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|  St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir | Minutes Of Committee Meeting |
| | Tuesday 19th October 2021 7:30 pm 36 Downing Close Bury St Edmunds |

- 1.0 **Apologies for Absence:** A Conquest & M Jefferson
- 1.1 **Present:** Ross Van de Zande (Chair) Ian Cooper, Ivor Thulborn, Nick Gane, Ashley Seaborne, Glenn Warriner, Jules Mills & Malcolm Lodge (Sec.)
- 2.0 **Acceptance of minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20th September:** Minutes of the meeting held on 20/09/21 were accepted by the committee and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.
- 3.0 **Matters Arising:** None
- 4.0 **Concert Secretary: IT**
- 4.1 193 tickets sold for the concert at the APEX on 24th October. Sufficient sales to cover all costs but as there is nearly 2 weeks before the concert and that figure will hopefully increase so that there is monies for the charities. Gemma Alexander has recovered from covid and will be singing at the concert. Judy Robertson has kindly produced a double sided single sheet free programme for the concert. **IC** asked where the best place to put the CD stand would be. It was agreed to have it in the foyer. **IC**
- 4.2 Saturday June 18th Mansfield MVC are coming to Bury for a joint concert probably at St John's Church.
- 4.3 **IT** with a little help has put 1250 choir cards advertising the concert and choir contact details through letter boxes in the town.
- 4.4 **IT** suggested that as well as an engraved tankard and Life Membership of the choir for Mark Jefferson's leaving present, a year's subscription to the Royal Horticultural Society could be given to him. The committee agreed to this. **IT** added that he had been approached by some members who wished to donate to a leaving present. It was suggested that vouchers for a garden centre would be a good idea. **RVdZ** proposed that the Honorary Life Membership certificate should have the wording updated. The committee agreed to him producing an updated version for the next meeting. **RVdZ**
- 4.5 **IT** said he would be standing down from the committee in December. He added that he had been on the committee for over 10 years and it was time to hand over to a younger person. As it's unlikely that there will be any concerts before next June he said it gives the choir time to appoint a new Concert Secretary.
- 5.0 **Concert Manager: AS**
- 5.1 A seating plan has been produced for the APEX concert and this will be implemented at the rehearsal on 21st October, the last one before the concert. **AS** said he would send the plan to **NG** to forward to the members. **AS**
- 5.2 51 **SFYS** tickets have been sold and **AS** expects more to be sold. Doors will open at 7:00 pm for a 7:30 pm start. **ML** asked at what time would the hall be available for setting up etc. **AS** said he would find out in the next week. **AS**

- 6.0 **Chairman: RVdZ**
- 6.1 **RVdZ** said the remuneration payments to the Music team needed to be reviewed as there had been no increase for 5 years. After much discussion it was agreed the new rates based on information gathered would start 1st January 2022.
This will be reviewed annually. **ALL**
- 7.0 **Vice Chairman: IC**
- 7.1 **IC** asked if the 2 documents outlining the Equality & Diversity Policy and the Complaints Procedure that he had circulated to the committee were acceptable. The committee agreed they were.
- 7.2 **IC** asked the committee if they were in agreement that the advert for a new Musical Director was acceptable to go online on Friday 22nd October. There were a few minor changes to the wording requested from the committee and after discussion **IC** said he would do this before sending out the advert. **IC**
- 8.0 **Treasurer's Report: AC**
- 8.1 This report was sent via email before the meeting by **AC**
Current balance £38,915 after paying out since our last meeting:
Prettys £1700 their legal advice re the ATOL claim
Community workshop £91 for leaflets in relation to Ivor's marketing campaign for the Apex concert
Personal Images - £49.50 for Robs tankard
£200.55 to Horringer Hall being the balance payable for the hire for **SFYS**
£100 will be returned if there are no breakages.
- Two new members are paying subs one who has paid in full (Fulcher) and the other on £8 per month (Buchanan)
- The ATOL claim re Melody music is now being pursued (the relevant documents are now on their website. I have hit a snag in that they dont recognise the claim from the information I was given from the revised ATOL certificates issued by Melody Music showing the total of the payments made. I am currently pursuing the correct info for the claim to be processed. The total refund due from Melody is £37055.
- 9.0 **Secretary: ML**
- 9.1 **ML** reported that because of delays regarding refurbishment of the sports hall at Howard it seems the earliest the Choir will return to Howard on a regular basis would be in January. However the hall is available to hire on the 9th and 16th December. As St Mary's is unavailable on 16th **ML** asked the committee if he should book those dates for choir rehearsals. **IC** said it would make sense as if there are applicants for the vacant MD's position it would be the best place to have them conduct a rehearsal. The committee agreed to this. **ML**
- 9.2 **ML** proposed that the Section Leaders should be invited to the next meeting. The committee agreed to this. As it would be a large gathering **ML** proposed that a room at the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Association in Northgate Street Bury St Edmunds could be used. **IT** had given **ML** the contact details for this and the choir can hire it for £10 per hour. The committee agreed to this. **ML**

10.0 **Membership Secretary: NG**

10.1 **NG** said he had only one thing to say and that was the possibility of inviting ladies to sing with the tenors. He added this would need to be debated at a later date. There was a mixed reaction from the committee.

11.0 **Librarian: GW**

11.1 As the meeting was at **GW's** he showed the committee how much organising of the music he had done. The committee were impressed. He asked if the music that is classed as redundant could be stored somewhere. **IT** said that Rob Bream would be able to store it as he currently stores some already. **GW** said he would contact Rob. **GW**

11.2 There is a shortage of copies of Shenandoah. The committee agreed that 20 copies be purchased. **GW**

11.3 **GW** said he was unsure as to what music should be bought to complete the spare folders he has. The committee agreed that as there was a possibility of there being a new MD in the new year it would be sensible not to order any music at this time.

11.4 **NG** informed **GW** That Ian Robertson had taken over from Allan Messem the role of keeping a record of songs sung at every concert. The record helps indicate the music not to buy as well as music that is used the most.

12.0 **Website Co-ordinator: JM**

12.1 **JM** said he had been talking to Kevin Farrell (Previous Co-ordinator) regarding what he had been doing and this had been helpful.

12.2 No contact from Thurston Community College regarding the hire of a hall at Beyton. **JM** believes this may now not be an option for a rehearsal venue.

13.0 **Any Other Business:**

13.1 Tony Farr had sent an email to the committee asking in the event of not being able to appoint a new MD by January what was the Choir's Plan "B". **IC** responded to the email by saying the committee would know by mid November if there were suitable applicants and if not would make a decision on rehearsals before the Christmas break.

13.2 **IT** said there had been two mentions in the Bury Free Press regarding the forthcoming concert at the APEX.

13.3 **RVdZ** said there had been a good turn out at Jim Beardsmore's Memorial Service and thanked the Choir members who attended.

14.0 **Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 23rd November 7:30 pm**
The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Association 28 Northgate Street IP33 1HY

