

Mevagissey Male Choir

Minutes of Committee Meeting, Tues March 21st, 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)
Alan Mash (Invited guest)

1. Apologies/Absent – Apologies received from Graham A’Lee, Clifford Burnett.
2. Minutes of 14/02/2023 meeting – The minutes were deemed to be accurate, and ready for publication on the website.
3. Matters arising (if not on agenda) – (5) Committee positions to be decided. Graham Rundle has been appointed as the Choir Marshal, and Graham A’Lee has agreed to fill in for GR, as back-up. (8) The Choir has two different Facebook pages. SG has spoken to Andy Gill, who has kindly agreed to oversee the amalgamated site, which will be titled ‘MEVAGISSEY MALE CHOIR’. SG and TS will be added to admin of the site. SG said the Committee positions should all have dedicated e-mail addresses and passwords. TS proposed that the minutes of 14 02 2023 should be approved, and ST seconded.
4. Treasurer’s report. GH reported a fairly quiet month, with the majority of activity being the steady payment of member’s subs. At the moment of preparing this report, 14 members had yet to pay, either in full, or by instalments. SG said it needs highlighting once again that members who have not paid, or started to pay, their subs, cannot be allowed to take part in any choir voting. GH and DL led a discussion about the claiming of Gift Aid. GH said that the most difficult part of collecting Gift Aid was getting members to clarify their individual tax situations, particularly as a high proportion are retired. It was suggested the subject be aired in front of

the whole choir, possible at a Monday rehearsal. Both GH and DL agreed that the Gift Aid on cash collections at quay concerts, like those at Tesco's at Christmas, when records of every individual donor's address are not required, is still valuable to the Choir.

5. Uniforms. ST sought clarification of the process by which new members get their uniforms, and also on how members can get replacement items. SG will phone Chris Bale for his help. In the meantime, it was agreed that Section Leaders should filter members' uniform requests via GH for his financial approval.
6. Bursary. DL asked for an update on our suggested bursary. SG reported on the success of our previous recipient, Isaac Salaman, who was a leading light in the Cornish Youth Choir that sung with us at St Augustine's. It was suggested that we ask Angela Renshaw for advice on which of the youngsters might be worthy of our bursary, and TS agreed to contact her. RM proposed an amount of £250 for the bursary, and this was seconded by CW.
7. Future concerts. GH suggested a trial of a programme used by other local choirs 'Choir Manager', which allows an e-mail to be sent to all choir members, and they can reply 'I will be there'/'I might be there'/'I won't be there'. This enables the MD to better plan concert content. SG seconded, and it was carried. Terry Coplin is trying to arrange a concert in aid of Kidney Research, with 8 in a bar, and Champagne Chorus. They are looking at Nov 4th or Nov 18th. The Committee agreed in principle, but need to know a venue and a date, before putting it to the members. It was agreed that each concert booking would be taken on its own merits, as to the fees we charge, or the amount we waive, as our donation to the charity involved. We've had a request from the City of Truro Choir, for the 23rd September, but, as yet, there's no info on venue or fees. The Ship Inn at Polmear offered us two dates - 2nd July and 10th September, between 2pm and 3pm. TS has been liaising with the Landlord, and has been negotiating for a free pint, or a reduced-rate carvery. It's a garden setting, but with an undercover stage, and with ample off-road parking. DL proposed we accept both dates, and ST seconded. Carried. TS has also been investigating the possibility of a 'weekendaway' in 2024, and is working on a proposal for a visit to Torbay. Friday, train to Torbay, night in a pleasant hotel, Saturday concert (poss. with Torbay choir), Sat night,

hotel, train back on Sunday. He's working on costings, and will report back.

8. Shops and outlets for retail sales of MMC CDs. As no one has yet volunteered to take over from RoM, ST has taken it on, and has asked RoM to e-mail him a list of shops/pubs/venues that have been helpful in the past.
9. Choir recruitment. DL urged members to look up peterboroughsings@org.uk and check their offerings on recruitment. Alan Mash thanked the Committee for his invitation to observe the meeting.
10. Choir 50th – 2024. RM asked for financial details of the Choir's 40th anniversary concert, for comparison purposes.
- 11 AOB: SG proposed an SGM, to take place on Monday April 3rd, at 7.30 pm, to discuss and decide on Jimmy's tenure as MD. Seconded by TS. Carried. In response to a query from DL, GH confirmed that we have a PRS licence.

**Our next committee meeting will be on Tuesday, 18th April 2023,
at the Mevagissey Social Club, 7.30 pm.**