

# AGENDA



## Northern Voluntary Jazz Promoters AGM 2016



**Saturday 24th September 2016 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. @Scarborough Spa, Scarborough during the Scarborough Jazz Festival.**

### **Attendance: 14 People**

Chris DeSaram: Norvoljazz chair, Wakefield Jazz  
Geoff Matthews: NorvoJazz treasurer, Southport Jazz  
Paul Bream: Norvoljazz NE rep, Jazz North East Newcastle  
Steve Crocker: Norvoljazz secretary, Seven Jazz Leeds  
Barney Stevenson: Marsden Jazz Festival  
Gill Wilde: Grimsby Jazz  
Jean Watson: Seven Jazz Leeds  
Jez Matthews : Jazz at the Lescar/ Sheffield Jazz  
John Close: Jazz at the Lescar/ Sheffield Jazz  
Kim Macari: Apollo Jazz/Orpheus Project  
Lesley Jackson: Jazz North  
Neil Hughes: Cinnamon Club/Southport Jazz festival  
Paul Thomas: Sheffield Jazz  
Rosemary Holmes: Seven Jazz Leeds

Mike Gordon: Scarborough Jazz / Scarborough Jazz festival. Mike welcomed us to Scarborough but couldn't stay for meeting.

**Apologies** Les Brown Jazz at the Spa, Sam Ashton Hornby Jazz, Anton Hunter Freedom Principle, JATP Bradford, Steve Bootland, Jazz Co-op Newcastle –Dave Parker Debra Milne, Geoffrey Jackson - Ribble Valley, Neil Campbell at Capstone Theatre, Liverpool Jazz Festival

**1. Minutes of Previous AGM HELD AT LANCASTER Jazz Festival 19 Sept 2015 - noted**

**2. Chairs Annual report 2016**

Chris De Saram presented the report. It had been a good year for the network – he mentioned the success of the GfA grant for Project Orpheus and the tours by Ingrid Jensen, Ellery Eskelin and Seamus Blake. Also the “Great Jazz Festivals in the North leaflet and the marketing via the website, gig listings + the Jazz blog.

Comment **BS** – Northern jazz live blog name and Northern Jazz News name were too similar – confusing. SC/KM thought there was enough distinction of content between them at present.

**3. Treasurers Annual Report 2016**

29 paid up members 2016 (27 last year). Subs from **Lit and Phil Newcastle, Darlington Jazz, Jazz at Heart and Atkinson Southport** still awaited. Geoff Amos had decided not to renew.

Total income during year £36750.98 but bulk of this was GfA grant for Project Orpheus. Unpaid invoices £1100, including the contribution to festivals leaflet from **Darlington, Richmond and Whitley Bay**. Total expenditure during year £23770.46.

Noted that without GfA funding, the Norvol network would barely be financially viable and could not rely on “surpluses” from GfA schemes. KM said that it was unlikely there would be any surplus from the current Project Orpheus. Without Project Orpheus the Norvoljazz income was £3064.46 and expenditure was £3157.00 so there was no flexibility for any further development work.

With this in mind it was proposed by Jean Watson and seconded Barney Stevenson that **membership fee for 2017 rises from £25 to £50 pa per club. Agreed** (In favour 13 people Against 1) Norvoljazz admin group needed to explain carefully to our members why we had to do this

**4. Elections to Norvoljazz ADMIN GROUP 2016**

**Current group all agreed to stand again.** Chair – Chris de Saram, Treasurer – Geoff Matthews, Secretary – Steve Crocker, Paul Bream – NE rep. **Nominated by Gill Wilde, seconded by Jean Watson and approved unanimously.** GM said 2017 would be his final year as NorvolJazz Treasurer.

**AGM Meeting closed 11am**

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## Northern Voluntary Jazz Promoters Network Meeting



**Saturday 24th September 2016 11:00- 1.30pm**

Scarborough Spa, Scarborough during the Scarborough Jazz Festival.

