

Bingham and District Choral Society

MINUTES OF MEETING 21ST SEPTEMBER 2017

1. Present: John Bannister (Chair), Huw Cadwallader (Treasurer), Sally Ashton (Vice-Chair), Valerie Morgan (Secretary), Janet Chapman (Membership), Peter Iley (Programme Chair), Tim Connery (Box Office), Judy Unell (Publicity), Janet Iley, Beryl Cottrill, Tina Warrington (Ordinary Members).

Apologies: Guy Turner (Musical Director), Margot Anderson (Librarian), Brad Poulson (Website).

Minutes of meeting 5th July 2017:

Apologies – Sally Ashton omitted from those not present.

6. *Fundraising:* Marcus Farnsworth Workshop is 10th March, not 5th.

The Minutes were then accepted by the committee as a true record, proposed Huw, seconded Tim.

2. Matters arising

Page 1, 2.9.2) Huw has spoken to the member who was off sick for a whole term, and a partial refund offered and accepted with pleasure.

Page 2, 4 E) Radcliffe Church booking has been requested, and is provisionally confirmed

Page 3, 5 Thanks to Tim for his efforts in compiling the Newsletter

Page 4, 8 John has written to Groningen, declining their invitation to do a joint concert in 2019. They would still like to do something in 2020, but this would be for them to come to us, with onus on BDCS. It was felt to be unlikely that this suggestion would be taken further.

Page 4, 11 John has written to Andrew James to say that BDCS does not wish to commission Ways of Love.

3. Treasurer

Huw: We are currently in a strong position financially. He has moved £7000 from the current account to Virgin Savings, leaving about £7000 in the current account. We have in total about £22000 in the savings account. Funds were boosted by the very successful John Rutter Day.

He will do a full report for our next meeting.

ACTION: Huw

4. Concerts

Peter:

A) 25th November 2017 – Creation: Meeting arranged with Mansfield Choral Society for 9th October, with Guy, Huw and Peter. Details are also required about the Study Day with MCS on 11th November.

ACTION: Guy, Huw, Peter

B) 16th December 2017 – Christmas Concert: Details to go on website hopefully by end of October. Bingham Church and Church House booked by Valerie.

ACTION: Brad

C) 10th March 2018 – Choral Workshop with Marcus Farnsworth: Who will organise this? Derek Tabron to be asked again.

ACTION: John

D) 12th May 2018 – Verdi Requiem: Booking fee for Minster paid. Trebeck Hall also booked. Information to be requested from MCS.

E) 7th July 2018 – “Byron” Concert: Meeting arranged for October. Guy to compose an item to be sung jointly.

ACTION: Guy

F) 17th November 2018 – Remembrance item: Robin Aldworth, on behalf of Bingham Heritage Trails, has asked if the choir could contribute to their Remembrance events. After some discussion, it was suggested that Guy should be asked to compose a short item (approx. 5 minutes) for the choir, with piano or organ accompaniment; this to be done in Bingham (in the church or elsewhere?) during the Remembrance weekend, and repeated as part of the concert in Radcliffe Church the following week.

ACTION: Sally to consult with Guy and write to Robin to request further details of what BHTA would like.

G) 11th May 2019: Programme as before, except that we will sing Guy’s Under the Wide Sky rather than Ways of Love. Radcliffe Church to be booked.

H) 15th December 2018 – Christmas Concert: Bingham Church to be booked as soon as possible.

ACTION: Valerie

J) Brahms Requiem with Mansfield (their concert): their preferred date is **18th April 2020**, although ours would have been 2nd May.

Tim asked when Creation tickets would be available. Agreed he should attend meeting on 9th October.

Also, tickets for the parents of Carnarvon children for the Christmas Concert have been agreed with Becky Cowling (music teacher).

ACTION: Tim

Judy suggested that the Marcus Farnsworth workshop would be a big event for Derek to manage single-handed. It was agreed that members of the committee (and others) would help out, as with the John Rutter Day.

ACTION: All

There was some discussion over the name for the November concert – it was agreed it should be Autumn (and not Winter) Concert.

5. Publicity

Website: Brad’s proposal for database of members, friends etc (attached) agreed by all.

ACTION: Brad

Judy: Has received a Twitter response from Making Music, who support voluntary music making, asking that we send details of concerts etc to their email address, and they will then re-tweet these and send to other social media platforms.

6. Fundraising

John will again run the Birmingham half-marathon on 15th October to raise funds for the choir. Sponsorship forms to be circulated.

ACTION: John, Valerie

Other ideas were suggested, eg a quiz or wine-tasting, but no decision made.

ACTION: Sally (and others!) to have a think.

7. Membership

Janet C: Almost all members returned for the new season – 91 members so far (33 sopranos, 28 altos, 10 (!) tenors and 20 basses. About half the membership completed and posted their forms early; others came with them already completed. About 10 paid online. It would be helpful to ask towards the end of the choir year for members to apply before the start of term for the next season.

The mentoring had on the whole worked well, although still room for improvement.

Valerie: A member had suggested that we put the application form on the website.

Librarian

Margot has ordered all the music needed for this season, as far as possible.

8. Correspondence

None received.

9. AOB

1) John: Guy has requested a break for Easter for Wednesday April 4th. This was agreed.

2) Valerie: A bell/flashing device has been purchased for approximately £30 (Shared 50-50 with the school) to ensure security, as school door has to be kept shut at all times. This seems to be working quite well. New batteries will have to be purchased from time to time.

ACTION: Valerie to check type of batteries and purchase a spare set.

10. Bursary and Prize

Not known how many applications as yet. Valerie has had one query.

11. DONM

Tuesday 7th November, 7.30 pm at John's house.

Janet was thanked for her hospitality, and the meeting ended at 8.57 pm.