

## **Islington Folk Club**

### **Annual General Meeting for 2026**

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025, 6:30pm**

**The Brewhouse and Kitchen, 2a Corsica Street, N5 1JJ**

**Present:** Carol Burt (committee member), Maggie Chadwick (membership secretary), Maggie Eiseman-Renyard, Pete Eiseman-Renyard, David Fenton, Janine Hannah (booking officer), Mike Middlemass, Martin Nail (web-site officer), John Orsulik (booking officer), Bernard Puckett (committee member), Oliver Schick (secretary, minutes), Roger Trevitt (publicity officer), Victoria Walker.

**Apologies:** Nick Moran (treasurer, venue co-ordinator), Rob Twisse (committee member).

**For part of the meeting:** John Hannah (committee member), Simon Hindley.

Martin in the chair.

### **Agenda**

#### **1. Minutes of AGM and matters arising**

We adopted the minutes of the last AGM provisionally (proposed by Martin and seconded by Bernard), as there had been confusion about which set of minutes to look at. All were to read the minutes of the AGM for 2025 (19<sup>th</sup> December 2024) and to notify the secretary soon about any necessary changes.

#### **2. Treasurer's report and club accounts 2025**

Nick was absent, so we looked at the Interim Financial report 2025 and approved it. Proposed by Martin and seconded by Oliver.

#### **3. Reports from club officers 2025**

**Booking Officer report 2025:** Maggie talked us through her report about booking 2025.

Attendances had been between 81 and 21, with an average of 46, which was slightly down from 2024 (47), but essentially the same. We had made a surplus of £480. Only two club nights lost a small amount of money (£74 and £20, respectively). The gender balance had been that 22 out of 40 acts involved women performing, as opposed to 27 out of 41 for the previous year. We noted that there were a number of other North London clubs and other events that took place on Thursdays at the same time as our club nights.

**Publicity Officer report:** Roger delivered the publicity officer's report. He said he was keen to hand the job over and described what it involved. The main job was editing and sending out the weekly e-mails as well as liaising with some other listing sites (Folk and Honey, Folk London) about advertising. Halibut was a site that automatically scraped our programme page and aspired to list all events in London. We also always exchanged leaflets with the Cellar Upstairs and Walthamstow Folk Club.

Martin asked whether we should delete the X/Twitter account and replace it with a Bluesky account. The X/Twitter account didn't see much use. We didn't make a decision, but some were in favour.

Roger said that while all of the on-line sites clearly had some effect, he thought that word of mouth was probably still the most effective.

John O had gone on the Robert Elms show on the radio to promote the club night with J Eoin, which seemed to have brought quite a few people along.

The club had also received a thank you from Clementine Lovell in her album sleeve notes.

Victoria said that she had found out about the club from Google Maps. She said that she was unusual for someone her age in relying more on word of mouth and Facebook rather than Instagram.

John O said that TimeOut was very much missed and that nothing he had seen had adequately replaced it.

The meeting thanked Roger and Maggie.

#### **4. Constitutional changes**

No proposals for constitutional changes had been submitted by the deadline.

#### **5. Committee member elections:**

We held committee elections. The following volunteered:

**a. Up to two Booking Officers:** John O and Janine

**b. Venue Co-ordinator:** Nick had indicated that he was willing to continue and was nominated *in absentia*.

**c. Secretary:** Oliver

**d. Membership Secretary:** Maggie

**e. Treasurer:** Nick had indicated that he was willing to continue and was nominated *in absentia*.

**f. Publicity Officer:** Oliver agreed to write publicity blurbs if Roger would be willing to continue to do a number of other jobs. Victoria said that she had been thinking of volunteering for the role but wasn't sure yet. It was agreed that Oliver would take on the post title for the time being, sharing it with Roger to a small extent, and would possibly hand over to Victoria in the future

**g. Web-site Officers:** Martin and Maggie

**h. Other committee members** (without portfolios): Richard Allen (nominated *in absentia*), Carol Burt, John Hannah, Bernard Puckett, Roger Trevitt, Rob Twisse (nominated *in absentia*), Victoria Walker.

We elected the above slate as proposed by Carol and seconded by Bernard.

#### **5. Any other business**

We discussed a proposal by King's Place to conduct a folk club survey. They had asked whether we would share a link to the survey by e-mail. Maggie, the membership secretary, said that she

thought this would not be appropriate, as we had collected our members' e-mail addresses for more limited purposes than this. She suggested that we instead ask King's Place for a leaflet that we could distribute at our club nights. The meeting agreed with this proposal, with two votes against.

**Date of next AGM:** We agreed to hold the next AGM in January 2027, as holding it before the Christmas Party had not increased attendance and had caused some confusion as to which period of time the AGM was for.

The meeting closed at 7:35pm.