

Bingham and District Choral Society

MINUTES OF MEETING 9TH JANUARY 2017

1. Present: John Bannister (Chair), Sally Ashton (Vice-Chair), Huw Cadwallader (Treasurer), Valerie Morgan (Secretary), Janet Chapman (Membership), Judy Unell (Publicity), Barbara Cobb (Programme Chair), Margot Anderson (Librarian), Tim Connery (Box Office), Brad Poulson, Pam Jones (Ordinary Members), Guy Turner (Musical Director).

Apologies: Alison Marriott.

Minutes of meeting 5th December 2016: *Item 6:* Ticket price is **£12**, not £10.
The Minutes were then accepted as a true record.

2. Matters arising

4. Church House: It was not possible to book Church House this year, as it had already been booked for a party which went on into the evening. However, arrangements were made for the children to be "marshalled" in the Church, and this had worked all right.

Church House to be booked as early as possible for Christmas 2017.

Archdeacon to be asked to do Welcome at beginning of Christmas concert: Brad had done this, but Archdeacon not available, so done by John instead.

John to arrange meeting with Newark CS: Has not yet happened (see **4** below).

5. Friends: *Alison and Pam to be asked to get names of people who would like to be kept informed:* For further discussion.

6. Quiz Night: Raffle prizes: Valerie to ask choir for these (See **6** below).

Choral Workshop: Now sold out.

3. Treasurer's report

Huw said we had taken over £6,000 for Rutter workshop. Our accounts currently stand at almost £31,000, taking into account outstanding cheques of about £1, 500.

See attached sheet *BDCS Financial Position 5th January 2017* for details.

4. Forthcoming concerts

May 2017: John to contact Newark CS to arrange concert (our concert).

ACTION: John

(9). Staging: John has approached various companies who might be employed to collect and set up staging, extra chairs, lights etc, portable organ if required. Most theatrical companies charge around £2,500.

However he spoke to Mack at A1 Removals, who already help with setting up, and he said they could do this for about £400, but would want to be supervised. However this might not include the extra chairs.

It was agreed that A1 should be asked when appropriate.

Our staging is to be used for the Newark concert.

ACTION: ?John

November 2017: The Creation, with Mansfield CS in Southwell Minster Budget needs to be agreed with Mansfield. This will be a fairly expensive concert, with an orchestra, though Mansfield have not yet booked this. Expenses will be split 50/50.

New Mansfield Chair is Erica Leyshon. Their new conductor is Ellie Martin.

ACTION: Barbara, John

Invitation from Groningen Choir 2018: They would like to sing the Verdi Requiem; date of concert either Saturday 6th or 13th October 2018. We had arranged to sing the Brahms Requiem with the Goldstones accompanying, venue yet to be booked, but sadly Tony Goldstone died last week. Southwell Minster is available on 12th May 2018, but we need to combine with another choir – hopefully Mansfield. The Minster has been provisionally booked.

ACTION: Guy, Barbara

Groningen would like us to go for five days, from Wednesday to Sunday. John has looked into travel possibilities. At least some accommodation would be provided by Groningen choir members. We need to know as soon as possible how many of our members would be prepared to make the trip, bearing in mind that travelling will take up most of a day each way, by whichever method.

ACTION: John to announce planning so far to choir on Wednesday, and send round a sheet for people to put their names down.

5. Publicity

Judy: nothing on publicity at present. For **John Rutter workshop** see **7** below.

Website: Brad. Now functioning fairly well, and “pop-ups” working well. Brad feels we should aim towards a way of selling tickets via the website: this will mean buying software.

Friends: It has been agreed that there would not be much benefit to BDCS, given the amount of work involved, in having a Friends scheme; however it was felt that we could ask audience members to fill in their email details to be informed of future events – either by way of a slip in the programme or people with a clipboard asking them personally. An “unsubscribe” facility would also be needed. There should also be a request form on the website, to ask if people would like to be emailed.

ACTION: Brad

6. Fundraising

Quiz Night 11th February. Sally, Valerie and Huw to meet to discuss details of organisation.

Sally has contacted one of the fish and chip shops in Bingham, and they can do this for £5 a head. They need to know what time – agreed about 8.30, for a maximum of about 70 people.

Huw will do the bar – donations for drinks as there is no alcohol licence. He will bring wine, beer and soft drinks and about 60 wine glasses. John will bring 40 beer glasses. We may need plastic cutlery and ?paper plates.

Guy will need a scorer – someone’s child or grandchild?

Raffle prizes – Valerie to ask on Wednesday (11th); also to buy raffle tickets.

Members to bring puddings – Valerie to send round list on Wednesday 18th.

ACTION: Sally, Valerie, Huw, John

Choral Workshop

Some discussion of Guidelines sent by John Rutter. Need to open doors well before start of workshop, as 300 people need to be registered and music given out (10a.m. for 11 a.m. start). Coffee / tea etc to be provided on arrival, at lunch (no break in the morning), and mid-afternoon. It was suggested that outsiders (eg sixth formers, for a small fee) be asked to do tea & coffee. We will need more than one tea urn. Bring own lunch, but John R. will need to be provided with a simple lunch. We also need someone to sell CD’s. Music to be delivered to Margot. The grand piano is to be delivered after school on the Friday, and collected before school on the Monday following.

ACTION: Guy to find four sixth-formers.

Judy to ask members willing to form a sub-committee to organise the practicalities.

Other ideas: Cakes.

ACTION: Sally.

7. Membership

Janet: We have three new members this term, including one tenor. There are 85 confirmed members.

Librarian

Margot: Some grumbles about the increased cost of music.

8. Summer Singing

Guy to decide on music as soon as possible. We shall definitely do some pieces from European Choral Music – these can be ordered. The lunchtime concert in Newark Church will be about 45 minutes.

ACTION: Guy, Margot

9. Staging

See 4 above.

10. Bursary Competition

Guy thought that fitting the winner into a concert programme, could present difficulties. However it might be possible to include this in the Christmas concert, or Summer Singing.

We should start this as soon as practicable. Agreed for the Spring Term (to fit in with student exams etc), and agreed provisionally February 2018.

ACTION: Guy and Barbara to discuss with Richard.

11. Correspondence

Making Music invitation for "local connections" event: Margot had been to one on a previous occasion, but felt it was not high priority.

Groningen CD's: John has been sent three recordings of Groningen performances: Verdi Requiem; Mendelssohn Paulus; and Fauré Requiem and Pavane, and a piece by Carl Jenkins. He had been asked to send any of Bingham: possibly the recording made for the website at the Minster. CD's handed round to borrow.

12. AOB

Margot: Asked if the Committee would agree to buying about 30 copies of each of the two books of Carols for Choirs, for about £600, as we have to hire them each year, and costs for music have increased dramatically.

This was agreed, and a suggestion was made that they could be hired out to the choir.

ACTION: Margot

Valerie: has received a notification about a choral music publication called Gerontius (attached). They are asking for articles from choirs, It is free to join. Would this be a good outlet for publicity? Agreed.

Valerie: sometimes soloists send their CV's via the website. Would Guy or Barbara be interested in receiving these? Guy is willing to receive them.

13.DONM

Monday 20th February 2017

John was thanked for his hospitality.