

Mevagissey Male Choir

Minutes of Committee Meeting, Tues April 18th, 2023, 7.30pm.

Mevagissey Social Club

Present:

Steve Gibson – Chair (SG).

Tony Scarratt – Vice Chair (TS)

Robin Murphy – Secretary (RM)

Steve Truscott – Fundraising (ST)

Graham Hoskins – Treasurer (GH)

Roger Mitchell – (RoM)

Chris Williams (CW)

Dave Leeson (DL)

Bill Roberts (BR)

Clifford Burnett (CB)

1. Apologies/Absent – Apologies received from Graham A'Lee.
2. Minutes of 21/03/2023 meeting – The minutes were deemed to be accurate, and ready for publication on the website.
3. Matters arising (if not on agenda) – **Committee Positions:** SG, in response to a prompting from ST, said that a direct appeal will be made, after next Monday's rehearsal, for volunteers for the post of Librarian, and for that of CD sales and distribution. **Facebook:** DL asked about progress on the Choir's Facebook page. SG reported that the smaller page has been closed, and that he and TS have been added to the Admin of the main page, titled 'Mevagissey Male Choir' Thanks were made to Andy Gill for his enthusiastic assistance in this matter. **Uniforms:** SG has emailed Chris Bale, to clarify that all uniform requests will come from Section Reps, having first been approved by GH. **Bursary:** TS has written to Angela Renshaw regarding potential recipients of our proposed bursary, and she has asked if she can consult with her Cornish Music team, Andy and Kate. **Choir Manager:** SG said the intention is to roll out the use of the Choir Manager programme. It's working for some, but not others, but should prove useful, not least for Jimmy Cannon, and Section Leaders. **Future Concerts:** TS asked about a potential booking at the Minack in 2024, as that might impact on his proposed Torbay date. CB has phoned and emailed the Minack, but has had no replies as yet. **CDs:** GH mentioned that he's seen our Choir CDs on sale at the Cornish shop in Falmouth, for £14 – the most expensive there. Normally we get £6 on a price of £10, so

the shop was making £8 per copy. **Peterborough:** SG again urged everyone to visit the Peterborough site, as he believes it provides interesting background to where we want to take the choir. **Choir 50th:** RM said GH has already provided him with the financial details of the 40th anniversary as requested. **SGM:** SG was happy with the SGM, particularly the attendance. **PRS:** GH confirmed that the PRS licence that we have covers the downloads of our recorded material, i.e. the sales of our CDs and individual tracks on the internet. DL has spoken to the PRS, and they have confirmed that the licence we have covers our needs. * Minutes signed off.

4. Treasurer's report. GH reported another quiet month, with no concert income, but a few more subs, and sales of ads. Outgoings included a recruitment ad in the St Blazey Players' programme, a membership fee to the Cornwall Federation of Choirs, and a payment to Matt Douglas for his arrangement of 'Cornwall, my home'. GH says subs are now at a good level, but there are still five members who've not paid, or started paying, who we might have expected to. The total stands in good comparison to previous years. There followed a lengthy discussion regarding the non-payers. While the Committee recognises that they all have their individual circumstances, we also have fiscal and practical responsibilities regarding the return of uniforms and music, particularly on behalf of new members.
5. Calendar: A general discussion of the desired shape the Choir's year, resulting in a re-statement of our intention to keep January and February performance-free, to allow for the introduction and rehearsal of new material. Only an exceptional concert booking would vary this.
6. Future Concerts. CB reported that Penrice House had been in touch again, asking for a 40-minute concert, as a 50th anniversary celebration at the House. Reflecting our long concert relationship with Penrice, the Committee suggested Saturday July 22nd, at 2pm. Artur, our new bass, is looking to arrange a concert in 2024, with his previous choir, at Reading. It was decided to encourage him to pursue this, with regular reference to CB. Phil Walters is trying to get sponsorship for the Choir to do a concert in Holsworthy, Devon, in 2024. CB asked to keep chasing the Minack for a 2024 date, as a matter of urgency.

7. Choir 50th. RM reported that the sub-committee will meet within a fortnight, to pin down a desirable working budget for the Hall for Cornwall.

8. AOB. CB asked that members be reminded to park as considerately as possible when we're at St Andrew's, as it's been a bit of a bunfight recently. DL reported that his information collection on Gift Aid was progressing. CW mentioned a chap in Par who is willing to print anything for us, up to A3 size, for free. RM said that Ian Ridler had approached with a highly-recommended Ukrainian song that he'd sung when he was with the Police Choir in Hereford. RM advised pursuing the Music Committee route of Terry Coplin and Jimmy Cannon. ST has extracted a date from Tesco for our pre-Christmas collection – Saturday, December 16th.

**Our next committee meeting will be on Tuesday, 16th May 2023,
at the Mevagissey Social Club, 7.30 pm.**