

BBMA AGM 1st November 2020

Attendees :

Sherryl Payne, Peter Earle, Geoff Berrow, Kevin Garrett, Richard Holland, Hilary Gowen, Les Packer, Trevor Hyett, Chris Lord, Chris Elson, Dave Teague, Andy and Ruth Smith, Les Packer, Colin, Eric Rein, Phil Stott

Apologies:

Will Pinnock, Paul Brewer, Mark Nicholl, Irene Earle, Chris Aggs

Kevin Garrett opened the meeting. In his introduction he explained why the AGM was being held by Zoom. The current pandemic prevents us from meeting in person, but the constitution mandates that an AGM should be held every year. The BBMA is currently chairless – Sherryl Payne has been Acting Chair following the resignation of Dave Teague, and several other positions are currently filled by Acting members.

In light of this, Kevin, who is both a long standing member of the BBMA, and also a Chairman Emeritus, had been asked to chair the meeting until the point at which officers have been elected, after which the elected Chair will take over running the remainder of the meeting.

Roll Call

There were 17 members present on the Zoom call (see above), which meets the requirements for a quorate AGM (at least 10 members). Apologies were received from several members (see above).

Minutes of last AGM.

The minutes of the previous AGM were approved (proposed by Sherryl, Seconded by Les).

Matters arising from last meeting

At the previous AGM, the Committee agreed to look into running the Orwell Bluegrass festival. This was discussed at subsequent committee meetings, and it was decided that this would not be taken forward.

No correspondence relating to the previous minutes had been received by the Secretary.

Officers reports

Chairman's Report

Dave Teague was invited to make a report prior to the AGM, but declined as he is no longer in post. Kevin drew the membership's attention to an article in the recent BBMA magazine, which summarised much of the work the Dave has achieved during his tenure. Kevin also called for a Vote of Thanks for Dave Teague, in recognition of all the work that he undertook whilst chairman, which was unanimously supported by the members present.

Secretary's Report (Richard Holland)

Richard Holland gave the following report in his capacity as Secretary up to September 2020.

In the Autumn of 2019 I attended the funeral of Mike Preston (Ex BBMA Committee Member). Other important members of our society have also sadly died, and I would like to publicly recognise their input into our music. They are Richard Thrift (Musician) / Bob Winquist (Musician) / Pete Stanley (Musician) / Derek Brandon (Ex BBMA). All have been an important part of our History.

Had contact from Andrew Nixon (ex BBMA Secretary) with reference to some old out of date items that we have now managed to recycle .

The creation of a quality teacher data base has now been put in place, and with the help of Chris Lord & Geoff Berrow have been placed on the web site. Work has also been done in helping to put Bluegrass into schools.

There has been considerable discussion about the concerns caused by Covid 19 and I'm sure that will be a topic for the new committee to deal with.

In September, I stood down as your Secretary to make way for the new committee, and was appointed as the acting Officer for Education.

Treasurer's Report (Sherryl Payne)

Position at end of 2019 (see end of report for current position):

Current ac	12,579
Deposit	5,072.68
Paypal	670.28
Postage ac	600.00
TOTAL	18, 921.96

This compares to 2018 total of £17463.90, which is an increase of £1458.06.

We have continued to help festivals in 2019 by discounting tickets for BBMA members. This cost £700 in 2018 and a bit less for 2019, £510. This year we had decided to stop the discounts but help the festivals directly with grants. However, no festivals happened so no grants were paid. We hope to be able to give grants to festivals next year.

There was a slight increase in advertising income of £175 (total £1225).

Memberships decreased for 2019 (-£981).

Work permits for touring bands coming here was down by -£1278.

We continue to sponsor students and spent £1107 in 2019, £148 less than 2018.

The 2019 accounts are with our Accountant being audited. These will be available on request when auditing is completed

Current funds to-date (31/10/20)

Lloyds	10,781.18
Savings	5074.42
Paypal	34.74
Postage ac	600
Total	16,490.34

[Membership Secretary's Report \(Chris Elson\)](#)

Comparison of this month with same month last year shows membership down by approximately 20% - 25% (It is difficult to be accurate due to overdue accounts, so of which may be renewed).

There have been big reductions band membership which is understandable in given the current situation. Currently there are 14 bands, compared with 22 for last year.

Total number of paid memberships is 246. The number of actual members is higher due to family/band members - current confirmed membership is 338.

Direct debit scheme has been unaffected (there are the same number of direct debits as last year) - and accounts for a third of memberships.

[Webmaster's report \(Geoff Berrow\)](#)

Mailing list has been started for members - 140 positive opt ins which represents much of the core membership.

[Editor's Report](#)

There was no report from the magazine editor. Kevin thanked Chris Lord for his efforts in taking over the magazine.

A media team has been formed, consisting of Trevor Hyett, Chris Lord and Geoff Berrow to coordinate and promote content across the website and the magazine.

[Resolutions](#)

There were no resolutions put before the meeting.

[Election of Officers](#)

The positions of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Member without Portfolio have become vacant. The Membership Secretary (Chris Elson) is remaining in post.

The following members have been proposed for these positions:

Position	Candidate	Proposer	Seconded
Chairman	Sherryl Payne	Trevor Hyett	Chris Elson
Secretary	Peter Earle	Sherryl Payne	Richard Holland
Treasurer	Kevin Garrett	Trevor Hyett	Andy Smith
Member without portfolio	Hilary Gowen	Kevin Garrett	Sherryl Payne

These appointments were accepted unanimously. At this point, Sherryl Payne took over proceedings as elected Chair.

She started with vote of thanks to Dave Teague, to recognise the huge effort during his chairmanship, especially during start of his tenure. In recognition, Dave Teague has been offered honorary membership of BBMA which has been accepted. Dave Teague thanked Sherryl and the association, and said that although he has stepped down from the committee he will continue to be an active member and help out where possible.

Sherryl also thanked Les Packer for his tenure as member without portfolio up to present.

Co-opted members

The following members were proposed for co-option to committee positions, in line with provision in the constitution:

Member	Area of Responsibility
Myron Prosser	Merchandising
Will Pinnock	Organising area representatives, especially with focus on attracting younger members
Paul Brewer	General help with committee activities
Trevor Hyett	Media team

These appointments were accepted unanimously.

Any Other Business

Dave Teague confirmed that he has some BBMA items which need to be returned. This will be actioned by the committee

Peter Earle thanked Kevin for chairing the meeting

The AGM concluded at 11.10am.