

FRMS Committee Report 2021

The Federation Committee has met on six occasions in the year 2020/21 by Zoom technology.

The first meeting after the Zoom AGM on 7 November was on **Saturday 28 November 2020. Board Meeting:** endorsed the formal confirmation of the Independent Account Examiners appointed at the AGM. The Accounts and Balance Sheet approved at the AGM were accepted. **Committee Meeting:** review of the Zoom AGM. Final acceptance of the redrafted Constitution. Discussion over suspension of affiliate activity and possible refunds of licensing and insurance payments. Likely postponement of Ilkley again if restrictions remain in place. Bank balance: £27,893.99

Committee meeting 23 January 2021: Chairman agreed to contact affiliates to clarify situation with licensing, insurance and affiliation fees. Initial discussion regarding AGM in Leicester; a deposit had been paid to the hotel, so the date was secured for November 2021. Ilkley date will be reviewed at next meeting. Jim Bostwick was no longer able to provide storage for Ilkley equipment, so this would need to be rehomed. Tony Sanderson offered to help. Discussion over privacy of Federation emails. No change in bank balance.

Committee meeting 20 February 2021: initial contact with insurers indicated that a refund or credit might be possible given the fact that meetings are not taking place. Ilkley remains uncertain; alternative dates in October have been proffered. Bank balance: £16,897.20 following large payments to PRS/PPL and insurance broker.

Committee meeting 20 March 2021: agreed that FRMS equipment would be transported to Tony Sanderson. Ilkley weekend was postponed to March 2022.

Committee meeting 22 May 2021: equipment successfully transported and now stored with Tony Sanderson. Treasurer has drafted a letter for all affiliates asking for their future plans and whether a refund of licensing or insurance payments would be appropriate. This would be distributed and replies collated by the Secretary. Responses would form the basis for the Treasurer's negotiations with the appropriate bodies. Concerns over whether the next AGM in Leicester would be viable, given current uncertainties. The Secretary agreed to seek views of affiliates on attending a 'live' AGM before a final decision is made. Bank balance: £17,178.62

Committee meeting 7 August 2021: correction to the claim that Rochdale is celebrating its centenary; it is in fact its 90th year. Letters had been sent out on behalf of the Treasurer ascertaining each societies' situation in order to claim a part or full refund for performance licences and insurance for 2020/21. All current affiliates had responded except Quinborne; checks would be made to see if they still exist. Fourteen societies had closed. The Treasurer would now liaise with relevant bodies. Results of AGM survey indicated a majority in favour of another online meeting, postponing the Leicester meeting to 2022. Plans for next newsletter to be distributed September 2021. Committee recorded its sadness at the passing of Mick Birchall. Bank balance: £17,098.11

FRMS Committee List for 2021/22 from nominations received:

Allan Child (Jubilee Music Circle (Derby)) – Chairman
George Steele (Rochdale GS) – Vice-Chairman
Adele Wills (Street & Glastonbury RMG) - Honorary Secretary
Paul Corfield Godfrey (Committee Nomination) – Honorary Treasurer
Ron Mitchell (Leicester Music Society) – Website/Committee
Tony Sanderson (Northampton RMS) - Committee
Simon Rawlings (Weston-super-Mare MAS) - Committee
David Wherrell (Letchworth RMS) – Committee

As per the Constitution (6.6.1) there are now two committee vacancies.