Mevagissey Male Choir

Notes of Zoom committee meeting held at 19.30 on Wednesday 23rd September 2020

Present:- Nick Nicholls (NN) (Chair), Mike Tate (MT), Chris Williams (CW), Simon Lawday (SW), Graham Hoskins (GH), Roger Mitchell (RM), Clifford Burnett(CB), Humfrey Stobart (HS), David Leeson (DL).

1. Chairman’s opening remarks.

The Chairman thanked all those who had joined the meeting and established that DL would take notes.

1. Minutes (Notes) of 23/7/20

GH informed the meetings that the number of unpaid subs in his report to the last meeting stood at 5 with 2 others only half paid.

DL drew the meeting’s attention to the fact that it was CW and DL who were to contact members of the Bass section, not DL and CB.

With the above corrections, the minutes were deemed to be an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising

The Church had expressed its appreciation that we had continued to make our payments.

Stephen Gibson had yet to canvass the membership for their reaction to the new date (and day) for the Birmingham Concert.

4. Members’ roll call / Almoner report (Section Leaders / Almoner)

Information surrounding the difficulties which some members were experiencing was shared and support strategies discussed. MT suggested that Honorary Members should be included in the roll call, and it was decided that Section Leaders would contact Honorary Members who had been in their sections.

5. The Treasurer’s Report.

This had been circulated earlier and the meeting expressed regret at the lack of activity. Those who had not paid their subs in full were identified, and Section Leaders tasked with approaching them. It was noted with disappointment that only one of the seven had pleaded poverty.

It was agreed that the timing/calling of the next AGM should be on the agenda of the next meeting, as should how and when next year’s annual subscription should be decided.

6. Honoraria

Both members of the Music Team had expressed their appreciation of the committee’s generosity in continuing the pay the honoraria in full this far and understood why this had to be reduced to 50% from this month.

7. Hospice Track and other sales

CW reported that we had sold 3 CDs in the last month and that the £500 target for the Hospice had been reached.

8. Memorabilia

MT was thanked for sending members the link to a video of The Choir’s visit to Germany in 1992, and he reported that several members had expressed their appreciation.

MT reported that the Choir had been offered memorabilia which had been collected by the late Roger Lemin. DL reminded the meeting that Gil Blamey was our Archivist, and MT agreed to contact him. Alternatively, it was suggested that it could be loaned to the Museum.

9. A.O.B.

DL proposed that the full proceeds (£1,200) from the Songs of Praise event should be donated to the Hospice. Following discussion and a vote it was agreed to give £200 of it to the Hospice, making our total contribution £700, and HS suggested that the balance should be put in the Choir’s Trips account, but discussion of this was inconclusive.

CB reported that the Choir had been invited to sing at The Roseland Music Festival, (24/4 to 8/5/2021) and it was agreed to accept the invitation on behalf of the Choir, provisionally.

Treasurer GH noted that the Songs of Praise project had been a promotional success for the choir, attracting a lot of positive comment.

MT pointed out that our Annual Dinner may be in jeopardy and undertook to liaise with the Carlyon Bay Golf Club.

Chairman NN reported that he had had a conversation with Rod Richardson re the renewal of the contract with our Birmingham Hotel. The contract could be cancelled up to 90 days before the event without penalty, and thereafter penalties were on a sliding scale.

NN said he would liaise with S. Gibson re canvassing members’ responses to the new date and day.

The meeting closed at 20.30

Next Meeting:- Wednesday 21st. October at 19.30