

# CHOIR COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

1pm on Thursday 6 June 2024

### Domus Room

**Present:** Professor Douglas Hedley (Chair); Revd. Dr Mark Smith (Dean); Mr Graham Ross (Director of Music); Dr Toby Wilkinson (Fellow for Development); Professor Jocelyn Wyburd (Tutors' Representative); Ms Gabrielle Bell (Head of Chapel Office); Ms Sally Hodges (College Communications Manager); Mr Daniel Blaze (Senior Organ Scholar); Ms Evie Perfect (Junior Organ Scholar); Mr Alex Carter (Senior Choral Scholar); Ms Maggie Tam (Senior Choral Scholar); Ms Emily Coatsworth (Senior Choral Scholar)

1. **Apologies**

Mr Harry Elliot (Choir Administrator)

2. **UNRESERVED**

(i) **Declarations of Interest**

None

(ii) **Minutes of Thursday 2 May 2024**

Approved

(iii) **Matters Arising**

*Frequency of committee meetings:* The Committee discussed reducing the frequency of meetings to one per term, in recognition of pressures on time for committee members. This was agreed on the understanding that any business arising between meetings would be discussed by email as appropriate. The Senior Choral Scholars suggested that a mid-term date would enable them to gather views or issues to be raised from Choir members in a timely manner.

(iv) **Update on current projects**

All of the following current projects had been reviewed by the Committee and were scheduled to go ahead.

a) UK recording (Fairfield Halls, Croydon)

(Monday 1 – Wednesday 3 July 2024)

The Director of Music informed the committee that the anticipated release date for this CD will be September 2025, to coincide with John Rutter's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. There is the potential to release up to five digital tracks for Christmas and Harmonia Mundi is exploring the possibility of some filming alongside this.

b) Concert for Cambridge Summer Music Festival (OLEM)  
(Friday 5 July 2024)

c) Pre-Term Rehearsals in Clare  
(Wednesday 2- Thursday 3 October 2024)

d) Evensong at St Andrew's Church, Stapleford  
(Friday 4 October 2024, 5pm)

e) Great Hall Concert  
~~Joint Evensong with St John's Voices~~  
(Tuesday 29 October 2024)

The Committee noted that as St John' Voices has been disbanded, the planned service has been cancelled and will be replaced by a concert in the Great Hall, which has been approved by the Master and Senior Tutor.

f) Bedford Festival Concert  
(Thursday 31 October 2024)

The Committee noted that this concert had previously been approved by the College Council.

g) BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong Broadcast  
(Wednesday 6 November 2024)

h) Joint Evensong with Eltham College  
(Thursday 7 November 2024)

i) Remembrance Sunday Memorial Court Service  
(Sunday 10 November 2024)

~~j) Great Hall Concert  
(Tuesday 12 November 2024)~~

This now takes place on 29<sup>th</sup> October

- k) Advent Carol Services  
(Thursday 28 November 2024 & Sunday 1 December 2024)
- l) Afternoon workshop (2-3pm TBC), followed by evening concert in Lugano Cathedral, Switzerland  
  
(Saturday 7 December 2024)  
  
The Committee noted that there is an unconfirmed concert in Como, Italy, the following day (in the same leg of the tour).
- m) Bede House Advent Service, St Mary's Rotherhithe, Bermondsey  
  
(Monday 9 December 2024)
- n) Christmas Concert for Leamington Festival  
(Tuesday 10 December 2024, 7.30pm)
- o) St John's Smith Square, Christmas Festival, London  
(Monday 16 December 2024)
- p) Concert, Sint Jacobskerk, Vlissingen, Netherlands  
(Tuesday 17 December 2024)
- q) Concert, Hooglandse Church, Leiden, Netherlands  
(Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024)
- r) Concert, Joriskerk, Amersfoort, Netherlands  
(Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024)
- s) Concert, Stevenskerk, Nijmegen, Netherlands  
(Friday 20 December 2024, 8pm)
- t) Concert, Dom St Blasien, Germany  
(Saturday 21 December 2024, 4pm)
- u) Concert, St Franz Xaver, Basel, Switzerland  
(Sunday 22 December 2024, 4pm)
- v) Concert at St John's Smith Square, London  
(Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2025)

The committee noted that this date had been approved and is due to be taken to Council. This will be a repeat of the Great Hall concert on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

w) Great Hall Concert

(Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November)

x) Concert, Concertgebouw, Amsterdam, Netherlands

(Sunday 21 December 2025, 11am)

xi) Great Hall Concert

(Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026)

The Committee noted that this has been approved by Council.

xii) Great Hall Concert

(Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2026)

The Committee noted that this has been approved by Council.

3. **Any Other Business**

The Director of Music thanked all members of the Committee for their contributions during 2023-24 and expressed gratitude, on behalf of members, to the Organ Scholars and to the out-going Senior Choral Scholars for giving their time and representing the Choir at meetings.

4. **Dates of next meetings (all start at 1pm)**

i. Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024

ii. Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025

iii. Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Venues to be confirmed.

**Distribution:** Professor Douglas Hedley (Chair); Revd. Dr Mark Smith (Dean); Mr Graham Ross (Director of Music); Dr Toby Wilkinson (Fellow for Development); Ms Gabrielle Bell (Head of Chapel Office); Mr Harry Elliot (Choir Administrator); Professor Jocelyn Wyburd (Tutors' Representative); Ms Sally Hodges (College Communications Manager); Mr Daniel Blaze (Senior Organ Scholar); Ms Evie Perfect (Junior Organ Scholar); Mr Alex Carter (Senior Choral Scholar); Ms Maggie Tam (Senior Choral Scholar); Ms Emily Coatsworth (Senior Choral Scholar)

**For information:** Ms Loretta Minghella (Master); Professor Jacqueline Tasioulas (Senior Tutor); and Dr Toby Wilkinson (Fellow for Development)

**Ms Gabrielle Bell**

**Wednesday 12 June 2024**