

Bingham and District Choral Society

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 19TH NOVEMBER 2019

Present: Richard Joyner (Chair), Sally Ashton (Vice-Chair), Brad Poulson (Treasurer), Valerie Morgan (Secretary), Peter Iley (Programme Chair), Tim Connery (Box Office), John Bannister (Fundraising), Beryl Cottrill, Juliet Ward, Tina Warrington (Ordinary Members).

Apologies: Judy Unell (Publicity), Margot Anderson (Librarian), Janet Chapman (Membership).

0. Agenda: This was accepted.

1. Minutes of meeting 15th October 2019

There was one amendment:

Page 2, 4) July 2021: *this entry to be deleted, and "No plans yet" inserted.*

Insert 8) July 2022 – possibility of doing something with Scunthorpe. Juliet has been in touch with Sue Hollingworth (Scunthorpe MD), who seemed interested.

The Minutes were then accepted as a true record. Proposed Brad, seconded Tim.

2. Matters Arising

a) **Richard** – None

b) **Val:**

From September Minutes: Ladies' summer concert dress code to be postponed to a future meeting.

Page 1,3.2) Huw Cadwallader has agreed to become our Examiner. This will need to be confirmed in an EGM.

Page 1,5.3) Margot has confirmed that the Brahms edition will be the Peters.

c) **From the Committee** – None

3. Treasurer – Brad

Last week's Joyful Baroque concert made a loss of £2,600, £500 more than predicted. Ticket income was £667 (101 sold), which was down on previous sales. Programme sales were also down. The cost of venue and staging was £800 (£300 for church).

4. Last Saturday's Concert

Thanks to **John** (concert co-ordinator), and to all involved.

John: The lights were left at the church – John to liaise and arrange for them to be collected – **Brad?** A request to give soloists tea had one response, from someone who lived in Newark. However, as the soloists were all local some went home or used local facilities. Costs of this to be defrayed, and the issue rethought for future concerts.

5. A) Christmas Concert 14th December (Tina Co-ordinator)

See Richard's list for tasks. There was some discussion about whether the return by the removers of the staging to its storage place and of the chairs to Carnarvon could be co-ordinated, which would cost less. If the staging could be left in the church till Monday, this would be feasible.

ACTION: VALERIE to order chairs from Carnarvon.

SALLY to compile mince pie list.

JOHN to discuss staging with Jill Haywood.

BERYL to do seating plan.

RICHARD to discuss etiquette etc with choir, and inform audience at concert about collection for Framework and Alzheimer's Society (see 10.B) below).

JUDY and GUY– programme sheet.

TIM tickets

B) Spring Concert 2nd May – Brahms with Mansfield at Southwell Minster

Mansfield's concert. Peter liaising with MCS. We need to sell as many tickets as possible.

C) Summer Concert Friday 3rd July - Southwell Minster (Brad co-ordinator)

Possibly some choruses from Bach B Minor plus other sacred music.

6. Forthcoming Concerts**A) Bach B Minor Mass Southwell Minster with Southwell CS**

Valerie wrote to Southwell (Jane Gamble) about parity in ticket sales, and received assurances that we would receive equal ticket allocation.

B) Christmas Concert – 12th December 2020? The children have already broken up by the 19th.

7) Bursary and Prize 2020

Beryl: There are three candidates – the closing date has now passed. There was some discussion about whether to have free admission, or charge £5 to include a glass of wine. It was eventually agreed to charge £5 each without wine. It was suggested Emily Hodgkinson (last year's winner) could be asked to sing while the judges were deciding, and if so Michael to be asked to accompany her if available.

Church and Church House booked, also grand piano tuning.

ACTION: RICHARD to contact Emily.

8. Young Composer Competition

Guy has done the paperwork and publicity. **Richard** has found (anonymous) donors for the prize of £500.

9. A) Forthcoming events**Singing Day 29th February – Sally**

Guy to lead, choruses from Elijah. Bingham Church is booked, and Church House for use of toilets.

There was a discussion about safeguarding, as there is a children's dance class there on that day. It was thought that in the interests of both the children and our singers that advice should be sought.

ACTION: BRAD to contact Diocesan lead on safeguarding for advice. [See advice, attached].

[NB: It has emerged that there are three toilets in the church, so Church House ones not needed]

B) Wine-tasting 29th March – Sally

David Harrison will lead this. The WI Hut has been booked.

10. Other matters**A) Appointment of Examiner (See 2b) above)**

An EGM must be held to appoint. One week's notice required (**Constitution 17.5**) to hold an EGM. To be held next term.

B) A letter has been received from Olly Larkin, Community Fundraiser for the local branch of the Alzheimer's Society, asking if we would be willing to raise funds for them. **Valerie** has explained that we cannot do this directly as a charity ourselves. As some members are affected by Alzheimer's, it was agreed after discussion that the collection after the Christmas concert would be divided equally between Framework (already agreed with Guy) and the Alzheimer's Society.

ACTION: RICHARD to inform Guy. VALERIE to write to Olly Larkin.

C) Christmas tree festival in Bingham Church

Following a request from the organisers, **Janet Chapman** and **Linda Hunter** have volunteered to do this.

Thanks to both from the Committee.

D) Suggestion Box

There have been four suggestions, all on the same piece of paper. i) Listen, don't sing along when Michael playing a part; ii) Don't talk when Guy is speaking; iii) Don't do your practice in rehearsal; and iv) Please could we do some work on pitch.

E) From Judy

Penny Prior has done an excellent work on the programme again; would an acknowledgement in the form of a box of chocolates be acceptable? This was agreed.

ACTION: JUDY

F) Strategy Group

One further meeting to be arranged.

ACTION: SALLY to arrange.

G) Newark as a venue

In spite of some advantages (good acoustic, more space etc), some people had found this an unfavourable venue, especially in the winter months. Our audience tends to be elderly, and travelling in the dark can be challenging. Ticket sales were down, resulting in a larger loss for the choir. Parking is at some distance from the church, and expensive, especially for the afternoon rehearsal period. Some of the orchestra players with large instruments found this difficult. The problems would be less for summer concerts. A suggestion was made that perhaps the winter concert could be at Radcliffe and the spring and/or summer ones at Newark. However, our next few concerts will be at the Minster in any case.

12. DONM

Tuesday January 21st 2020.

The meeting ended at 8.55 pm. Valerie was thanked for her hospitality.