

THE LEARIG ORCHESTRA
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Rosemount Community Centre, Aberdeen
At 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 17 June 2025

Present: Eileen Bresnan, Catherine Fitzgerald, Ross Hartley, David Jarvie, David Jones, Margaret Leggate (minutes), June Maclean, Rod Macaulay, Jo Price, Willie Primrose (Chair), Laurie Rominger Mairi Stewart, Ben Taylor, Peter Tees, Fiona Thomson

		Action
1.	Welcome – Willie welcomed all to the 2025 Annual General Meeting.	
2	Apologies: Bruce Armstrong, Sarah Eggleton, Robin Jerman, Maureen Marton, Jane Morris, Elizabeth Smyth, Judith Taylor.	
3.	Previous Minutes – The Minutes of the last AGM held on 25 th June 2024 were approved as an accurate note of the meeting.	
4.	Matters Arising from previous AGM 1. Remuneration of performers who are not Learig members. It was noted that guest players do not generally receive payment for performances as this was unclear in a previous Learig Minute. Willie clarified that for the June 2024 concerts a very small number of players had received an honorarium for guesting as soloists but the majority of supplementary players played and travelled at their own expenses. Learig members are very grateful to them all. 2. Peter Stollery expected a further £250 from Learig, in line with his original expected fee of £2,500 initially agreed between Inverurie & our orchestra.	
5.	Election of Committee Members. All Committee Members elected at the AGM of 25 June 2025 retired and were duly re-elected as follows – • Chair – Willie Primrose • Deputy Chair – Ross Hartley • Secretary – Judith Taylor • Treasurer – Fiona Thomson • Committee Members - David Jones - Jo Price - Ben Taylor Ex-officio and non-voting members. Laurie Rominger - Conductor Peter Tees – Leader	
6.	Review of 2024/25– Willie highlighted The Winter Concert, our 84th concert, held on 30 November 2024 at Mannofield Church was conducted by Laurie Rominger and comprised • Tom Cunningham – Edinburgh Suite • Glazunov - Symphony No 2 in F sharp minor £ 613.86 was raised for Pancreatic Cancer Action Scotland	

	The Spring Concert on 29 March 2025 at Mannofield Church, conducted by Laurie. The programme was • Bizet: Selections from Carmen • Chausson: Poème with Violin Solo by Hannah de Bordes • Fauré: Dolly Suite • Chabrier: Joyeuse Marche Approximately £712 was raised for Scottish Men's Sheds Association divided equally between Midmar Men's Shed and Rosemount Men's Shed. The Summer Concert on 14 June 2025 at St Machar's Cathedral, conducted by Laurie comprised • Sibelius: Karelia Suite • Massenet: Meditation (Thais) • Berwald: Symphony 3 • Robertson: Taste of the Isles • Just over £500 was raised for North East Sensory Services.	
7.	Financial Statements As financial year end is 31 July each year, the 2024/25 accounts are not yet available. 2023/24 Income and Expenditure statements prepared by Fiona and Willie and reviewed by Bob Leggate, retired CA, are available in the Accounts published separately. Fiona and Willie made the following points pertaining to the 2023/24 accounts. 1. Late payment from Sumup card payments added £465 to the end of year surplus. 2. Easyfundraising added £101 to orchestra funds. This was provided by only a small number of members who were prepared to use the Easyfundraising app for online purchases which are accepted by many large retailers e/g/ Amazon. Jo is happy to provide information to members on how to set this up. 3. A grant of £250 was gratefully acknowledged from the David and June Gordon Memorial Trust. This contributed to the fee for Hannah Bordes who performed Chausson's Poème in March 2025. 4. It may also be possible to apply for an Aberdeen council grant. From 2025, limited funding may be available via The Culture Investment Programme which replaced the Council's previous grant schemes for arts and culture. Approval of the Financial Statements was proposed by June Maclean & seconded by Eileen Bresnan.	FT Members
8.	Music/Parts On behalf of the members, Willie thanked Peter for taking on the role of librarian for sheet music loans and returns. Peter reported 1. That every single piece of music was returned by the night of the concert. The new folder system for individual parts is more efficient than previous methods. 2. The cost of acquiring the use of sheet music has increased significantly since Aberdeen City stopped supporting the Inter Library Loan service. Cost of acquiring music for Learig's current season was £388.	

