

## Mevagissey Male Choir

### Minutes of Committee Meeting, Tues October 18th 2022, 7.30pm. Mevagissey Social Club

#### Present:

Nick Nicholls – Chair (NN).  
Graham Hoskins – Treasurer (GH)  
Robin Murphy – Secretary (RM)  
Simon Lawday (SL)  
Steve Truscott – Fundraising (ST)  
Humfrey Stobart (HS)

Cliff Burnett – Concerts (CB)  
Chris Williams (CW)  
Dave Leeson (DL)  
Roger Mitchell (RoM)  
Bill Roberts (BR)

1. Apologies/Absent – Apologies received from Steve Gibson, Graham A'lee, Mike Tate
2. Minutes of 20/09/2022 meeting – The minutes were deemed to be accurate, and ready for publication on the website.
3. Matters arising (if not on agenda) – none.
4. Treasurers report. GH presented the last report of the Choir's financial year. General discussion followed, detailing a small number of choir members who still owe some money for their subs. GH then reported that a refund of £1,485 had been received from the Federation to reimburse monies owed after the cancellation of the Birmingham concert. All members concerned have chosen to set these monies against their subs for next year (2023). Another donation amounting to £230 has been received from Friends in the USA. Our concert with Penzance Orpheus raised £421 cash, plus £102.23 via the card machine, which has proved a great success. Only real expenses have been those incurred by sourcing Graham Willcock's presentation. CW suggested that it is worth pursuing GiftAid, particularly on the £2,315 raised from the Quay Concert bucket collections. GH agreed to pursue this. There followed a general discussion about whether moving the Choir's funds to a high interest account (given the current changes in rates) would be advantageous.

5. Musical Direction: NN reported meeting Jimmy Cannon, a resident of St Austell, to discuss whether or not he'd be interested in working with the Choir, as MD. Jimmy is a professional voice coach and an excellent saxophonist (he's played with the Sid Lawrence Orchestra!), and as a teenager sang in a choir with RoM. NN enjoyed the meeting and invited Jimmy to join us at our rehearsal on 7<sup>th</sup> November, where he will be given the opportunity to conduct "Fly me to the Moon". NN said that apart from obvious musical talents, MMC needs a team-player with a sense of humour and felt Jimmy would fit the bill nicely.
6. Future concert matters: CB reported that our arranged joint-concert with the Abertillery Male Voice Choir on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023 now clashes with the date of King Charles's Coronation. NN said no to 6<sup>th</sup> May and CB should get in touch with Abertillery and see whether there are any other suitable nearby dates to move to. CB said 3 volunteers are needed at Tywardreath Church for our Barnstaple concert, as a safety precaution to help guide audience members. CB reports that The New Inn has provided various prices for catering at the afterglow but he considered these too expensive. Much discussion ensued, but the feeling was that we are too close to the concert date to source a suitable change of venue. Supply of refreshments at concerts will be on the next agenda.
7. Choir recruitment/advertising: ST reported that Alan Mash (our new choir recruiter) is seeking help and information about the possibility of advertising for new singers. GH said that other choirs had had reasonable success with posters. ST wanted to know if there was money to support adverts/posters and GH replied that he could print them in the usual way. Discussion followed around the subject of posters and business cards and the best places to display them.
8. AOB:
  - I. RoM said that after 45 years of charming local shop/venue operators to take our CDs etc., he felt it was time to hand on the responsibility. NN offered huge thanks to RoM for his unstinting service and agreed that we should ask around the Choir as soon as possible for a volunteer to take over.
  - II. ST asked about the positioning of posters, reflecting on the amount that were around advertising The Shanty Festival. HS said that fly posting is still illegal unless posted on private land with the

owner/landlord's permission. He said it was worth asking, because Peter Bowker has big banners that could look very impressive if correctly and legally erected.

- III. HS said the trailer hasn't been moved for a year. It is rusting and probably a non-runner. NN said that the condition of the trailer is a matter of some urgency and that we should approach Alex Pearce for possible servicing. The subject of the trailer would be on the next agenda.
- IV. BR suggested that Section Leaders should encourage as many members as possible to attend the rehearsal on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November to meet Jimmy Cannon.
- V. DL asked that the subject of a "ladies committee" could be on the next agenda.
- VI. SL asked If there was enough support for a dinner dance at the Carlyon Golf Club early next year. NN replied that about 50% of the Choir usually attend and that we must canvass the Choir at the next rehearsal.
- VII. CB reminded everyone that the Choir photo in St Andrew's Church needs updating. All agreed.

**9. Next committee meeting. Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm, at Mevagissey Social Club.**