



# The Old Southendian Organ Society (OSOS)



## **OSOS Annual General Meeting**

**Wednesday 9 April 2025, 8.15pm**

**Held by video conference**

### **MINUTES**

Present: Gerald Usher (GU), Joe Zammit (JZ), Jon Roberts (JR), Brian Fletcher (BF), Graham Campbell, Tracy Nutter.

#### **1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The meeting started at 8.17 pm with a welcome from GU. Apologies for absence had been received from Alan Gardner and John Cooper.

#### **2. Minutes of previous AGM**

It was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the previous AGM (held on 10th April 2024) as a true record of proceedings.

#### **3. Reports from the Committee**

Comprehensive reports from the Committee had been distributed in advance of the meeting via the OSOS website.

GU reiterated his thanks to the Committee for their work and for their informative reports, especially to JR for compiling the Accounts in record time.

JR reiterated the need to interpret the accounts over a two year period since the 2023-24 year brought the receipt of a large grant by the Bass Fund which has funded expenditure on the organ in 2024-25. It was noted that although this year was the biggest year in terms of expenditure since the rebuild in 2017-18, the Bass Fund grant has more than covered the associated costs.

#### **4. Election of the Committee for 2025 – 2026**

JZ introduced the elections proposing GU as Chairman which was passed unanimously. GU resumed the chair and subsequently the following were elected unanimously by the meeting:

- a) Chairman: Gerald Usher
- b) Treasurer: Jonathan Roberts
- c) Publicity and Communications: Joseph Zammit
- d) Trustee and committee member (without portfolio): Brian Fletcher

JZ reminded the meeting that the position of President comes up for election every 5 years, with Adrian Lucas's current term extending until the 2027 AGM.

#### **5. AOB**

- a) GU reiterated there was lots for the Society to be grateful for, not least the care and attention afforded by our Organ Builders.
- b) JZ highlighted the events upcoming for 2025: a Play the Organ event on Saturday 28th June, and a concert with Southend Symphony Orchestra on Saturday 11th October. Information would be circulated to our mailing list and on Facebook shortly.
- c) JZ also highlighted the encouraging prospect of having Rachel Worth now as Headteacher at the school, and all welcomed her attendance and encouragement at the November concert.
- d) JZ mentioned that although our events for 2025 do not see the students performing publicly, we are excited to note continued collaborations with Peter Worth and the music department with the wider Old Southendian Association, in particular with the "Summer Dinner Dance" event on Friday 11th July 2025 at The Boundary Garon Park. Current students and former musicians from the school Big Band will join together to provide big sets, plus other background music during the meal. The event is fundraising for the school's new Charitable Trust and is open to both members and non-members of the Association, and other friends of the school.

#### **6. Provisional arrangements for next Annual General Meeting**

It was agreed that this should be organised for March or April 2026, as per the Society's rules. The Committee confirmed it plans to continue to provide an option for Members to join via videoconference.

The Meeting concluded at 8.41 pm with thanks expressed by GU for everyone's contributions.