



Sherborne Town Band AGM

4TH October 2019

Present for meeting (apologies for any incorrect name spelling)

Steve Rogers, Andrea Rogers, Alan Griffiths, Joe Miles, Sean Beechey, Richard Frost, Chris Barrett, David Bulgin, Julie Bulgin, Tim Watton, Stuart Hunter, John Derrick, Alan Derrick, Kirsty Blencowe, Andrea Beechey, Julie Hipworth, Andy Parkinson.

Apologies Helen Coombs, Mark Coombs, Clive Birchall, Ian Miles, Natalie Miles, Paul Slater, Kevin Long, Duncan.

Matters Arising

No matters arising, previous years minutes confirmed as a true record.

Reports from officers

- **Chairman's report**-see attached-John wishes to thank the committee for their continued support, after such a sad start to the year with the lose of our dear friend Stuart Butt.
- **Musical Directors report**-see attached-Paul
- **Presidents report**-see attached
- **Treasurers report**-see attached-Thank you to Andrea for continued support with finances and thanks to Lanham and Francis for auditing the bands books. Youth band still runs at a deficit so would urge members to think of fund-raising activities.

Election of committee.

No one wished to stand for committee-Kevin Long to stand down from finding players for jobs but continues to support the committee, all other positions carried forward.

Chairman-John Derrick, **Vice chairman**-Joe Miles,

Secretary-Andrea Rogers, **Contest Secretary**-Sean Beechey, **Treasurer**-Andrea Beechey,

Supporting committee members-Kevin Long, Richard Frost, Alan Derrick, Ian Miles, Natalie Miles.

Any other business

Discussion followed due to details from all reports.

Kirsty- could fliers for youth band be made available. **Andy Parkinson**- to research jobs in the western super mare area, fete ideas. Julie Bulgin/Tim Watton ideas given to support fund raising-printer cartridge collection and points earning schemes.

John-Meeting closed. See attached for reports.

Chairman's report October 4th 2019

Firstly I would like to thank the committee for their hard work and dedication to the band. Especially to Kevin Long, who has been working tirelessly making sure that seats are filled on every engagement. Sadly, after many years on the committee, Kevin has decided to stand down. As for the rest of the committee, they all deserve accolade for the roles they have, all with one common goal, the success of Sherborne Town Band.

Thank you to our President, Stuart Hunter, for arranging the auditing of our accounts and also for continuing to use his contacts and influence about the town in attaining generous donations and grants.

The band has overcome some difficulty in the past twelve months, the first being the problem we were faced with changing conductor, this is always difficult. With the departure of Ian Lowes, we enlisted the help of an old friend of the band in Gary Greenstock. However, in the build up to the area contest we had to deal with an unusual situation resulting in, in my opinion, an ignorant and arrogant guest letting us down at the last minute. Although the result didn't go our way, I thought the band showed great unity and performed very well under the circumstances.

The result of the contest was put into perspective a week or two later though as we heard the tragic news of Stuart Butt losing his fight with cancer. I'd like to thank everyone involved with the tribute the band paid Stuart at both his funeral and also at last weeks proms concert, especially to Andy Parkinson and Malcom Francis who both played solos under immense pressure in front of Stuart's family. We wish Yaniola and the rest of Stuart's family our very best wishes, he is greatly missed by all who knew him.

Youth band.

Thank you to Jim Bennett and everyone else involved with the running of the youth band. Even though the youth band is running at a loss, I believe it's important to maintain as occasionally we do reap the benefit as was proven last autumn when we welcomed Ed up from the youth band into the senior band. However, we still need to try to increase the number of members.

On the subject of new players in the band, we welcome Malcom on euphonium and Val on cornet, it's always good to see new players joining and what great assets they are.

The band has a healthy number of players at present with competition for places regarding contests, I think this is good for the band as long as those players involved cooperate and understand that conductors arrange personnel in the best interest of the band.

This leads me on to our team of conductors. Thank you to Paul Slator for all of his work in front of the band and behind the scenes. Also thanks to Steve Rogers for always willing and able to provide cover when needed. Also, what a find in John Camps, with his knowledge and humour, he has the skills to take the band forward. Thank you for your work so far.

Our band year ended last week with our annual proms concert at the Digby Hall. The concert was a success both musically and financially. For this I'd like to thank everyone involved from the band to the people that helped serving drinks in the kitchen. Special thanks to Joe Miles for ensuring it was well advertised and everyone was in the right place at the right time and Andrea Rogers for organising catering and raffle, I apologise if I missed anyone else.

Looking ahead, we're looking forward to contests coming up at Poole and Torquay plus two concerts to be added to our program, the first being Martock church in February, the second being a slot at the highly acclaimed, Sherborne Abbey Festival. Finally, thank you to every member of the band for your continued commitment and please pass on thanks to your families for allowing you the time to do it. I wish the band every success in the year ahead.

John Derrick
Chairman

TOWN BAND – AGM 2019– PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Welcome to the 2019 Annual General Meeting.