	3. Though Aberdeenshire Library Services still provided loans of orchestral music their catalogue was incomplete and it was impossible to know what full works they have. 4. Some orchestras now download copies from IMSLP and have the copies printed by a local printer. 5. Good Music Publishing has affordable individual copies of its small catalogue. 6. ACO and GCO own sets of music and can lend. 7. Willie suggested that if we need to print out our own music this should not be left to one individual. A team was needed. 8. Peter pointed out it was important to obtain music of legible quality. A4 copies of old, larger sheets can be hard to read when reduced to A4.	
9.	Plans for 2025/26 Laurie is looking at the whole year ahead with outline plans as follows: • Winter Concert: 29 November 2025 at Mannofield Church Rehearsals re-commence on 2 September. • Spring Concert: 28 March 2026 at Mannofield Church. • Summer Concert: 27 June 2026 at St Machar's Cathedral. Repertoire for 2025/26. Laurie proposed 1. Symphony No 2 by Sibelius 2. Night on Bald Mountain by Modest Mussorgsky (Ling edition) 3. Further suggestions welcomed from the orchestra for pieces which showcase brass and for individual soloists. Players It was agreed that more strings, a second oboe and bassoon were needed. Sectional rehearsals Were well liked. Ross is willing to take the strings when needed and Jo suggested Lesley Wilson should be asked to do the wind section as her considerable professional experience was invaluable though she no longer played. Use of Rosemount Community Centre Members expressed appreciation for use of the facilities. Willie thanked Ingrid Taylor, the chief administrator of Rosemount who encourages community projects at the centre.	Members
10.	Publicity/Website FaceBook Thanks to Eileen who regularly updates Learig Orchestra Facebook page with current and past concert details. (251 likes) Website • Has been out of date all this year. As Sarah is very busy with work, she will pass its management back to David Jones. • David outlined yearly website expenses: £10 to register our domain name at UK Domain and £54 for storage via Wix. • David would be pleased to receive photos of the orchestra for the website.	DJ Members

11.	Refreshments/Social • Social events – the first Tuesday of the month stands as the evening for anyone who wants to go along to the pub. Willie will sound out the orchestra that on these evenings there would be no teabreak, rehearsals would finish at 9.15, allowing speedy adjournment to pub. • Teas after the concert at Mannofield Church are appreciated by members, audience and the Church. It was agreed that this tradition would continue. • On Tuesday 26 August (the week before start of new session) Eileen is arranging an evening meal at a local restaurant.	Members EB, JT EB
12.	AOCB Midstocket Matters Willie flagged up this local newsletter and asked for a volunteer to provide an article on Learig for it. Willie & Ben as local residents volunteered to collaborate on this. Sale of Tickets Pre-concert David Jones researched and reported that it was a cumbersome system. He recommended continuing selling tickets at the door. This was agreed. Acquisition of a portable conductor's podium Members agreed that use of a portable podium would be useful for all members to have a clear view of the conductor for both rehearsals & concerts. Suggestions for suitable podiums to be given to Peter.	WP & BT PT Members
13	Vote of thanks: Members expressed thanks to • Willie for the work he puts into ensuring that the orchestra runs smoothly, • Fiona for managing the financial affairs including subscription payments, • Rod for his beautiful poster designs for each concert, • Eric for his comprehensive catalogue of Learig concert recordings available on his YouTube channel. Willie will supply files of concert posters to display with recordings, • David for maintaining our database, sending out prompt messages to all members when required, and embarking on the renewed website. • Eileen for her excellent skills in providing us with a vibrant FaceBook presence, • Jane & Robin J for their entertaining programme notes and Cathy's help in formatting the programme, • Maureen for organizing the weekly tea rota and Judith, Eileen, Fiona & Maureen for the delicious tea, buns and biscuits after the Mannofield concerts, • Everyone who sets out and puts away the chairs for every rehearsal.	