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Dear Member

You are invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Sheffield Bach Society to be held in the Hall at Cemetery Road Baptist Church at 9.00 pm on **Monday 30th October 2023**. The Agenda for the meeting is provided below.

Please hand nominations for all posts, using the slip below, to the Chairman or Secretary before the start of the meeting. A Proposer and Secunder are required, and confirmation that the nominee is willing to stand. Nominations slips will also be available at Monday rehearsals until the AGM.

Yours sincerely

Liz Buxton

Mrs E M Buxton
Honorary Secretary

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome by the Chairman**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 31.10. 22 & Special General Meeting held 22.05.23 (*attached*)**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Secretary's report for 2022-23**
- 6. Treasurer's report for 2022-23 (*2022-23 accounts attached*)**
- 7. Independent Examiner's report for 2022-23**
- 8. Election of Officers** - nominations are invited from Society members for the following posts:
 - Chairman: Chris Walker is eligible for re-election and willing to stand
 - Secretary: Liz Buxton is eligible for re-election and willing to stand
 - Social Secretary: Anne Adams is eligible for re-election and willing to stand
 - Librarian(joint): Sarah Hogan is eligible for re-election and is willing to stand
 - President: George Nicholson is eligible for re-election and is willing to stand
- 9. Changes to the Constitution proposed by the Committee:**
Please see attached notes for the detailed proposals and context for these changes.
 - Proposed change to paragraph 3(b)
 - Proposed change to paragraph 5(a)
 - Proposed change to paragraph 5(b)
 - Proposed change to paragraph 5(f)
 - Proposed change to paragraph 6(a)
- 10. Election of ordinary Members of the Committee.** Nominations are invited for committee vacancies. Liz Paice has reached the end of her term of office and there is currently one further vacancy. *NB The number of vacancies will be determined by the outcome of Agenda item 9.*
- 11. Election of Honorary Independent Examiner:** Committee nomination Mr J A Brice
- 12. Conductor's Report**
- 13. Chairman's Report for 2022-23**
- 14. Any other business**

NOTES related to Agenda item 9

Context for the Committee's proposed amendments to the Society Constitution

- As signalled at the last AGM, the advent of electronic communication with members and the public has meant a change over time in the work of the committee and roles/responsibilities within it. The Committee are proposing to remove two Officer posts and to increase representation of other members on the committee, also enabling ordinary Members of the Committee to be eligible for re-election for up to three terms.
- The Committee have been discussing membership options suggested by the conductor as we seek to 'grow' the choir membership. Proposed changes are designed to attract new members who might otherwise not be able to join the choir. The Committee are proposing that student membership be free and a joint-membership option be available to couples who cannot both get to rehearsals but would nonetheless be valuable new members. Whilst the standard membership subscription would still only be subject to change at a future AGM, the Committee would find it helpful if the Treasurer, in consultation with the Committee, also had some flexibility with regard to non-standard membership as it is impractical and risks insensitivity to be required to consult the full membership on specific cases.
- The Committee propose a change to the date of the Conductor's contract to be more appropriately brought in line with the accounting year.

The Committee therefore seeks approval to make the following amendments to the Constitution:

Current paragraph 3(b) :	Proposal:
The Annual Membership Subscription shall be payable in advance and is due on the first Monday in September of each year or upon joining the Society, the amount to be such as may from time to time be decided by a General Meeting of the Society. There shall be a reduced rate of Membership for students and others considered to be in need of support as shall be determined by the Membership, the amount(s) to be decided from time to time by a General Meeting of the Society	<u>Sentence 1 to remain unchanged.</u> <u>Paragraph 3(b) to then continue as follows:</u> <i>There shall be a reduced rate of Membership at the discretion of the Treasurer, in consultation with the Committee, for those considered to be in need of support and for couple's joint-membership, or where the Treasurer deems a reduction to be appropriate. Membership for students shall be free of charge.</i>
Current paragraph 5(a) :	Proposal:
The Officers of the Society shall be President, Vice-Presidents(s), and Executive Officers. The Executive Officers shall be the Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Social Secretary, Membership Secretary, Librarian, Box Officer Manager and Publicity Manager.	<u>Delete the roles of:</u> Membership secretary and Publicity Manager
Current paragraph 5(b) :	Proposal:
The business of the Society shall be conducted by a Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting and consisting of six Executive Officers, namely the Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, Social Secretary, Membership Secretary and Publicity Manager, and three other Members of the Society. Any member in receipt of an Honorarium shall have no voting rights in any Society matter.	<u>Replace:</u> 'six' with 'four' Executive Officers <u>Delete:</u> Membership secretary & Publicity Manager <u>Replace:</u> 'three' with 'five other Members of the Society'.
Current paragraph 5(f) :	Proposed paragraph to read as follows:
The ordinary Members of the Committee shall be elected at an AGM, and shall hold office for three years, one retiring at the end of each year. They shall not be eligible for immediate re-election as Ordinary Members of the Committee.	The ordinary Members of the Committee shall be elected at an AGM, and shall hold office for three years. They shall be eligible for immediate re-election subject to the usual ballot of members as outlined in paragraph 5(g) for a period no longer than three terms of office.
Relevant sentence in current paragraph 6(a) :	Proposal:
The Conductor shall be appointed by the Committee for a term of two years, commencing on 1 st July, and the post shall be renewable every two years . . .	Replace: 1st July with 1st August

Nomination slips

Nomination for Officer of the Sheffield Bach Society from 2023 AGM

Name of nominee Office

Signature of nominee

Proposed by Seconded by

Nomination for Ordinary member of the Committee of the Sheffield Bach Society from 2023 AGM

Name of nominee

Signature of nominee

Proposed by Seconded by

Nomination for Ordinary member of the Committee of the Sheffield Bach Society from 2023 AGM

Name of nominee

Signature of nominee

Proposed by Seconded by