



Minutes of Committee Meeting

Mevagissey Social Club on 19th September 2017

Meeting opened 7.35pm

PRESENT: N. Nicholls (NN); S. Gibson (SG); G. Hoskins (GH); P. Bowker (PB); C. Burnett (CB); A. Gill (AG); S. Lawday (SL); P. Vellenoweth (PV); R. Mitchell (RM); H. Stobart (HS); C. Williams (CW)

1 APOLOGIES: M. Tate (MT)

2 MINUTES of meeting held 18th July 2017: proposed, CB; seconded RM, carried unanimously, and signed by NN.

3 MATTERS ARISING:

Concert microphone: Microphone to be purchased. **Action: GH**

Riser transport: PB confirmed that the Trailer was being delivered to the Willows Car Park on Wednesday 20 September. Arrangements agreed with Matt Facey to store it there from October to Easter. The cost is a £25 donation to the Mevagissey Toilet Block maintenance fund. (*Post Meeting Note – trailer now in place at the Willows*)

GH confirmed that the trailer was insured – but oddly, that it was not insured when being towed or attached to a vehicle. **Action: GH** to see what cost is involved to remove these onerous exclusions.

SG offered to tow the trailer and would look to see if it would fit in his garage. RM suggested asking Gary Mitchell about storage. **Action: RM**

PB had written to the MAC centre to see if they could help with summer storage.

It was decided not to sign-write trailer with lettering to signify it was an MMC trailer as this may attract undesirable attention.

Pop-up charity shop: PB's idea of had not been furthered as the old Post Office owner would not agree to it being used and there were no other suitable empty premises.

St Austell Brewery: No reply had been received to the Choir's offer to run a concert.

Trebah Gardens: Amphitheatre was not available for bookings, but Trebah have noted our interest in performing there.

BBQ: SL confirmed that the evening had been a success despite the weather and that £72 had been raised by the raffle.

Coach travel: NN was concerned about fundraising proceeds and donations being used to pay for the cost of members' coach travel. The St Germans coach will mean a loss of £150 which has to be met from choir funds. There was some debate about members and wives paying as do Friends – but it was decided that there were adequate funds to support free travel and this enabled the choir to fulfil its constitutional obligations of promoting music and choral singing.

4 CORRESPONDENCE:

Letters of thanks to Dawn Stallward for banner purchase and other Friends for donations.

5 TREASURER:

GH produced balance sheets for July and August. GH confirmed that receipts from the Quay concerts were £1,762 and that 60 CDs were sold bringing the total to £2,362 – an excellent result.

Thanks to Gerald Goode and Carolyn George for help with the buckets and to Mary Phillips and Rosemary Mitchell for CD sales.

MT to write to Harbour Master with thanks for his help and to see if next year we can have ALL cars removed prior to the concerts. **Action: MT**

Thanks to Chas Bailey for keeping and displaying A Board, Pull-up banner and Flags.

All programme adverts have now been paid in full.

One member still to pay second half of subs. There was discussion about Standing Orders for subs and it was agreed that these should be for 10 monthly payments each year, to make subdivisions easier and to allow for time to implement them after the figure is decided at the AGM. **Action: GH**

6 CONCERT DEBRIEFS

Item dealt with in Matters Arising

7 ST GERMANS ARRANGEMENTS (23rd September)

All in hand and on Website. George Phillips to issue Email details of coach travel and members and others travelling.

8 HOLSWORTHY ARRANGEMENTS (7th October)

There will be a coach as usual. **Action: CB** to check with Phil Walter on availability of tickets for wives, partners and friends as last year was a sell-out.

9 HARVEST OF THE SEA ARRANGEMENTS (15th October)

RM has booked the Jubilee Hall. **Action: NN/GH** to ask Billy Moore at the Fountain about providing a barrel of beer.

10 TYWARDREATH HOSPICE REQUEST

Cornwall Hospice Care (2) have asked us to put on another fund-raising concert. **Action:** CB to arrange next spring – suggested mid-March.

Luxulyan request: choir has been approached to sing at a wedding in Luxulyan but only in support of songs selected for the ceremony and not to perform from our own repertoire. SG proposed and CW seconded that this should be declined. Carried unanimously. **Action:** CB to decline

Bude: Chris Bale has indicated that he will arrange a concert in the Bude area next spring.

11 'THE MERMAID CATCH' FILM

PB read from the note sent by MT. GW had agreed to these arrangements. It was likely that the piece to be used in the sound track would be short and would not require too much commitment. There were mixed feelings about the proposed piece "*People Just Ain't No Good*"!

The following is the latest email received from the writer/director, Luc Mollinger:

"We've come to the conclusion that it would make most sense to do the arrangement of the piece and the recording after we have edited the film in order to tailor the arrangement to the finished scene. This way we can make sure that the piece fits perfectly for the film and also we only have to arrange, rehearse and record what we're actually going to need. The edit will be done mid-November, after that we would do the arrangement. By the end of November, we could send you the arrangement in order for you to rehearse and to give you some time for that and also because of the busy Christmas season we would do the recording mid-January 2018.

