



Minutes of Committee Meeting

Mevagissey Social Club on 18th September 2018

PRESENT: N. Nicholls (NN); R Mitchell (RM); P Bowker (PB); S Lawday (SL); C Williams (CW); M Tate (MT); C. Burnett (CB); G Hoskins (GH); S Gibson (SG); D Leeson (DL); H Stobart (HS).

Meeting opened at 7.37pm.

1 APOLOGIES: P Vellenoweth (PV);

2 MINUTES: of meeting held 17th July agreed as a true and fair record. Proposed SG; seconded RM, carried unanimously.

3 MATTERS ARISING:

Deputy Conductor: Mike S Thompson has accepted Graham Willcocks' invitation, approved by the Committee, to become a Deputy Conductor.

Ronnie Gibson: SG still to collect his music/uniform.

Riser covers: CW estimated cost at £600 + VAT. General discussion, including re preferred colour. PB brought examples of new, modern risers, but deemed inappropriate for choir needs and storage. It was proposed by GH and seconded by NN that:

CW should proceed to re-carpet risers, in grey, but to use his discretion, and to provide end panels.

Motion carried unanimously. **Action: CW**

New members' uniforms: Further lengthy discussion re the process whereby new members acquire their uniforms. It was proposed by DL and seconded by GH that:

In the event of a new member passing his voice test, he should be promptly advised by his section leader that he needs to pay £50 towards the [approx. £200] cost of his uniform. At the same time the section leader should inform the Treasurer. On receipt of this payment, and not before, the Treasurer should inform Chris Bale, who will proceed to order the uniform.

Motion carried unanimously.

Register: George Phillips to be reminded to keeping a register of attendees on a Monday. **Action: NN**

4 TREASURER

GH presented accounts for July and August. He drew attention to the excellent payment of £1,150 to the Feast Week committee following the June concert, and to the healthy CD sales and donations, both from individuals and from singing in the Fountain. He also mentioned that two members had still to complete payment of their Choir subs. After some discussion, it was agreed that NN would speak to the individuals concerned and report back to the committee. **Action: NN PB**

reported that six advertisers had yet to settle their invoices. 'Overdue statements' had been delivered. **Action: PB.** GH thanked for his efforts.

5 CONCERT DE-BRIEF

Yealmpton – No concerns.

Truro – Inadequate amplification for compere/soloists, despite previous assurances from hosts. After some discussion, it was agreed that Choir mikes should be taken to **every** concert as back-up.

Quay concerts: Some disappointment at the lack of variety in the programme but it was unanimously acknowledged that this was inevitable given that Mike S Thompson was standing in for the MD and had done an excellent job. Generally agreed that CD sales and collections had been particularly successful.

6 UPCOMING CONCERTS

Ashburton (6/10): Tickets £10 each, Adrian Wilton to compere, Rosemary Turner is soloist, GH to prepare programmes, C Bale to take risers, MT/GH to publicise, refreshments and afterglow at venue.

Harvest of the Sea (14/10): RM confirmed that Jubilee Hall had been booked. Fountain to be asked to supply beer. **Action: NN.** Tenors to be asked to bring sweet food, Bari's and Basses savoury. **Action: NN**

Tavistock (20/10): Tickets £10 (£5) to Choir followers, available from GH.

Coaches required for Ashburton and Tavistock. Agreed that we order from Williams (cheaper than Roselyn). G Phillips to be asked to monitor. **Action: CB**

7 CONCERTS (NEW):

CB reported that a request had come in from Noss Mayo for 22 or 29 June 2019. The Choir has also had a request to sing at Caerhays Castle for Cancer Research, in early June. Both recommended to be put to members next Monday.

Action: NN A request had also been received for a small choir to sing at Roseland Parc. **Action: CB** HS reported that there had been a suggestion that the Choir should perform a tribute to Brian Mitchell, at Gorran Church. Mitchell family approved. Plan is to mount plaques in Gorran Church and St Andrew's. Matt Fox had agreed to play the organ. Meva Ladies had agreed to take part. Suggested date spring 2019. **Action: HS** to pursue.

8 NAPLES UPDATE:

Suggested Naples trip is off. Venice trip being explored. **Action: PB** to report.

9 BIRMINGHAM 2020:

Some 30 members now committed. Federation meeting on 20 September. **Action: MT** to ask Chris Bale for feedback. If venture goes ahead, MMC will take part as a choir. DL still exploring possibility of a concert on the return journey following invitation from Warmley Park school, Bristol. **Action: DL** to report back.

10 MUSIC COMMITTEE + CDs AND DOWNLOADS

CW reported that stocks of 'In Concert' were very low. RM reported that Cathedral shop needed more supplies. CW advised that cost of 1,000 copies would be up to around £1,000. Proposed by RM and seconded by HS that: **1,000 copies of 'In Concert' should be ordered.**

Motion carried. **Action: CW** to progress.

11 TOUR FUND:

A general discussion took place about having a separate account for Choir tours. Initial funding would come from Gift Aid. As a first move, it was proposed by SG and seconded by RM that:

the current Gift Aid account should be renamed Tour Fund.

Motion carried.

Action: DL and GH to consider next moves.

12 PUBLICITY:

Stories in Guardian, Voice and Tower & Spire. GH had investigated Choir's Facebook and discovered that there were currently three MMC pages. One [referred to here as FB1] had the Choir's logo and its current administrators were listed as A Gill, J Gill, M Tate, G Hoskins and B Collins. It had 605 followers. A second [FB2] listed only A Gill and J Gill as administrators. The third [FB3] had not been used since 2012 and there was no information on identity of the administrator(s). It was generally agreed that, for the sake of the Choir's integrity, it would be better if only one existed and that its administrators should be members of the Committee. It was also believed that A Gill was administering an MMC Twitter account. The Committee asked GH to interrogate FB3 further for the identity of its administrators and MT to speak to the Gills about closing FB2 and to enquire about the Twitter account. **Action: GH/MT**

13 ALMONER:

No report. DL reported that former member Roger Lemin was in Treliske. MT agreed to advise the almoner. **Action: MT**

14 MEMBERSHIP (Section Leaders):

Tops: Nothing to report.

Seconds: Alex Pearce (son of Paul, grandson of John), has joined.

Baritones: Tony Walder-Harding – HS mentoring

Bass: Rod Richardson passed voice test end-August. George Ellis joined.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Open Air Singing: NN read out Federation warning re need for local authority permission when singing in public places.

Honorary members: Candidates mentioned with a view to presentation at Harvest of the Sea. **Action: NN** to speak to potential candidates.

Music Director payments: GW available now until next treatment in February. Question of dual payments to him and MT to be re-visited in the new year.

First Aid: DL suggested Choir should look into acquiring a defibrillator, leading to a general discussion about first aid. As a first step, NN to ask members about capabilities on Monday, with a view to putting a list together. **Action: NN.**

Christmas Concert: SG confirmed school have been asked re availability.

Trailer service: **Action: PB**

Social: SL suggested ten-pin bowling. **Action: SL** to put to members on Monday

Meeting closed at 10.06pm

Next meeting: 7.30pm, Tuesday 16th October, Mevagissey Social Club.