

Wells Operatic Society Limited

Minutes of the meeting held on

Tuesday 5th October 2010

COMMITTEE

Richard Wright, Gerald Eyers, Mark Wall, Gordon Scott, Lisa Cope, Alan Hooley, Chris Spray, Jenny Hailes, Doreen Grant, Emma Dance, Frank Edgeller, Sharon Edmonds, Rob Rogers and the Mayor of Wells

1. Apologies Emma Dance, Lisa Cope

Absent Jenny Hailes, Rob Rogers

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

Agreed

3. Matters Arising

- Improving pit and orchestra area **AH** – ongoing, minutes on the notice board
- An alternative heating system for the dressing rooms and workshop **MW** has gained one quotation for a water based system that would put a radiator into each of the dressing rooms. He is looking into another quote. Ongoing. **MW**
- Publicity Guide – **RW** to finalise and put into the Handbook; ongoing - **RW**
- Bar repainting **JH** and **SE** ongoing
- Review of Divers' rent **GS & RW** rent increase from £350 to £410 pa **done**
- Rationalisation of the codes used in the building – **MW done**
- Outside bar door repairs – **MW** has looked into possibilities. Angelo will be asked to carry out this work.
- New back workshop door. Final quotes to follow, but it looks like we will replace with a wooden door and code lock. At the same time the step will be removed. - **MW** ongoing
- The Chairman noted that the Chamberlain Street Esso garage has withdrawn its application for the sale of Alcohol
- Diving group wish to put a yellow 'hatched' box in front of their garage, this was agreed, **FE** and Angelo have looked at the area, and noted some damage to the tarmac (probably caused by their boat trailer). **RW** to ask the divers to repair the tarmac before we put the lines down.

4. Correspondence

- Terry Delaney has requested that we avoid putting productions on in the week when St Cuthbert's Music Festival is on. **RW** to reply asking for dates as soon as they are available.
- Hotbox – suggested that the Sept show fit around St Cuthbert's Music Festival rather than using the same week – as above.
- Hotbox – a suggestion that we produce a leaflet on how to join the society, and who to contact. It was noted details are on the Trifold, **SE** to produce a draft leaflet / poster / notice for next meeting. Ongoing
- Hotbox – question left - are we listed in the local 'blue' pages / directory? Answer yes – we are in most of these types of publications – if not please let the Secretary know.
- **FE** has passed his resignation as a committee member to the Chairman. He felt he was not contributing very much and felt he had little to give; he has no enthusiasm for the role. The Chairman expressed his view that this was absolutely not the case and that we would miss his valuable input. Frank agreed to continue in office until the AGM. All agreed

5. Treasurer's Report

- Application for discretionary rate relief, done **GS**
- Silhouette income £3464.00 (57% tickets sold), £2049 expenditure. Congratulations to all those involved. **MW** said there was still the issue of a seat sale (£95) that Catherine had made, and that we needed to reimburse. **MW / GS** to do.

- LLU2 income £4718 (83% tickets sold), £1865 expenditure. Congratulation to all those involved. Some discussion was held over the purchase of white blouses for the Air Hostesses. It was agreed to reimburse those who had bought their own (£6), if they did not want the blouse. **GE** to contact

6. Membership

- AGM Date for 2011 is now set at **Friday 13th May**
- Dinner Dance Date for 2011 is now confirmed as **Saturday 28th May** we will be returning to the Swan Hotel, Wells.
- New Members – Ordinary Membership – Len Sweales – passed
- The Committee discussed the various membership classes and fees. It was agreed that as from January 2011 the cost of full 'Ordinary' membership should be £25pa. It was also agreed to finish offering both 'Social Membership' and 'Subscribers'; MW will propose this at the AGM. **GE** to prepare details.
- **CS** suggests Mark Hutchinson is added to the list of Bar Supervisors, agreed
- Youth Theatre support is now on hold until Sarah Neale's return
- The Annual Curry Night after the Carnival will probably run again, details to follow. **AH**