### **Attendance: 14 People**

Chris DeSaram: NorVol jazz chair, Wakefield Jazz  
Geoff Matthews: NorVol jazz treasurer, Southport Jazz  
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**Apologies** Les Brown Jazz at the Spa, Sam Ashton Hornby Jazz, Anton Hunter Freedom Principle, JATP Bradford, Steve Bootland, Jazz Co-op Newcastle – Dave Parker, Debra Milne, Geoffrey Jackson-Ribble Valley, Neil Campbell Capstone Theatre, Liverpool Jazz Festival

**1. Minutes** from previous meeting at Ribble Valley Jazz and Blues Festival 30 April

Jazz North asked us to clarify Minutes 7 about our Great Jazz Festivals in the North leaflet and to amend it to read as follows: *“Jazz North had been keen to make this leaflet work but that level of investment had to also meet their own marketing objectives which wasn’t possible in the timescale following the first view of the draft”* With this amendment the minutes were **agreed**

**Matters arising**

- As a follow up to Minute 7 the above **Jazz North had instead agreed to support Norvoljazz administrative delivery of network meetings at the rate of £800 per year for the years 16/17 and 17/18.** This was the limit of our Jazz North’s direct financial contribution to Norvoljazz for the two years and would be funded from the budget originally set aside for the flyers. **This was noted and Jazz North were thanked for their contribution by the Chair**
- Update on Minute 9 **NorvolJazz and National Portfolio Funding.** Steve Crocker and Gill Wilde had met Stuart Isaacs on 14 June. EMJAZZ is a development agency of five member organisations clubs in East Midlands - Derby, Northampton, Nottingham, Lincoln, Leicester. It is an NPO funded by ACE. EMJAZZ has been a regularly funded client of Arts Council England since 2004. It did not run gigs itself, it works through the 5 clubs to deliver seasons of high quality concerts, education, outreach and artist development initiatives at various venues across the East Midlands region. The clubs were not legally bound to EMJAZZ – they are affiliates. Funding for EMJAZZ has been £77k per year over 3 years of which £44k pa goes direct to six promoters for production costs for gigs. EMJAZZ would be open to doing a joint NPO bid with Norvol and they would also be open to lower level of co operation - eg us getting involved with their peer review system to learn more about other clubs. They would also be willing to talk to individual clubs in the Norvoljazz network about them becoming member organisations of EMJAZZ.

Further discussions with NorvolJazz members had made it clear that there was no collective will to pursue National Portfolio funding. The Norvoljazz network was too diverse, and the additional accounting and administrative burden would be too great. **The network meeting therefore agreed not to pursue National Portfolio funding. It was agreed to pursue further co-operation with EMJAZZ over peer to peer reviews, and for individual clubs in the NorVol jazz network to seek closer working with EMJAZZ if appropriate.**

**2. Norvol member roundup:**

**Wakefield Jazz** Had had a successful season and the increased levels of income had enabled the club to book much bigger names in the current programme

**Seven Jazz Leeds** The Village Jazz Festival (first one) had gone well – a total of 15 bands over the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in September. New Big Band formed for festival would continue. Looking to have a Leeds Jazz Festival starting next year. Club workshops, jam sessions and jazz choir going well. Summer club audiences had been noticeably lower than last year though.



**Jazz North East** Funding application had gone in to develop a new website. 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary event planned in 2017 with commissioned music. They were working with Newcastle University music department to develop a database of UK and American improvisers

**Marsden Jazz Festival** 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year – over 100 events programmed. More “challenging stuff”, bigger international side and a “Monster Music programme for kids.

**Grimsby Jazz** Gill Wilde had run her final (successful) Cleethorpes Jazz Festival in June – in future the organisation would be run by Chalotte from Culture House – a local Arts promotion business. Grimsby jazz club struggling a little with lower audiences. Workshops with schools had been highly successful.

**Sheffield Jazz** Audiences becoming harder to predict. Club financially robust however - gift aid bringing in £4k per year. Sheffield Jazz no longer programming jazz at Sheffield Students Union venue. Crucible studio concerts highly successful. New main venue in Crookes Social Club in Sheffield to start in October.

**Jazz at Lescar Sheffield** Audiences slightly down. Revamp planned – maybe dropping jazz from the title? Photographer now for all gigs. Previews and interviews with all bands. Vula Veil coming in November. Dutch bands planned with JPN.

