

Bingham and District Choral Society

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 27TH NOVEMBER 2018

1. Present: John Bannister (Chair), Sally Ashton (Vice-Chair), Brad Poulson (Treasurer), Valerie Morgan (Secretary), Tim Connery (Box Office), Peter Iley (Programme Chair), Judy Unell (Publicity), Janet Chapman (Membership), Margot Anderson (Librarian), Tina Warrington (Ordinary Member).

Apologies: Beryl Cottrill, Juliet Ward, Janet Iley (Ordinary Members), Guy Turner (Musical Director), Ed Turner (Associate Musical Director).

Minutes of meeting 29th October 2018

There were no amendments. Proposed Sally, seconded Brad, accepted by all.

2. Matters Arising

Page 2 February 2019: Derek Tabron has been asked and has agreed to administrate the Singing Day.

3. Treasurer

Brad: See report attached – November concert expenses (estimated and actual); rehearsal costs against membership income; estimated concert income/losses April 2018 to March 2019.

Costs for rehearsals, including more expensive Saturday rehearsals, exceed membership income by £482. Agreed possible increase in membership fees should be discussed at AGM. Also issue of Summer Singing needs further discussion at AGM.

There was also discussion about whether Saturday rehearsals, given the extra expense of these, were always necessary.

All above for further discussion in March.

4. Programme Chair

Peter:

1) November 2018 concert (Sally concert manager): see Beryl's comments (attached) re staging. Some of the men at the back felt insecure: what happens when more people wish to sing?

This will need to be taken into consideration in the May concert, also in Radcliffe.

A question about cups of tea for the orchestra, in the rehearsal and during the performance: this has not been done before.

There was also an issue about people staying in the church between rehearsal and concert; there may be safety issues around this.

Thanks to Jeff Crampton, who although no longer an active choir member, offered to help with staging, chair collection etc. Also to Brian Bull, whose advice and guidance was invaluable (letters have been sent).

Some amendments to be made to *Tasks for Concerts* document.

ACTION: Team managing staging erection; future concert managers; Valerie

2) December 15th 2018 (Brad concert manager): Chairs to be ordered from Carnarvon. Arrangements as before with Jeff Crampton?

Lighting – David Atkins and John Bannister. But a 'back-up' person is needed for both this and what Jeff has done in the past, in case of illness, holidays etc.

A 'team' is needed to set up and supervise the hired removal men.

Tickets - £8 each, £1 for child accompanied by adult.

Wine glasses – request from Beryl to store some of these. Valerie has offered.

Mince pies – Janet C to do list to circulate.

Seating plan – Beryl to be asked to do this again.

Gifts for Colin Smith and Simon Hogan – Colin is usually given a bottle of whisky. Simon to be given a bottle as well.

Piano tuning – Valerie to request this.

ACTION: Valerie to order chairs, store some of wine glasses, buy bottles and request church piano tuning.

Janet C. to circulate list for mince pies.

Brad to ask Beryl re seating plan.

3) Singing Day 16th February 2019 (Judy event manager): State Chamber at Southwell has been booked.

Derek is doing administration. Judy is arranging for posters, fliers etc.

Music Zimbe by L'Estrange, and Novello English Folk Songs.

4) May 11th 2019 (Tina concert manager): No issues

5) July 6th 2019: 45 minute concert in Newark Church now booked for 11.30 am. Folk songs with Ed playing the piano.

6) November 16th 2019: In Newark Church.

It was noted that many of our members and audience prefer concerts with a 'big' work, rather than several short pieces. There will be a two-year gap between the Verdi Requiem and the Brahms.

7) May 2nd 2020: shared concert with Mansfield (their concert) in Southwell Minster – Brahms Requiem

8) Future plans: Nothing definite at present.

9) Emily Hodkinson / Ed Turner concert: dates for this are September 21st or 28th 2019 in Bingham Church. Richard Joyner will co-ordinate.

5. Rehearsal planning and logistics

The arrangement for a rota of people to come and set up seems to be going OK on the whole. People need to remember when it is their turn!

The school has pointed out that after rehearsal recently the door was left on the thumb-bolt – ie not locked. This would invalidate their insurance.

The school has also told us that there will be staging up in their hall on 5th December, covering about ¼ of the floor.

ACTION: Sally to remind members about door security at next rehearsal

6. Librarian

Margot: she is unable to lift stacks of books, so needs people to help with this, both from library to her home, from home to Carnarvon, and in from her car. Discussed possibility of job being split between two.. There is also the problem of music being stored in different people's homes – the members need to know about these problems.

After further discussion, it was suggested that a 'focus group' be formed to look at options, and also to rationalise what should be kept.

7. Membership

Janet C.: A discussion was held over the appropriateness of the £60 fee for those only wanting to come for one term. It was felt that people should be discouraged from 'dropping in and out' of the choir.

Any alteration of this rule would have to be by resolution at the AGM.

Three of our members have died recently: Audrey Weaver, Audrey Bell and Jean Appleton. Tim is in contact with Jean's daughter about funeral arrangements etc.

Action: Sally to announce at rehearsal.

Tim to co-ordinate funeral attendance.

8. Publicity

Judy: Thanks to Robin Aldworth for the images for the poster and programme.

There were a couple of errors in the programme which had not been there at the proof-reading stage.

She is organising fliers and posters for the Christmas Concert and the Singing Day.

9. Website

Judy is to take over managing the website from Brad as soon as possible.

10. Fund-raising / Social

To be deferred till the next meeting

11. Correspondence

Valerie: Letters have been sent to Jeff Crampton and Brian Bull to thank them for their help in the November concert.

12. AOB

1) There has been a query from Anthony Watts as to whether Jeff would still wish to provide a Christmas tree for the church this year. If not, BDCS to buy one and ask members to decorate.

ACTION: Janet C. to ring Jeff to find out what he did in the past.

Stop Press: Jeff will provide one again this year, and will liaise with Anthony Watts. There is no tree festival this year, but it will be decorated and put up in time for the Christmas concert.

2) Thanks were expressed to Sally and all the other volunteers who contributed to preparing for the November concert.

13. DONM

Monday 21st January 2019

Tim was thanked for his hospitality. The meeting ended at 9.58 pm.