



St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir

Minutes Of Committee Meeting

Monday 11th March 2019 7:00 pm
Three Kings Fornham All Saints

- 1.1 **Apologies:** Andrew Mackenzie & David Peck
- 1.2 **Present:** Rob Bream(Chair), Barry Cole, Andrew Conquest, Ian Robertson, Ivor Thulborn, Nick Gane, Mark Jefferson, Kevin Farrell, Den Cartwright, Ed Wilson, Justin Balaam & Malcolm Lodge(Sec).
- 2.0 **Acceptance of the Minutes of the Last Meeting:** Minutes of the meeting held on 21/01/19 were signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record after minor changes to 3.4 and 5.3.
- 3.0 **Matters Arising:(Please refer to the previous minutes for the items in brackets.)**
- 3.1 **(3.2)**Singing sessions at Howard have resumed during Monday lunchtime. IT
- 3.2 **(3.4)**RB said he would contact the Apex to try and get a confirmed date in February 2020 for the next choir recording. RB
- 4.0 **Section Leaders Reports:**
- 4.1 **Andrew Mackenzie:** Unfortunately AM was unable to attend but ML read out a short statement on his behalf. AM had been asked by several bass members if it could be possible for the soloist opportunities to be selected from a wider potential group. MJ responded that there would be opportunities in the near future as he was working on a format with the committee to ensure this. MJ/RB
- 4.2 **Den Cartwright:** DC opened his report by saying there were 16 active second tenors with the average attendance at rehearsals being 10. Warwick Lowe has started to attend a few practices again but his attendance for the foreseeable future is likely to be sporadic. Barclay Dutson has not attended since Christmas due to personal work, engagements and a problem with driving at night and this is likely to continue for a while. Concert attendance since September averages 8.5 which is an improvement over the previous 12 months. Second tenors seem reasonably happy with the new songs, although most of them prefer Fix You to One Day Like This. Comments seem to indicate that the latter has insufficient dynamic range, and just seems to be shouting. The seconds are happy with the new version of Cwm Rhondda.
- 4.3 **ED Wilson:** EW said that average attendance for the top tenors at rehearsal was 9-10, and everyone seemed happy with the music he added that he was disappointed that only 5 top tenors were going on the Isle of Man Tour. EW asked the committee if a date for Sing For Your Supper could be fixed. After a long discussion Friday 24th May was agreed upon with the preferred venue being Horringer Community Hall. IR to enquire. IR
- 4.4 **Justin Balaam:** JB reported that Bob Emery was taking time to recover from his hospital operation so it could be a while before he was back regularly. Ralph Taylor is struggling to make rehearsals because his daughter is unable to bring him due to work constraints.

- 5.0 **Music Team Report: MJ**
- 5.1 **MJ** reported that music for the Isle of Man Tour will be rehearsed this week(14th).
- 5.2 After a discussion with **RB** and **IT MJ** said he was very happy with Paul Davis conducting and believes he should be approached formally to be Deputy Conductor. **ML** proposed that Paul should be formally asked and the vote was unanimously in favour.
- 5.2 **CG** said that the concert in Stowmarket in July with the Jubilee Ladies Choir the joint numbers will be You Raise Me Up and Anthem from Chess.
- 6.0 **Concert Secretary's Report: IT**
- 6.1 Southwell timetable should be available by the end of the week. The meal will be at Southwell Golf Club in the afternoon as there will be insufficient time to have lunch at the hotel in Nottingham. Visit to Burghley House on Sunday where the choir will sing in The Great Hall before departing back to Bury.
- 6.2 Isle of Man brochure is underway, and permission has been given to sing in the Catholic Church in Liverpool and there will be 3 concerts in total during the tour. The Liverpool Echo and Radio Merseyside have been approached to promote the concert in Liverpool.
- 6.3 Saturday 27th April concert with Les Canards Sauvages at St Peter's Church Hospital Road Bury St Edmunds. Parking for the concert will be at the Hyndman Centre next to the church and also the Child Development Centre 200 yards away. The group from France arrive on Thursday 25th April and will be singing at Kedington on the Friday. Afterglow following the concert in St Peter's will be at Bury St Edmunds Rugby Club. **BC** said he would arrange for a poster and also concert and afterglow tickets. Bury Free Press and Suffolk Radio to be approached for advertising the event. **IT/BC**
- 6.4 The choir are attending Simon Loughe's wedding on Saturday 8th June, Simon to choose the music. **SM**
- 6.5 Saturday July 6th concert with The Jubilee Ladies Choir at the United Reformed. Church in Stowmarket
- 6.6 Possible concerts in Felsham in September and Clare in October dates to be confirmed. **IT**
- 6.7 Concert in St Mary's Bury St Edmunds on Saturday 2nd November for the Tearfund.
- 6.8 Possible concerts for 2020 are Men 2 Sing in May, Mansfield MVC in June and Wivenhoe near Colchester as yet there is no proposed date. **IT** suggested a concert at The Apex with LIFT the WSH Choir and Honington Military Wives Choir. This was agreed by the committee. **IT**
- 7.0 **Concert Manager's Report: IR**
- 7.1 **IR** reported that there were only 6 more seats available on the coach for the Suffolk Show. The coach will leave Bury at 8:30 am and returning time from the show ground is 4:00 pm. The choir will sing at 11:00 am and 3:00 pm. **IR**
- 7.2 Staging hired out to Culford School for £300.
- 8.0 **Chairman's Report: RB**
- 8.1 **RB** outlined the Isle of Man Tour including hand bell ringers at one of the concerts. The hotel are providing a buffet dinner on arrival which has been pre-booked but there will be a 3 course dinner on the last night in a private dining room. **MJ** asked if there could be adequate rehearsal time before the concerts. **RB** said he would liaise with the relevant people to try and make this happen. **RB**

9.0 **Vice Chairman's Report: BC**

9.1 **BC** said he was keen to get the choir headline banner finally sorted out and had offered to invite Viv to the next committee meeting. The committee didn't think that was necessary. **RB** asked the meeting if the blue letters on gold was still ok. Nobody had any objections to this.

10.0 **Treasurer's Report: AC**

10.1 **AC** reported that current funds in hand were £50624.76 plus a euro balance of 9.40. Of the funds in hand £29458 was on deposit and represented the designated funds at 31st March 2018. The balance of £ 21,166.76 represented the general fund but that includes £4879 and £6979 net in relation to the Southwell and IOM trips respectively. There were further costs – food and transport costs to be paid for out of those funds.

10.2 Richard Chaplain, a former Grant Thornton audit partner had agreed to be the examiner for the accounts 2018/2019.

11.0 **Secretary's Report: ML**

11.1 **ML** raised the question of the AGM date and it was agreed to be on Thursday 23rd May with a start time of 7:00 pm.

11.2 The "Friends of the Choir " total is 33 including Patron, and Honorary Members.

12.0 **Membership Secretary's Report: NG**

12.1 **NG** supplied information of membership totals. There are 93 registered members but of this total 76 are on the registers as attending rehearsals.

12.2 **NG** provided data giving Concert Attendances for 2018 together with the average attendances for the last 8 years.

12.3 New business cards with **NG's** and **IT's** telephone numbers on the back will be printed to distribute at not only the choirs concerts but other concerts that members may attend. **NG**

13.0 **Librarian's Report: DP** absent no report.

14.0 **Web Site: KF** Nothing to report, no problems that he is aware of on the website.

15.0 **Any Other Business:** None

16.0 **Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 15th April 2019 7:30 pm Three Kings Fornham All Saints.