The Band has had enjoyed another successful year. Our performance at the Area contest, however, was disappointing putting us close to relegation. Nevertheless, hard work notwithstanding, I am confident that we will improve our position next year. Many thanks go to all who work so hard to try and maintain the high standards necessary for the higher sections.

On your behalf, I would like to thank The Chairman and members of the Committee for their continued dedication and tireless efforts to ensure the smooth running of the Band.

Thanks are also due to John for his continued role as ‘Roadie’ and generous provision of transport for instruments and equipment. The team of willing helpers who assist with loading and setting out items at the engagement venues is much appreciated.

The recent audit of our accounts, undertaken by accountants, Messrs Lanham and Francis, has certified that the Accounts continue to be properly and efficiently maintained. Andrea, thank you once again for your expertise and valuable work running the accounts.

It gives me pleasure to formally welcome Val and Malcolm to the Band and I hope that they are happy with how they find us.

I am also extremely happy to welcome Mr John Camps as MD. John's effective method and enthusiastic attitude is like a breath of fresh air to the Band room. The recent success achieved at the Exmouth contest demonstrates that he means business and is capable of getting the best out of our players.

The untimely death of Stuart Butt earlier this year cast a long shadow over the Band and he is badly missed by all who knew him, especially past and present members of Sherborne Town Band and others around the area.

Our Youth Band and Learner Group are in good form and flourishing under Jim Bennett's tutelage. Numbers, however, remain somewhat depleted. Jim and his team are constantly monitoring the situation. I urge all Band Members, whenever the opportunity arises, to encourage parents to consider enrolment of their children into the Learner group.

There are exciting and challenging times ahead for the Band in 2020 e.g. the Area Contest and the Abbey Festival and we must be 'match fit' for every event.

Finally, thank you all for the continued help, friendship, tolerance and support that you readily offer when needed.

I will be honoured to continue as your President for as long as I am able, should you so wish.

Stuart Hunter

PRESIDENT

4 October 2019

Sherborne Town Band AGM – Musical Directors Report 4th October 2019

It has been a year of contrasts that's for sure with ups & downs.

The downs probably don't require me to relive them for you, however what I can say is that they were things that were beyond the control of the band or any individual member of the band. (the only person to let us down wasn't a member of the band)

On the positive side, I believe the band continues to grow & improve constantly. Of course just rewards for the dedication, commitment and hard work of one & all culminated in the great result at Exmouth in September.

We are mostly endowed with a strong membership unlike other bands that I know struggle to fill vacancies. I feel we have cemented a good working relationship with Ken on percussion who is clearly an asset to the band who for so long have been devoid of percussion.

The tribute that the band performed to Stuart's memory last weekend was warmly appreciated by his family that were present for the concert. Some stunning playing and a warm friendly atmosphere made for me a very memorable occasion. Particular gratitude & admiration to both Andy P & Malcolm who performed their respective solo's under what was an emotional spotlight, Bravo both of you!

I am extremely reassured by the new & developing relationship between the band and our new 'executive' conductor, Jonathon Camps. It is clear that he is skilled in getting the best performance and interpretation out of the band. This gives us all renewed enthusiasm & optimism about future contest endeavours. Particularly after this years disappointment which as already mentioned was out of the bands hands.

I would like to pay tribute to all the people who hold positions of responsibility in & around the band that make it all run smoothly. Particularly Kev for his tireless devotion to the unenviable task of organising deps for gigs & of course Chris who works efficiently and quietly to maintain the bands library. Thanks to John for his devotion to the band and without the use of his van where would we be?

We have some exciting times ahead not least the opportunity to showcase ourselves and the world of brass banding at next years Sherborne Festival. I believe this is a prestigious event & it is an honour to be invited to perform our own concert in the Abbey.

So it is with optimism & lots of endeavour that we move into the Christmas season & beyond. We appear to be building an ever growing group of followers that attend the Pageant gardens performances. Lets just hope that the Bandstand might have completed its renovation to the same kind of standard that the Digby hall has now achieved.

Onwards & upwards, always.

Treasure's Report – AGM 2019

I would like to report that the books remain healthy and the income from 2018/2019 has remained steady, however for the second year in a row the expenditure has been greater than the income. This in some part has to do with the increase in cost of rent / insurance, and the increase in the use of the services of a professional conductor as well as supplementing the short-fall between the income and expenditure of the Youth Band.

Clearly having greater expenditure than income is not sustainable in the long term and I will be working with the committee to look at solutions. One area that might be worthy of consideration is looking for concerts in months that are traditionally considered quiet, in the months from January to May. Noting that we do have a concert booked in Martock for January 2020 which is good. Whilst we are a long way from being considered destitute If any members have any new ideas for fundraising then please mention it to a member of the committee.

I would like to say a big thank you to Andrea Rogers for keeping the Youth Band tuck shop running, and for collecting and keeping track of the subs the children pay. I would Also like to thank Jane Spooner from Lanham & Francis for auditing the books and Stuart Hunter for arranging the auditing to take place.