



# St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir

## Minutes of Committee Meeting

Monday 12 October 2020 7:30pm  
Meeting via ZOOM

- 1.0 **Apologies for Absence:** David Peck
- 1.1 **Present:** Rob Bream (Chair), Ross Van de Zande, Mark Jefferson, Ivor Thulborn, Andrew Conquest, Ashley Seaborne, Kevin Farrell, Calvin Goymer, Ian Cooper (invited) & Malcolm Lodge (Sec).
- 2.0 **Acceptance of Minutes of Last Meeting:** Minutes of the meeting held on 27/08/20 were accepted by the Committee & signed by the Secretary as a true and correct record.
- 3.0 **Matters Arising:**
- 5.1 **MJ** pointed out that the reference to the contact address and moving teaching posts were not connected. **ML** said he would remove that from the minutes. **ML**
- 4.0 **To Discuss Progress on Getting the Choir Back Together:**
- 4.1 **RB** invited **IC** (Health and safety rep for the Choir) to explain the latest situation regarding the conditions for choirs to rehearse. He explained that the guidance says you can have up to 30 people (if the space allows) including the music team and that the groups should be no more than 6 with a full 2 metres space all around each person. No mingling with each other during rehearsals and everyone arriving on their own no car sharing and leaving the building immediately the rehearsal is finished. **NG** said himself and **IT** attended a concert at the APEX where there were around 40 – 50 people in the audience.
- IT** said he thought the committee should investigate the possibility of offering the choir members the chance to resume rehearsals. The majority of the committee were against resuming rehearsals at this time as a second spike of the Covid virus had started to take hold. It was pointed out that the situation was more stable in early September when the committee decided not to pursue rehearsals having agreed to do so at an earlier meeting. After further discussion **RB** said he would contact Michelle at the APEX to ask what availability they had for November onwards, but it was agreed to put on hold any decisions at least until the next meeting in 4 weeks time. **RB**
- 4.2 A Newsletter would be going out early next week and there will be an update to the members in it. **RB**
- 4.3 **IT** said he had been asked by Graham Poole if the Thursday chats could be started again. AS Thursday's are now quiz nights **IT** said he was prepared to open the ZOOM time at 6:45pm if anyone wanted to join for a chat prior to the quiz at 7:30pm. **IT**
- 4.3 **AC** said the APEX were going to refund the deposit for the concert that had been booked for November 2020. **IT** suggested that perhaps the choir should let them keep it and put it down as a deposit for next November date to be agreed in the future. The committee agreed that this was a good idea and also a good will gesture to the APEX. **RB** to contact. **RB**

- 5.0 **ZOOM**
- 5.1 **IT** said using ZOOM costs £14 per month the committee agreed it was worth the cost and for the immediate future to keep subscribing. **ALL**
- 6.0 **Chairman: RB**
- 6.1 **Choir Recording:**  
There has been no contact from Matt Dilley or Gareth regarding editing of the choir recording. **AC** said he had tried to make contact without success. **MJ** agreed to try and contact Matt. **MJ**
- 6.2 **Austrian Tour 2021:**  
Melody Music have stated that the decision to go to Austria will be made by the end of March. If the tour doesn't go ahead because of Covid there will be full refunds. **RB**
- 6.3 **Code of Conduct & Safeguarding:**  
**AS** agreed to ask Jan to review the Safeguarding policy to possibly cover the Covid issue. **RB** said he would also speak to Ian Cooper for his views as well. **AS/RB**
- 7.0 **Concert Manager: AS**
- 7.1 In the previous year when **AS** was helping the former previous Concert Manager Ian Robertson, they had talked about improving the staging. The suggestion from **AS** was for the safety barriers to be galvanised or coated and the platforms to be possibly resurfaced. This was discussed at length by all the committee and it was also felt that the MD's podium should be improved. A suggestion was also put forward regarding having a large badge in view of the audience behind the choir. **RVdZ** said he would get some costings on the barriers regarding a plastic coating. **AS** to forward **RVdZ** information regarding how many barriers will need to be coated. **AS/RVdZ**
- 8.0 **Any Other Business:**
- 8.1 **AC** asked if the Music Team were happy with the keyboard. **CG** said the keyboard was fine, but the sound system needed improving. **MJ** added that he had organised Phil Robson to come to one of the choir's rehearsals about 2 years ago and Phil's advice was to get new speakers, but this was not followed up by the committee. **RB** asked **MJ** if he would contact Phil to find out if he still had the information regarding the upgrade of the speakers. **MJ**
- 8.2 Tony Farr asked if he could use some of the music on the Choir's CD's at the Remembrance Service in his village as they are unable to have a choir. This was agreed by all of the committee. **IT**
- 8.3 Fred Spoon has returned his music folder as he is moving back to Scotland.
- 9.0 **Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 9 November 7:30pm hosted by **IT** on ZOOM