

## Mevagissey Male Choir

### Minutes of Committee Meeting, Tues 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 7.30pm. Mevagissey Social Club

#### Present:

Nick Nicholls – Chair (NN).  
Graham Hoskins – Treasurer (GH)  
Robin Murphy – Secretary (RM)  
Steve Gibson (SG) – Vice Chair (SG)  
Mike Tate – Publicity (MT)  
Dave Leeson (DL)  
Steve Truscott (ST)

Chris Williams (CW)  
Simon Lawday (SL)  
Clifford Burnett (CB)  
Roger Mitchell (RoM)  
Bill Roberts (BR)  
Humfrey Stobart (HS)

1. Apologies/Absent - None
2. Minutes of 12/04/2022 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 e-mailed his report last week. He reported a £10 discrepancy, which has already been corrected. He mentioned that a programme advert had been paid for, twice! ST has already seen the generous party, who insisted they didn't want their money back now, but would be happy for it to pay for an advert next year. GH said that all members who regular attend rehearsals and concerts have now paid/are paying their subscriptions, with two exceptions. GH will pursue them personally. ST was pleased to report that he'd approached Mevagissey Parish Council for financial support for the Minack concert, and they decided to cover the cost of the coach hire. The generous donation is already in our account. RM to write a letter of thanks to the Council. ST agreed the Parish council's support would be mentioned in all future programmes. There was discussion about a donation to the Culdrose Ladies Choir, and GH said that we'd be able to formalise this once all the figures from the Minack have been received. GH/MT to follow up. There was further discussion about the Minack, including HS suggesting that two minibuses would be of more use, and be more cost-effective than a coach. Due to the Minack's policy of allowing no bookings in

consecutive years, Mike Tate was asked to pursue a provisional date in 2024, our anniversary year. GH reported that we yet to receive any money from our St. Piran's concert, on March 5<sup>th</sup>, on the quay. SG to follow up.

5. Musical Direction: There followed much discussion and exchanges of opinion, summed up by HS, who, to general agreement, said that the choir must move forward, and should ask for applicants for the post of Musical Director, within the next three months. RoM proposed that we advertise the post, and HS seconded. Another lengthy discussion developed, covering topics such as where to advertise, and when, and SG suggested MT gets an informative article published, giving the choir's situation, and follow that with targeted adverts. MT agreed to pursue.
6. Meva Feast Week: NN reported that St. Andrew's has lifted restrictions on attendance, to a max of 180 pax. £10 tickets are available from CRBO. GH has listened to tracks, prepared by our bursary recipient, Isaac Salaman, and is happy with his voice. GH to ask Isaac to prepare a composition of his own, and a more classic piece, to support our concert. A local singer, Alison Best, has also offered her support, and it was decided to offer her a spot as well. MT will ask her. Both Isaac and Alison will provide the choir with a decent interval in our singing programme. Volunteers are required, from 6pm, to help set up the room, as doors will open at 6.30, for a 7.30pm start. NN to organise 'afterglow' at the Social Club.
7. Choir 50<sup>th</sup>: A number of venues were discussed, from Hall for Cornwall to Eden, and Heligan to Caerhays. Fees and availability may be prohibiting factors, but, as HS found, our real problem is not being able to propose our preferred date. HS suggested we look at early June, prior to Feast Week, 2024.
8. Concert Fees: Essentially, it is felt that we need to provide CB with a more helpful price-list to quote when anyone approaches him with concert requests. We need at least to cover the cost of the Music Team, and, ideally, help with choir member's travel. The problem is, that smaller venues/charities might not be able to cover even those basics, but as a charity ourselves, we might still want to do such concerts. Better-paying events should be able, to some extent, subsidise the smaller ones. ST suggested that CB and GH discuss the merits of each

booking, so that we charge accordingly, whilst keeping an overview of our financial position throughout the year.

9. Social event: SL is looking at a provisional date of Sept 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Carlyon Bay Golf Club. He's already investigated the Barley Sheaf at Gorran Churchtown, but was told they no longer have their BBQ, but could provide a 'spread'. No prices were discussed. SL returned to the Golf Club, as they are already holding £200 from our previous deposit. He is following them up to provide quotes for hire and food. It was decided to ask Peter Bowker to oversee in-house entertainment, in a similar vein to the previously very successful efforts in the Meva Village Hall.
10. Twitter account. SG pointed out that there is a choir twitter account, but that nobody seems quite sure who runs it. It was decided that all social media accounts in the name of the choir should be directly controlled by the choir. SG will persist in paddling in these seemingly murky waters.
11. AOB: Practical information about the trailer. New keys are to be cut, with a spare to be lodged with SG. The risers will not be needed at Caerhays, or Prideaux. The trailer has been serviced, but, like the rest of us, grows older by the day. An early warning that this may need to be dealt with soon. ST is working on Imerys for support. They've already been very generous over assistance with our new sound equipment. BR reminded everyone that the Birmingham music needs to be handed back. MT reported that he is in process of changing the password to our website. MT then introduced a discussion about a new choir CD, as a number of friends and supporters have asked about it. Many questions followed about the tracks that we've already recorded – how many are there? What's the quality like? CW said they need mixing and polishing, and he will report back at the next committee meeting
12. **Next committee meeting.** Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June, Mevagissey Social Club.