

Wells Operatic Society Limited

Minutes of the meeting held on

Tuesday 19 April 2011

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 and Welcome** Apologies from Gerald Eyers, Jenny Hailes and Rob Rogers
- Absent** Emma Dance
2. **Minutes of Last Meeting** Agreed save that **MW** wanted to clarify that his comment under 'Any Other Business' was no slight on our in-house directors
3. **Matters Arising**
 - Improving pit and orchestra area – **AH** ongoing
 - An alternative heating system for the dressing down and workshop area – **MW** – ongoing
 - Bar repainting – **JH & SE** – It was pointed out by **SE** that we were waiting for Lisa Cope's recommendation to contact us for advice about repainting generally
 - Outside bar door repairs – **MW** indicated that this was now due to be completed very shortly
 - The urn – **AH** reported that he had returned the urn in a repaired state. It had been heavily corroded. Although now working its life was limited
 - Wells In Bloom – **GS** confirmed the purchase of four hanging baskets for which delivery was awaited
 - **RW** had received a Food Hygiene sticker following an inspection in 2008 and this has to be displayed on a building window. It was agreed to put it in the Rehearsal Room.
4. **Correspondence**
 - **RW** confirmed he had written to the Rights Holders for Pirates with a full list of complaints about defects in the scripts and scores.
5. **Treasurer's Report**
 - There had been a misunderstanding about the royalties due for Pirates. **GE & GS** to confirm the figures and then to provide **RW** with the return so that he can write to the Rights Holders with the cheque at the same time asking for money back as a refund for their poor material.
 - Creative Carpets have still not paid their invoice
 - It was agreed that visits to costume houses prior to the start of a production should be the subject of expenses claims at 20p per mile and should be included in budget allowance
 - **FE** reported that £450 had been received for this year's Gift Aid and that for the future it can be done on-line
6. **Membership**
 - New members – Peter and Gaye Volk were approved
 - **RW** reported that Graham Brown, Kate Lynch, Pauline Perrin, Sarah Briton and Elly Milln had all expressed interest in becoming Committee Members for the following year and that Jan Doyle, Kate Lynch and Lucy Plant had expressed a keen interest in joining the Box Office staff
 - **AH** reported that 65 people had signed up for the Dinner Dance so far and there would be further publicity at the AGM and by subsequent e-mails
 - The Patrons Evening and patronage system generally was discussed but it was agreed that we needed a further year, particularly with Ellie Milne taking on responsibility for patrons, before we could see any trend or pattern forming
 - Roy Bevan Award – Sharon Carley was meeting Vicky Orman and Sarah Neale next week. It was pointed out that **MW** should be involved in the process as well and he would contact Sharon Carley
 - NODA Awards **GE** - the applications have been dealt with (info via **RW**)
7. **Publicity**
 - Publicity Guide update – ongoing - **RW**
 - Need for a new Publicity Officer – it was agreed that this could be a non-Committee Member
8. **Theatre Renovations**
 - The large display board – **MW** – ongoing. **RW** said that the paper roll for the large display boards was no longer available and we needed to source a different supply at least for the next year. **AH** to check with Thales. **MW** suggested that St Andrews be approached to see if they could print a poster at A0 size at reasonable cost
 - Purchase of new rehearsal piano: Sheila Ross and Nick Barlow to investigate – ongoing **GE**
 - Redecoration of the middle hall – **MW** ongoing

9. Productions/trifold/hire

- **Pirates of Penzance** – this had been a very successful show and much commitment had been demonstrated by all involved. Congratulations.
- **Our Country's Good** – 6-9 July 2011 – Director – **Lois Harbinson**, Producer – **GS**, SM – **Charlie Watkins**, Lighting – **Pete Ross**, ASM – **Catherine Tucker**, Programme & Publicity – **Elly Milln**, Costumes – **Sue Scott**, Props – **Lesley Ricketts** Rehearsal schedule done. Budget agreed. Ticket price £9 & £7
- **Tom Jones** – Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, **June 1st** – Ticket Price £9 & £7
- **Brenda Bly the Teen Detective 14-17 Sept 2011** Director – **AH**, MD – **Sheila Ross**, SM – **David Papworth**, ASM – **Catherine Tucker**, Assistant Producer – **Doreen Grant**, Lighting – **Graham Brown**, Choreography – **Carol Applegate**, Prompt – **Anne Beechey**, Costumes – **Sarah Briton**. Rehearsal schedule done. Budget to be announced. Ticket price to be announced.
- **26-29 October 2011 A Play?** It was agreed that it was now too late to organise anything.
- **Robin Hood 10-17 December 2011**. Written by Vicky Orman, Director – **Tina Eyers**, MD – **Sheila Ross**, Choreographer – **Kim Fisher** (adults) **Ella Upham** (children), SM ?, ASM ?, Sound ?, Prompt ?, Costumes ?, Rehearsal schedule to be done. Budget to be announced. Ticket Price to be announced.
- **February 2012 One Act Plays** – **NG & DG** are looking at the possibility of each directing a one-act play for performance publicly but not for festival
- **Sound of Music 16-21 April 2012** Director – **Gill Kerton**, MD – **Darren Kerton**, Choreography – **Kim Fisher**, Producer – **Vicky Orman**, SM – **Chris Spray**, Set Design/ASM – **Catherine Tucker**, Programme & Publicity – **Katie Biggs & Mark O'Callaghan**, Costumes ?, Lighting – **Adam Killey**, Props ?, Prompt ?, Rehearsal schedule to be announced. Budget to be announced. Ticket Price £12 & £9? No concessions Friday and Saturday
- **Youth Theatre Production June 2012** – Director – **Sarah Neale**
- **July 2012 Play** – Anyone interested?
- **A Little Night Music September 2012** - Director – **Lois Harbinson**, MD – **Sheila Ross**, Producer ?
- **Spring 2016** – Ken Edmonds suggestion for Kiss Me Kate to mark the 400th year after Shakespeare's death remains. Other Shakespeare productions might also be considered for that year

10. Training

11. Show Reviews

- **Street Car Named Desire** (Street Theatre) and **Comedy of Errors** (Tobacco Factory) had been worth seeing – **GS**
- A live cinema screening of The National Theatre's Frankenstein had been an interesting experience of a wonderful production – **RW**

12. Any Other Business

- **CS** reported that the new training system for the Box Office was on-line for a few people. A charge for booking fees at £1 was agreed.
- It was agreed to purchase a black and white laser printer (estimate £83 plus VAT) for the new Box Office system. **CS** reported that we were now going back to BT as a provider. Paypal were trying to recognise us as a charity! It was also agreed to spend £31 to double the memory of the computer for the Box Office system.
- **FW** recorded that this was his last meeting and thanked the Committee for his time at meetings over the last two years. The Committee thanked him for all his help, particularly with Gift Aid.
- **GS** reported a suggestion that Club Night should be reinstated once a month on a Friday. Some thought this unworkable because of rehearsals. **MW** thought we needed to revert to having a break during rehearsals to provide more social interaction. **RW** suggested we might be able to mix a rehearsal with a social evening and future directors might bear this in mind.
- The incident in the theatre, in which a member of the audience (with possible mental health problems) had refused to leave had been dealt with very sensitively by Roger Reeson, Chris Spray and Gordon Scott and David and Annette Papworth but **RW** would write to thank Alison Leyland who had come out late at night to assist.
- **DG** asked that arrangements be looked at for cleaning vomit in the auditorium, as this had been a problem once in the week of our last production.

Date of Next Meeting

AGM on May 13th then 13th June

The meeting closed at 9.20pm. Thanks for attending.