

## South Devon Choir

### Minutes of Special General Meeting 28 February 2019

at St Paul's Church Hall, Preston, Paignton

**Present:** Chairperson: Sally Laird; Music Director: John Hobbs; Treasurer: Prim Wood;; Secretary: Lisa Prager; Committee Members: Paul Barton, Stella Currie, Ann Gardiner, Jennie Litt, Mark Saxelby; Accompanist: Simon Dunbavand; and 60 other members of the Choir.

#### **Business:**

A Special General Meeting was called to carry out a number of items that could not be completed at the Annual General Meeting on 26 January 2019, including matters relating to Music Staff appointments and the Presidency of South Devon Choir.

#### **Music Staff appointments and Presidency**

John Hobbs announced that he was standing down as Music Director in December 2019 and that Simon Dunbavand was taking over as MD.

John said that planning a future programme of concerts had made him aware that he was nearing 80 years old. He had been conscious that the Choir needed to plan for the future, and he had felt that if someone was found who could take over the role of MD and whom the Choir liked, he thought he could hand over the baton successfully. With the arrival of Simon Dunbavand as accompanist, he was in the happy position that such a person had been found. It was with mixed feelings that he was standing down after the December 2019 concert. He had been offered his own choice of work for that concert, and had selected Handel's Judas Maccabaeus.

Sally thanked John for his 12 years of musical leadership of the Choir. He was not only a wonderful musician and singer, but also a wonderful person. Sally was delighted to announce that John had agreed to be the Choir's President; and she welcomed Simon as the MD from January 2020.

#### **Other business**

Long Service certificates were presented by John Hobbs to Elizabeth Pritchard, Ann Gardiner and Jennie Litt, who had all completed more than 30 years with the Choir. A fourth recipient, Ruth Bowyer, was not present but would be presented with a similar certificate on her return.

**Signed:** ..... **Sally Laird, Chairperson,** .....