**Cinnamon Club/Southport Jazz Festival** Neil Hughes now running Southport Jazz Festival. New booking system. Interesting stats – men attending festival were attracted by instrumentalist groups, women more to singers. Extra day for festival – Thursday gigs. Cinnamon club 13 years old this year – still successful

**Jazz in Southport** Southport Jazz now had monthly gigs at the Atkinson coffee shop and had a new younger committee. Geoff Matthews was running four gigs per year at Royal Clifton hotel – popular jazz, plus running some smaller gigs in bars and a programming a highly popular U3A programme – the grey pound? U3 A had a national jazz group nb.

**Jazz North** Now had an extended “Northern Line” scheme. New JN website planned with gig listing facilities. JN seeking funding from charity bodies. Jazz North introduces – KM was organising this programme now - Wandering Monster were current band featured. An important issue for JN was lack of diversity in jazz. Jazz North were to submit a Touring bid to Arts Council.

### **3. Bid for Promoter Development Lesley Jackson (Jazz North)**

Lesley Jackson put forward some ideas worked up in a previous discussion between her/PB and SC about a possible joint Jazz North/NorVol Jazz programme for bespoke professional development

Feedback – Dave Parker from the Jazz Co-op offered their own community owned co-operative for a model to study. Sheffield Jazz said that we have already had a programme of seminars – not everyone had attended but PT doubted whether we needed to repeat them. A programme to help train new jazz promoters would help tackle problems of succession in existing clubs and starting new venues etc. A paid internship scheme for new promoter would be an ideal. Also needed to increase the diversity of club promoters

**Agreed – the meeting welcomed the proposal for a joint Jazz North/Norval jazz programme. The focus should be on helping to help train the next generation of promoters. Action - A sub group be established to take on the development of a joint proposal convened by Lesley Jackson (Jazz North) to include Sheffield Jazz (JM/JC) and Jazz North East (PB/Wesley Stephenson).**

#### **4. Orpheus Project / NorVol Touring Mark II - Kim Macari Stone-Lonergan**

Touring Mark I with Ingrid Jensen had gone well. John Fordham had reviewed the Ronnie Scott gig favourably. Ellery Eskelin tour going well currently – BBC to broadcast the Lescar gig. Apollo had done their own communications/PR for the second tour and this had worked well. Seamus Blake coming in February. JM and SC offered to help out with looking at issues of funding for Mark I scheme

What about Mark II? There had been an initial meeting of the Admin group and Kim to discuss a Mark II programme bid. Suggested it should be about the same size (three tours) but perhaps look at partners from **other countries** where funding might be available. Kim was thanked by Norvoljazz members for all her hard work in putting the touring programme together

**Action – agreed to support a Mark II Touring bid. Planning would get underway in the new year**

#### **5. Newcastle Dutch Jazz Day - Paul Bream**

A number of NorVol jazz members had taken part in the JPN organised Dutch visits. The Dutch performing arts will pay travel and accommodation for bands, the clubs need to find the fees.

PB was working with JPN and Dutch performing arts to bring a showcase of Dutch bands to an all-day event of 6-8 bands on **Sunday 22 January at the Lit and Phil in Newcastle**. NorVol Jazz clubs were invited.

#### **6. JPN membership – Barney Stevenson**

Barney Stevenson (who is also a JPN Board member) talked about current strands of JPN work – Emerging Talent and UK artists abroad + the Dutch initiative (see above). Several NorvolJazz members were also JPN members. Suggestion that there was a need to clarify the relationship between the JPN and Jazz UK, and JPN and regional bodies like NorVol jazz, Jazz North and EMJAZZ.

**Action - proposal that NorVol Jazz network renew the group membership of JPN for a further year by SC, seconded by PB. Approved (BS abstained)**

#### **7. Update and feedback on NorVol promotions Geoff Matthews / Steve Crocker**

The first leaflet Great Jazz Festivals in the North had been a success. SC asked LJ if Jazz North staff and board could take it with them on visits to European events to help spread the word. A promotional leaflet designed to encourage festival goers to come to jazz clubs was thought useful but there was no appetite at present for undertaking the work

#### **8. A o B**

KM asked if anyone in Leeds had been by “Love Music” (Lizzy Ridding). Idea was to make live music more accessible to people. Apparently not! SC to investigate

#### **9. Next Meeting**

**Agreed to meet next at Southport Royal Clifton Hotel during the Jazz on a Winter's Weekend Sat 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017 10.30-2pm**