

Mevagissey Male Choir

Minutes of Committee Meeting, Tues 15th March 2022, 7.30pm. Mevagissey Social Club

Present:

Nick Nicholls – Chair (NN).	Chris Williams (CW)
Graham Hoskins – Treasurer (GH)	Simon Lawday (SL)
Robin Murphy – Secretary (RM)	Clifford Burnett (CB)
Steve Gibson (SG) – Vice Chair (SG)	Roger Mitchell (RoM)
Mike Tate – Publicity (MT)	Bill Roberts (BR)
Dave Leeson (DL)	Humfrey Stobart (HS)
Steve Truscott (ST)	

1. Apologies/Absent - None
2. Minutes of 15/02/2022 meeting – The minutes were deemed to be accurate, and ready for publication on the website.
3. Matters arising (if not on agenda) – **CD sales**. CW reported that he had spoken to Graham Willcocks re the part-recorded CD, and Graham doubted that there would be any immediate prospect of recording any more tracks with choir numbers as they are at present. CW ran off another copy for Graham to give him a chance to reassess his opinion. CW reminded the committee that the choir has 1830 CDs in stock, and this prompted much discussion about offers to our audiences, culminating in DL proposing that we adopt a policy of 2 for 1 CD sales at all future concerts. This was seconded by HS, and adopted *nem con*.
4. NN said the **St Piran's concert**, on the quay, had been very well received, and that Graham Willcocks was pleased by the standard of singing, despite a pesky breeze that threatened to decorate the lighthouse with his music scores. SG/RM reported excellent feedback from around the village, and, in particular, from the organisers of the event. BR and HS would have preferred to be in uniform. RM and GH felt it was too cold for uniforms.
5. **Federation monies**. RM received an e-mail from Phil Taylor, and passed it to GH. Essentially, the Federation requires payment for Birmingham tickets, ordered on the Choir's behalf on 30/08/2019, by Rod Richardson, and issued, according to Federation records, on 22/11/2019.

To date, no tickets have been received by the choir, and NN confirmed that, up till now, the choir has not received any request from the Federation for ticket payments. Indeed, GH is holding £810 in our choir accounts, representing payments by 18 of our members, for tickets that they have yet to receive. It appears that we are not the only choir in this situation, and the Federation reckon they are down by some £9000. GH and DL said we need to pay the Federation for anything we owe, but RM suggested we contact Rod first, for his understanding of events, and NN will do this. SG pointed out that any misunderstandings and miscommunications are likely to be part of the fallout from COVID – nobody had wanted the concert to fail.

6. **Ukraine concerts.** NN said Graham Willcocks was in favour of our participation and would select two suitable songs to be worked on at our next rehearsal. GH gave us the running order and said 190 tickets had already been sold. HS wanted the choir to be in uniform. GH is running the sound for the whole concert, and Press Gang are ending the show, so it is likely too difficult for GH/NN/SL to be in choir uniform. NN felt it was really important for the choir to be part of such a community activity. HS proposed that the choir wear uniforms, SG seconded, and it was carried. There followed a lengthy discussion as to whether the choir should/could hold its own concert in aid of the Ukraine. BR and MT supported this. HS suggested going for the biggest possible venue. GH agreed, and said we could invite other acts as support. NN wondered if we could combine fundraising with our Minack concert. This will be on the agenda at our next meeting.
7. **Treasurers report.** Graham has already posted his report online, and said that more subs had been paid, but that we're still light by about nine members, most of whom were suffering with illness.
8. **A.O.B.** ST suggested giving CDs to prospective advertisers, and said that Tesco is willing to offer us a collection date in December. MT said that Matt Facey had offered to take photos of the choir at the Minack, and had access to a drone. NN asked SL if he'd be prepared to hold over discussion of a 'choir social' till a subsequent meeting. SL agreed. Finally, NN reported the sad news that he'd received a letter of resignation from Ray George, for personal reasons.
9. **Next committee meeting.** Tuesday 12th April, Mevagissey Social Club.