

Mevagissey Male Choir

Minutes of Committee Meeting, held at St Andrew's church Monday, 13th December 2021, after rehearsal.

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)	Graham Alee (GA)
Mike Tate – Publicity (MT)	Bill Roberts (BR)
Roger Mitchell (RoM)	

1. **Apologies for absence:** Humfrey Stobart, Rod Richardson, Dave Leeson
2. **Minutes of meeting held 15 November 2021:** Minutes are accurate and can be put on the website.
3. **Matters arising (if not on agenda)** NN thanked MT for getting choir recordings played on BBC Radio Cornwall several times, and CW for supplying them, in the lead-up to Christmas.
4. **Almoner's Report:** GA reported that Bernard was heartened and cheered by choir member's messages of support.
5. **Membership Poll:** NN reported that the result of the poll of members, asking whether they wished to continue in the choir, produced a very positive result. All but one member, who remains undecided, expressed a desire to stay. At the same time, only 12 choir members expressed a desire to continue with the trip to Birmingham, and some of the those 12 had waning interest unless the whole choir was going. There was extensive discussion, with contributions from NN, SG, GH, BR and RoM, and it was decided to hold over the subject to a later date, to allow time to get more information/guidance/decisive action from the Federation.
6. **Recovery of music and uniforms:** SG and NN are working on this, but SG reports a shortage of Christmas music returns, which has led to a shortage to supply new members. Some people have evidently been returning the main repertoire, but forgetting the Christmas music, which a lot of people keep separately.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** GH had, as usual, pre-circulated the breakdown of figures, and highlighted the success of the December concert at St. Augustine's. £565 was raised by ticket sales, and the raffle made £170, totalling ££735, a healthy rise on the £400+ raised at the same venue in 2019. GH said that previously, £100 was held back to cover expenses etc of the music team, and RoM proposed that we do that again, seconded by CW and carried by all. Thus the concert raised £635 for St Petroc's, + extra amounts being donated by members of the audience. NN thanked GH for all his work on tickets for the concert.
8. **Monday practices.** NN and SG were keen not to let the Covid prevention standards slip, particularly regarding fresh air, and distancing, and RM will send out a choir-wide reminder before the next rehearsal.

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9. **Concert Bookings** CB had more details of the proposed 'Man Down' concert in October. The organisers are asking for two singing sessions, possibly split by an hour and a half, but NN felt it would be fairer to sing in one session. CB will discuss with them. CB also asked about a date at Caerhays Castle on the afternoon of June 12th. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend this to the Choir.
10. **Bursary:** NN has been in touch with the mother of our proposed candidate for the £270 bursary. Isaac Salaman is a 15 year old pupil at Penrice, who plays guitar, writes songs, and sings in the Cornwall Youth Choir. He wrote a song for the G7 summit. His mother is happy to have him perform with the choir on a mutually agreed date. Awarding the bursary to Isaac was unanimously agreed.
11. **Publicity report:** MT reported on his intention to use recordings from the St. Augustine's concert and hoped that one song – possibly 'Away in a manger' – could be used as a 'Choir Christmas card' for choir friends and supporters. Buzzard Films will supply MT with the recording, and it would be passed to Graham W. for approval. MT suggested a tidying up of the 'Friends of the Choir', who have joined as and when over the years, by instituting an annual membership, commencing in January. GH suggested a minimum donation on £10, MT proposed this, SL seconded, and it was carried unanimously.
12. **CD sales and downloads:** CW reported 2 sales of the Christmas CD this month.00.
13. **MMC 50th Anniversary year 2024:** Hold over to future meeting.
14. **Dinner/Dance:** Hold over to future meeting.
15. **AOB:** SL to make sure the band are cancelled, as well as the dinner/dance venue on Jan 22nd 2022. NN to look at whether a deputy choi marshal needs to be chosen, to cover Humfrey, when he is away. GH asked about monies paid in advance for Birmingham guest tickets etc. NN to investigate.

Date & venue of next meeting:

This is intended to take place on Monday 10 January 2022, possibly via Zoom.