

**Draft Minutes of Meeting for Choir Representatives
ACVC Festival Worcester Cathedral, 17 October 2010**

Present:

Christopher Allsop (Chair, Worcester), John & Jan Marsters (Birmingham), Jane James (Secretary, Wells), Nancy McGivern, Michael Cockerham, Lynne Browning (Wells), Rosemary Clemence, Douglas Henn-Macrae (Rochester), Fern Clarke (Exeter), Elizabeth & Mervyn Marshall (Chelmsford), Pauline Powell (Hereford), Pauline Read, Hilary Davies (Guildford), Jonathan Turner (Southwell), John Wilderspin (Worcester), Susan Beardmore (Minutes, Derby).

1. Future Festivals:

May 2012: various possibilities discussed, which Christopher Allsop is to follow up – Guildford is celebrating the Golden Jubilee, but may already be booked up; Truro and Ely also to be approached.

2013 October 2012: Southwell offered to host.

May 2015: Birmingham offered – part of their tercentenary celebrations

October 2016: marking 20 years since the ACVC foundation, a return to Wells proposed.

2. Membership:

CA had compiled a list of voluntary choirs unable to take part this year and had contacted numerous directors, updating a database of current contacts – although this will need regular checking! Those with other commitments this weekend included: Portsmouth Parish Choir (boys and men), Gloucester Youth Choir, Ely Octagon Choir, Truro VC (who had a festival).

CA would do a newsletter to report on this event and provide news on future events for choirs who would like to be involved (St Asaph and Christ Church Oxford were mentioned), and so encourage expansion of the ACVC.

Exeter Cathedral Voluntary Choir is to cease in its present form, and a new choir, the St Peter's Singers, will take over under David Davies. Contact details via the ACVC and Exeter Cathedral websites, email adom@exeter-cathedral.org.uk, or tel. 01392 270761.

3. Website:

Douglas Henn-Macrae will continue to maintain the website www.acvc.org.uk, and post items such as the newsletter.

4. Finances:

Chelmsford reported on accounts following the May 2009 Festival:

Income

Balance brought forward from Derby	771.94	
Total deposited in connection with Festival	3 937.00	4 708.94

<u>Expenditure</u>		
Hire of Shire Hall from Essex County Council	632.00	
Photographer	70.00	
Flowers (13.86 + 22.50)	36.36	
Catering	3 294.85	
Various expenses (E Marshall)	197.80	4 231.01
Total carried forward		477.93

This represented a minor loss of 294.01 on the Chelmsford Festival itself.

John Wilderspin reported a likely small profit on the Worcester event, and proposed to make small refunds to those who had dropped out due to illness, through the Chapter Office.

It was noted that offering the music online had not only reduced initial printing costs but also meant choirs could access the music early for rehearsal.

JW suggested that in the light of past delays and problems with transferring bank accounts, it might be better to hold the funds as part of the respective Cathedrals' accounts. Lynne Browning pointed out that it had never been the intention to switch bank accounts from the original Wells ACVC account, merely to update signatures. This would be a better way of operating the account, once the next host choir is decided on.

5. Any Other Business:

Welcome to representatives from Birmingham!

Music – CA thanked the Directors of Music for their support in rehearsing the music, as well as preparing and distributing copies to their choirs. All music used is in the public domain, and Adrian Lucas is happy for us to use the descants he wrote (if acknowledged). If choirs wish to sing the rest of the Vierne mass, it is available on www.imslp.org in the original double-organ edition. He advised that Widor and Vierne music had just come out of copyright.

Photos of the Worcester Festival taken by Adrian Lucas would be posted on a photo-sharing website, details to be advised.

Dress code was discussed – silent shoes, black trousers/shoes, no handbags! In future guidance could be included in the arrangements for choirs.

Survey of Voluntary Choir activity

LW proposed an comparative update to the original survey conducted regarding how many services the member choirs sing (in the sample year 2010) – will send to CA to disseminate.