

Mevagissey Male Choir

Minutes of Committee Meeting, held by Zoom Tuesday 20 July, 2021 @ 19:30hrs

Present:

Nick Nicholls – Chair (NN)

Stephen Gibson – Vice Chair (SG)

Graham Hoskins – Treasurer (GH)

Robin Murphy – Secretary (RM)

Roger Mitchell – (RoM)

David Leeson (DL)

Chris Williams (CW)

Humfrey Stobart (HS)

Clifford Burnett (CB)

1. **Apologies for absence:** Rod Richardson. **Absent:** Simon Lawday
2. **Minutes of meeting held 22 June 2021:** Item 13 (a) should have read “ask Graham Rundle and then report back to the committee.” They were then deemed by those present to be accurate and signed by NN.
3. **Matters arising (if not on agenda):** NN reported that Graham Rundle was pleased the committee had agreed to his suggestion to organise possible future trips abroad for the choir, all such trips to be ratified by the whole choir.

During discussion, the committee agreed that there would be no quay concerts in August as it was felt to be impossible to provide a safe environment for both the choir and any audience.

There were several other matters, all of which were discussed and are noted later in the minutes, or under AOB.

4. **Almoner’s Report:** No report as GA was absent.
5. **Treasurer’s Report:** Circulated prior to the meeting. NN has CD sales revenue and a bucket with some money from onlookers at last night’s rehearsal, which he has given to GH. RoM wished to thank all the sales outlets which over the years have provided a small but steady stream of income for the choir.
6. **Monday practices:** It was unanimously agreed by all that were there that the practice on Monday 19 July, outside St Andrew’s church, was a success. Those members of the committee that were present commented on how energising it was to hear our music so obviously enjoyed by passers-by and spectators. SG and RM both noted the number of positive comments that had been posted on various Mevagissey websites. A number of people throughout the village reported throwing their windows open to hear their choir back again. Even though it was just a scheduled rehearsal it was impossible for it not to become something of a performance and the choir rose to the occasion! DL pointed out that a number of the pieces that we sang on Monday night had not been sung for over 18 months. The next rehearsal is due to take place at HS’s Barn at 7:30pm on Monday 26th, and venues for future rehearsals will be decided on a week-by-week basis. The committee agreed that everyone attending future rehearsals should adhere to previously agreed COVID protocols.
7. **Concert Bookings:** There have been no further concert bookings.
8. **Publicity Report:** Little to report, due to the current uncertainty over quay concerts. MT has indicated that he will have press releases ready to roll when decisions are made. Our

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constitution says that a Publicity Officer is an elected member of the committee. MT has decided he does not wish to attend further meetings. Therefore the committee again invite any member to offer their services as Publicity Officer to the choir. The committee recognises that MT has made a valuable contribution to the choir in this capacity, and have asked him to continue looking after activity, with apologies for missing committee meetings. MT will continue until such time as the choir can change the constitution.

9. **CD sales & downloads:** Nothing to report.

10. **AGM & EGM Date:** Deferred to a later date.

11. **Choir "Reunion":** Decided, in present circumstances, to remove from the agenda.

12. AOB:

There was general agreement that recruitment was not easy at present, and that this should be actively pursued as soon as possible.

DL requested that "Bursary" be reinstated on the next agenda. NN is dealing with this and awaiting a response from Matt Douglas.

There was general discussion around membership numbers. Robbie Collins and Bill Collins have both resigned, as have Derek Way and Phil Johns. HS proposed that Derek and Robbie become Honorary Members. This was unanimously agreed.

RM has been investigating the possibility of venues to host future concerts that provide a safe environment for the choir. Rosey is chasing this up and if successful RM will liaise with CB for venue inspection. The objective is to present a concert in safe circumstances before the end of August. The committee agreed to this.

HS suggested that all section leaders contact their respective members as to why they are missing rehearsals.

The choir trailer is being serviced this week by Alex Pearce. CB reminded the committee that the risers needed attention. Paul Horseman is going to look at them and SG will check with him on progress.

NN reported on the Birmingham Concert, which has a new date of 3 September 2022. Hotel and coach bookings have been transferred to that date. There is a need to sort out fundraising and this will be discussed at the AGM.

13. **Date & venue of next meeting:** With the constantly changing and developing COVID situation the committee, which in previous years would not have met in August, have decided the next meeting will take place by Zoom on Tuesday 17 August.