

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Minutes of the meeting to held on
13 June 2011

COMMITTEE

Richard Wright, Gerald Eyers, Mark Wall, Pauline Perrin, Gordon Scott, Alan Hooley, Sharon Edmonds, Doreen Grant, Elly Milln, Graham Brown, Norman Cowell, Ken Edmonds, and the Mayor of Wells

1. **Apologies** Elly Milln

2. **Minutes of Last Meeting** agreed

3. **Matters Arising**

- Welcome to the new committee members- Grahame, Pauline, Norman and Ken. (Ken Edmonds was co-opted onto the committee after volunteering to take on the vacant position of Publicity, many thanks.
- Improving pit and orchestra area - **AH** ongoing
- An Alternative heating system for the dressing room and workshop area - **MW** ongoing. Discussion about the various needs of the range of areas in the building. It was agreed to investigate further our exact needs; everyone was asked to see if they can identify a heating engineer who could independently assess our situation. Report back directly to RW before the next meeting.
- Bar and middle foyer repainting **JH** and **SE** - Lisa Cope has a contact who might act as an adviser for this; **SE** to investigate. MW has received quotes for the work, the colour details etc need to be finalised before we can go ahead.
- Outside bar door repairs - **MW** ordered, due to be installed next month
- The new Box Office system - (**CS**) - **NC** and **GS** commented that it seems to be going well, there were some issues but Chris has been very happy to sort these. We wait to see what happens with the booking of 'Our Country's Good', and then eventually Panto! **RW** to write and thank Chris. Everyone expressed their thanks for all his hard work.
- Defects in Pirates' scripts and scores - **RW**. A return of some of the performance fees has been achieved in lieu of the inaccuracies and inconsistencies in the scripts and scores.

4. **Correspondence**

Hotbox - a) a request for a backstage shower was considered, but this was felt impractical at this time.

b) A request for an autumn show as a 'Classy Music Hall' to be considered in the future planning of productions.

c) Box Office phone bookings: priority for those attending the box office - this seems automatic as the opening of the box office would over-ride telephone and online bookings; CS to be asked to clarify this.

d) A request to hold a regular Friday night as 'club night' was requested. The suggestion was to use say the first Friday of each month as a definite club gathering, and so give the opportunity for all members to meet and socialise even if they are not attending a rehearsal. The committee are looking for a volunteer to organise this. (Talk to GE if you are interested)

Email from David Papworth re Broken smoke machine - it was agreed to hire this in the future. The smoke curtain needs attention RW to investigate the regulations before we do anything. Other points were made relating to Pirates, these had been covered at a previous meeting.

5. **Treasurer's Report - PP**

- It was agreed to combine the 3 theatre accounts into one and simplify the signatories. It was also agreed to move to more online banking.
- MDC have given us back 15% of the discretionary 20% rate relief that we had lost earlier in the year. We now pay just 5% rates.
- Pirates of Penzance made £2738 profit, well done to all involved
- Creative Carpets have paid their parking permit fee.

6. **Membership**

- New Members - Mark Foster (ordinary), Fraser Wall (ordinary) **GE**
- It was agreed to produce laminated cards for new members, and then stickers for each renewal **GE**
- Patrons - update - **EM** next meeting
- AGM and Dinner Dance - A really big thank you to Alan and team for all the work in organising the DD, it was a really good evening. The main concern raised was over the cost (even though the Theatre subsidised the price), AH to investigate other options. The structure and established pattern of the AGM still works and this is to be repeated next year.

7. **Publicity**

- The Publicity Guide update (website use etc) **KE** to look at this with **RW** ongoing
- AH to ask Thales if they can provide paper for the Billboards, we have now run out.

8. **Theatre Renovations**

- Purchase of new rehearsal piano - **GE and Sheila Ross** ongoing

9. **Production/trifold/hire**

- **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 - **Leslie Ricketts**, Rehearsal Schedule done, Budget agreed. Ticket price £9 and £7
- **Brenda Ely - 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 done, Ticket Price £10 and £8
- **Robin Hood - 10-17 Dec 2011** written by Vicky Orman, Director - **Tina Eyers**, Ass Dir - **Sandra Marshall**, MD - **Sheila Ross**, Choreographer - **Kim Fisher** (adults) **Ella Upham** (children), SM - **Charlie Watkins**, ASM - **Catherine Tucker**, Lighting - **Graham Brown**, Sound - **Pete Ross**, Make up - **Helen and Julie Makin**, Producer - **GE**, Prompt - **?**, Costumes - **Sarah Briton & Co.** Publicity and Programme - **Vicky Orman and Sarah Kendall**, Children coordinator - **DG**, Rehearsal schedule to be done, Budget TBA, Ticket Price £9 & £7
- **Feb 2012 One act plays** - **MW & DG directing? tba**
- **The Sound of Music 16-21 April 2012**, Director - **Gill Kerton**, MD - **Darren Kerton**, Choreographer - **Kim Fisher**, Producer - **Vicky Orman**, SM - **Chris Spray**, Set design/ASM - **Catherine Tucker**, Programme and Publicity - **Katy Biggs and Mark O'Callaghan**,

Costumes - ?, Lighting - **Adam Killey**, Props - ?, Prompt - ?, Rehearsal schedule TBA, Budget TBA, Ticket price £12 and £9?, no concessions Friday and Saturday. It was agreed to audition the full cast.

- **Youth Theatre Production - June 2012 - The Wiz.** Director **Sarah Neale**
- **July 2012 - play? Anyone interested?**
- **A Little Night Music Sept 2012 -** Director **Lois Harbinson**, MD - **Sheila Ross**, **Producer - ?**
- **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. **ongoing**

10. Training

Bicton Course 22nd to 24th July- details on notice board. Anyone interested should talk to GE or RW; there is the possibility of the society supporting the cost of this course.

11. Show Reviews

- She Loves Me, Chichester Minerva Theatre: very good a combination of Hello Dolly and Half a Sixpence, with a hint of 'Chocolat'. GE
- Merchant of Venice, Stratford: (set in Las Vegas), a must see. RW
- Hamlet, Strobe Theatre: The Globe theatre tour, very good, although very much a tourist piece. GS
- To Kill a Mocking bird, Bath Theatre Royal: interesting set. GS
- The Pitman Painters, Bath Theatre Royal: very good, excellent, DG and GS
- John Godber's 'On the Piste', adapted by the author to fit BOVTS at the Tobacco Factory, directed by the man himself, great. GS
- Tom Jones, BOVTS, here at the Theatre. Perhaps not the best production they have toured with, some excellent performances. GE, GS, RW
- Calendar Girls, Bristol Hippodrome - what fun! PP
- Bronte, Bath Theatre Royal: a really good arrangement of chronology and physical theatre, excellent. GE
- Noises Off, Cheswick: rather slow and telegraphed at times, spoilt by a laboured pace and lack of intensity, but still a good play. MW

12. Any other Business

- Bristol Fire - inspection 27 April 2011 - **RW** completed, all ok all up to date
- **MW** - housekeeping after rehearsals and Hiring - please make sure the building is all locked up with lights out and windows shut.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday July 19th then Tuesday August 23rd

**The meeting closed at 9.25pm.
Thanks for attending.**