12 NAPLES

With reference to a proposal from Graham Rundle (GR) that the choir should undertake a trip to Naples, PB read an extract from an email from GR, in which he expressed disappointment at the lack of response from the Executive Committee. GR had confirmed that he was happy to serve on a small sub-committee to advance the arrangements, but was unwilling to take it on single-handed. He had provisionally agreed to concerts with a mixed choir from Salerno and the Naples Military Wives Choir. GR had submitted details of a hotel called the Panorama on the Amalfi Coast– (<http://www.hotelpanoramamaiori.it/>) - to the committee. Seven days on half board would cost c £520, with flights from Bristol costing £118. CB confirmed that a coach to Bristol from Mevagissey with Roselyn would cost c £940 each way. (*Post Meeting Note – this was found to be the most competitive*). Assuming 80 travellers, this would amount to £25 per person, bringing the cost to £663 per person. With coach travel in Italy of c £10 per person – total cost would be £680 per person. This figure would reduce by whatever the committee offered by way of a subsidy (Cyprus subsidy was £100) which, for 40 persons, would cost £4,000 from choir funds, but reducing costs to members to circa £580 per person.

There was debate about the commitment from members and the collection of the costs. It was agreed that, in the first instance, a sub-committee would be formed to put together a proposal for members and to prepare a broad sheet to circulate everyone, including Friends.

It was agreed that the sub-committee – which would report to the main committee - would comprise GR, PB and SG, with GH available to be co-opted. In principle,

it was agreed that all members should be asked to confirm their interest by providing a deposit of (say) £100, which would be non-returnable unless the trip fell through due to lack of interest.

Due to the Brexit uncertainties, it was agreed that the preferred target date should be October 2018 rather than 2019. **Action: PB** agreed to report back to GR, and to progress proposals for members.

13 FUNDRAISING

PB confirmed that there would be no further action until programme advert selling commenced early next year.

14 PUBLICITY/WEBSITE

MT reported that the usual publicity to local press was continuing – nothing else imminent. All agreed that the Website under MWDT was very useful and a first class promotional aid.

15 MUSIC COMMITTEE

CW confirmed that the “*Tears in Heaven*” arrangement had been carried out by Nick Hart (NH), for which he needed payment. (all agreed). SG asked about copyright and CW agreed to discuss with NH to establish our entitlement to use his arrangement and if any fee was needed to be paid and to whom, to legitimise its use.

Matt Douglas, from Noteability, had been commissioned to undertake an arrangement for “*Blue Christmas*” **Action: MT** to ask same question.

CW and Terry Coplin to meet our MD in Plymouth on Thursday 21 September to discuss Music Committee matters.

16 CDs/DOWNLOADS UPDATE

CW confirmed that £180 had been received from Downloads via PayPal, which he would transfer to GH soon. **Action: CW**

PB suggested that we might consider starting to put down tracks of some of our recent new material as a basis for a new CD. RM felt that this was not needed at present as CD sales were still good. **Action: CW** agreed to put this to the MD.

17 MEMBERSHIP (Section Leaders)

Tops: Good to see Jim Hunkin and Ivor Morcom back. Roger Daniel in poor health and unsure if/when he can return. Mark Carter now back and doing well but still to take his voice test.

Seconds: Paul Horsman yet to take another voice test.

Baritones: Nothing to report

Bass: New recruit joined in September, Les (surname not available).

PB proposed and GH seconded that the choir should offer some Voice Test coaching. **Action: Section Leaders** to arrange to help new members gain confidence.

18 ALMONER

AG apologised to PB for missing Julie Bowker's recent illness due to pressure of work. This may mean he has difficulty in getting to future meetings but he will do his best. It was confirmed that AG had committee's authority to buy flowers etc., when needed and to recoup monies spent.

AG had contacted Saul Sandey who is getting better, but still having difficulties.

19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Alan Dibb's and Mark Dooling's uniforms had been recovered, but AD's music file awaited. **Action: PV**

CW reminded the committee that all new members were expected to pay £50 towards uniforms. Payments should be made to Graham Hoskins.

HS said that some jackets looked "a mess". Should they be replaced and who should pay? This needed to be discussed and arrangements put in hand, so that we looked our best at all times.

HS said that Radio Cornwall continued to play an ancient recording of the choir and should be offered a recent track to replace it. *[Post Meeting Note: Radio Cornwall has copies of all the choir's CDs]*

SL asked for clarification on whether "At Last" had been dropped –it seemed to be unpopular. **Action: CW** to clarify with MD.

[NB – at this point PB had to leave the meeting but wants it noted that the issue of a suggested Music Bursary (from the July meeting) needed to be agreed and progressed or dropped.]

NN suggested that Champagne Chorus should be invited to join us for our Christmas Concert in aid of St Petroc's, which was agreed. **Action: NN**

NN asked all members to think urgently about suggestions for other performers at the Minack concert in May 2018, now that the Achord choir from Cyprus had dropped out.

NN commented that the Fountain was packed the previous night after choir practice and that the bucket collection had raised £45 - a significant contribution to choir funds. GH thought more members should be encouraged to sing on Mondays at the Fountain to offer reciprocal support to the Fountain and as thanks for the food they generously provide. **Action: NN** to mention after next week's practice.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at c 9.45pm

NEXT MEETING: 7.30pm, Tuesday, 17th October, Mevagissey Social Club