

Bingham and District Choral Society

MINUTES OF MEETING 8TH MAY 2017

1. Present: John Bannister (Chair), Sally Ashton (Vice-Chair), Valerie Morgan (Secretary), Judy Unell (Publicity), Janet Chapman (Membership), Tim Connery (Ordinary Member - Box Office), Brad Poulson (Ordinary Member – Website), Barbara Cobb (Programme Chair), Margot Anderson (Librarian), Pam Jones (Ordinary Member).

Apologies: Huw Cadwallader (Treasurer), Alison Marriott (Ordinary Member), Guy Turner (Musical Director).

Minutes of meeting 27th March 2017: There were no amendments. Proposed by Tim, seconded by Brad, accepted by all.

2. Matters Arising

Page 1, 3: Hugh Holbrook agreed to examine the accounts, and this has now been done and signed off by both him and Pam Brooks.

4: Interval drinks at May concert: due to some problems arising, this has been discussed with Guy and it is now agreed there will be no interval drinks.

Page 2, 4A: Those who completed request for information slips at the John Rutter day have not been informed of the Summer Singing.

ACTION: A plan is needed to start informing people of events from the Autumn Term - **John**

If motion is passed to add Summer Singing to choir year, members need to be informed – Newsletter.

ACTION: Tim

Page 3: No matters arising

Page 4, 8: Seating at rehearsals: a difficult issue, but very important, especially at the beginning of term, as new people can feel unwelcome.

Item in Newsletter to 'warn' people that they will be asked at the first rehearsal to sit beside someone new or different.

ACTION: Tim to put in Newsletter. John or Guy to announce at start of rehearsal.

3. Treasurer

Huw was not present, but his annual report for the AGM (examined by Hugh Holbrook and Pam Brooks and attached) was briefly discussed. We are in a good financial position at present with a balance of £31,116.33.

There will need to be a proposal at the AGM to enable the Treasurer to undertake online banking transactions as sole signatory. This would only be for the current a/c, which has £200 - £300 in it.

ACTION: John will initiate discussion at the AGM. This could then be adopted (or not) at an EGM convened for this purpose in the Autumn Term.

4. Forthcoming Concerts

1) 13th May 2017: Tim is collecting numbers of singers (Bingham and Newark CS's), Jeff Crampton and David Atkins are organising staging with A1 Removals – 3 men from there..

Programmes are not yet printed, but Mike at Newark is proof-reading this week.

Tim has 5 reserved tickets left; sales are not going very well – he has only sold 58 altogether.

ACTION: Members to be asked to sell at least one ticket – John, Tim?

There was a short discussion on whether members should be asked again for future concerts to sell two tickets each, and if they could not, to buy at least one. It was agreed that two tickets should be sold by each member.

Flowers – single rose for two soloists (Ruth Massey and Marcus Farnsworth), Ed Turner (organ accompaniment) and Guy (conductor).

Action: Valerie to buy these.

1A) Summer Singing Concert at Newark Parish Church 17th June: There will be no staging for this. Enrolment now stands at 46 people. Margot has ordered 55 sets of the music.

A motion has been proposed for the AGM for Summer Singing to be part of the choir year, and the fees adjusted accordingly (see attached).

2) The Creation, 25th November 2017 with Mansfield CS: There will be a Study Day on Saturday 11th November at Mansfield preferred times 9.30 for 10 till 1.00 or 1.30.

It was pointed out that the concert was at a later date than usual, so the Christmas concert needs to be kept simple.

3) Christmas Concert 16th December 2017: Guy has booked Carnarvon School children. The church and Church House have also been booked.

4) Verdi Requiem 12th May 2018: Four soloists have already been booked – Phillippa Boyle (soprano), Carys Jones (mezzo), Richard Dowling (tenor), and Colin Campbell (Baritone). Cost £500 each.

5) November 2018: The Programme Committee is discussing this at present.

6) 11th May 2019 and November 2019: Mansfield CS have been in touch to say they have had a gift of money to employ a good orchestra, and would like to do the Brahms Requiem in November 2019 with Bingham. We have booked Caroline Clemmow and Jonathan Goosing to accompany this work in May 2019; also not known yet if the Minster is available. So at present nothing is confirmed for either May or November 2019.

7) Future plans: Nothing further planned at present.

5. Publicity

Judy has put information about the Summer Singing in village magazines, and will do an item about the Bursary.

ACTION: Judy

Website: The website link for the Bursary will be prizebinghamchoral.org. This will go to Richard, who will respond from his own email.

It was suggested that on the website there should be a short biog. of the soloists we engage – this has already been started.

Brad would like to see as many forward dates as possible on the website diary.

It was also agreed that the items about the proposed Groningen trip should be deleted.

ACTION: Brad

Newsletter: Tim agrees to do this again. It should be ready to go out in early August. To go on website.

ACTION: Tim

6. Fundraising

Singing Day: Marcus Farnsworth has been asked. He can't do any February dates. 10th March has been suggested. Awaiting response from Marcus as to whether he can do this. Otherwise someone else to be found.

7. Librarian: Margot has ordered all the music for the Summer Singing. Suggested asking people to bring rubbers to the AGM to erase markings from Durufle etc before returning.

The Elgar needs to be returned to the library and then re-issued for the SS period, so unlikely people will get previous copies back.

ACTION: Hire fees for music to go in Newsletter – Tim

Membership: Summer Singing going well.

All the mentors are happy to carry on except the bass one, so new person needs to be found.

Janet discussed her plan for the first rehearsal, with greeters at the door to direct new people to the appropriate mentor who will give them a form to fill in name & address and take to Margot for music.

Mentors to explain about 3 free weeks and monitor progress, letting Janet know if they don't attend etc, and when their 3 weeks is up. Returners to get membership card before getting music.

ACTION: Janet to meet with mentors & then email them, copy to Secretary.

Explanation of enrolment process to go on website and in Newsletter - Brad, Tim

Possibly give discount to early enrollers? Deadline date would be needed.

8. Correspondence

None received or sent.

9. AOB

1) Barbara: A long-term member did not attend choir for a considerable period, and no-one contacted her to see if she was well – she was hurt by this.

Agreed that Janet should monitor this and phone if someone is away for a lengthy period.

ACTION: Janet

2) Valerie: A member has been ill since shortly before Christmas and has not attended at all this term.

Should a partial refund be offered?

ACTION: Huw to consider this.

3) Margot: Should there be hire fees for the music for Summer Singing? After discussion, it was agreed that they should not be charged, but that the position needed to be rethought for next year.

4) Margot: Requested help from members to transport music for choir from library to car, and from car to school. Several members agreed.

5) John: With the AGM approaching, we still need a Programme Chair and a Fundraising Chair. Beryl Cottrill has agreed to stand as an ordinary member.

10. DONM

Wednesday 5th July

The meeting ended at 9.55 pm. Valerie was thanked for her hospitality.