7. Publicity

- Website photos to CS and ED will put these onto the SFD website. Ongoing **GE send LLU2 to CS**
- Programme Printing still positive from Thales. Still ok for Panto but possibly not beyond that i.e. Pirates wait and see. **AH**
- Due to personal circumstances Emma Dance is finding it difficult to deal with publicity issues face to face. She is very keen to continue working 'at the end of an email' but local help – poster and banner delivery, coordination with directors and producers, photography arrangements etc could be supported by someone else (any volunteers?). It is vital that all issues relating to publicity (see the guide) are thought through at an early stage in a show's production and tasks are clearly identified. If in doubt talk to GE or RW
- Amendment to publicity guide: **ED** suggested photographs taken should be emailed to her
- **CS** has set a link to the Black Dog's tourism site - www.wellssomerset.com

8. Theatre Renovations

- Foyer –Display screen, GE has gained some quotes – Sony Bravia £600, 40", £340 32" It was agreed to purchase a 40" screen and wall stand. **GE** to investigate the cost of a TV licence.

9. Production/trifold/hire

- **Dick Whittington** 11-18th Dec 2010 Dir - **RW**, MD – **Nick Barlow**, SM - **Charlie Watkins**, Choreography(children) - **Sarah Neale**, Choreography(adults and Children while Sarah is away) - **Ella Upham**, , Props –**Lesley Ricketts**, Lighting -**Grahame Brown**, Sound - **Peter Ross**, Costumes - **Sarah Briton**, Rehearsal Schedule - done, budget and ticket price confirmed £9 & £7
- **Pirates of Penzance** (ESSGEE Australian version) - 11-16th April 2011 Dir – **GE**, MD - **Sheila Ross**, Choreography – **TE**, Prod – **Any volunteers?**, SM – **David Papworth**, **ASM - ?**, Costumes – **Sue Scott**, lighting – **Grahame Brown**, Props - **Lesley Ricketts**, Prompt – **Freda Brown**, Rehearsal Schedule done, **Budget tba and ticket price (£12 & £9?) tba**
- **Annie** 1-4th June 2011 – Youth Theatre Production - Director - **Sarah Neale**
- **Our Country's Good** 6-9th July 2011 – Director - **Lois Harbinson**
- **Brenda Bly the Teen Detective** 7-10th Sept 2011 (check St. C's Music Festival dates) Director -**AH**
- **26th-29th Oct 2011** a play possibly **MW**, **GS** or Peter Wild, various options to consider. MW to report to next meeting.
- **10-17th Dec 2011 Pantomime** – any ideas? RW to circulate membership for ideas and possible directors
- **February 2012 one act play festival** anyone interested?
- **A little Night Music** Sept 2012 Director - **Lois Harbinson**, MD - **Sheila Ross**
- **Spring 2016** – Ken Edmonds has suggested that we consider 'Kiss Me Kate' as this is the 400th year after Shakespeare's death. Other Shakespeare productions might also be considered for this year.
- GE reminded the committee about the Jazz, Quiz night, School of Dance and Literary festival hiring – over the next few weeks.

10. Training

- Bar licence - **CS** has continued to offer training for those who serve behind the bar.

11. Show Reviews

- **RW** - had seen Le Misanthrope (Moliere's 1666 comedy), at Bristol Old Vic -impressive staging and acting.
- **GS** - Monty Python's Spamalot at the Bristol Hippodrome - very funny

12. Any other business

- Christmas Tree festival – reminder and anyone interested talk to **RW**
- Quiz night for Charity – Oxfam - reminder. Committee agreed not to make a charge for the hiring for this event.
- Lit Fest AH to cover the bar.
- Phoebe Rees presentation evening anyone interested in attending should talk to **MW**
- FE felt that **CS** and **Katherine Tucker** had not been given due credit and applause for their magnificent work in constructing the 'Airport Rotating Information board' during the staging of LLU2. This was agreed and everyone reinforced the praise and thanks for their hard work; it was not clearly made on the last night.

Date of Next Meeting
Tues 23rd Nov, then 4th Jan 2011

Chairman closed the meeting at 10.02, may thanks for your attendance