, by ballot if required. All members of the Choir may attend and participate in the election of the Committee and other business. A quorum for the AGM shall be at least 50% of the average weekly attendance at meetings plus at least two of the Executive Officers.
18. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called either a) at the request of at least ten members of the choir (ie anyone who has attended at least once in preceding twelve months) or b) by the Management Committee. Notice of at least twenty-one days shall be given. The quorum will be as Rule 17.

19. All music is the property of the Music Director and must not be sold or loaned without the permission of the Music Director.
20. The choice of music shall be in the hands of the Music Director, who will be open to suggestions from the choir.
21. The Music Director shall have sole control at rehearsals.
22. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Choir there remains any property whatsoever after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, the same shall not be distributed among the members of the Choir but shall be given or transferred to some Charitable Institution or Institutions having objectives similar to the objectives of the Choir. Such institution or institutions to be determined by the members of the Choir at or before the time of dissolution and in so far as effect cannot be given to such provisions then to some charitable organisation.
23. Any eventuality not covered by these Rules shall be dealt with by the Management Committee.
24. The Rules of the Choir shall be altered only at the Annual General Meeting or a Special Meeting duly called.

Rules amended – 17 July 2019

A copy of these rules shall be available to each member