

**Wells Operatic Society Limited**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013**

**COMMITTEE**

Graham Brown (chair), Doreen Grant, Richard Wright, Gerald Evers, Mark Wall, Pauline Perrin, Sharon Edmonds, Ken Edmonds, Lyn Jones, Norman Cowell, Alisa Creaser, Kate Lynch, Sarah Neale and The Mayor of Wells

1. **Apologies** - Sarah Neale, Lyn Jones, Norman Cowell
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** – agreed
3. **Matters Arising**
  - Hearing loop - **GB** getting quotes - ongoing
  - Divers' Hut repairs – **MW** - ongoing
  - Update on title deeds/ownership – **RW** – ongoing, waiting to hear from land registry
  - NODA insurance - updating contents insurance **RW**. Some time has been spent producing an inventory with two figures - current market value (£7,000) or replacement value (£57,000) - so far, **RW** to circulate inventory for comments etc. It is clear we are underinsured, **RW** to arrange amendment to policy, approx £70 extra on insurance. **RW** - ongoing.
  - Tree – **MW** to investigate – waiting for quote, Mendip Tree Officer to agree work, ongoing
  - Shakespeare's 400<sup>th</sup> birthday **KE** to investigate events. ongoing
  - Long term plans for renovation, repair and maintenance – **MW & GE** ongoing
  - Orchestra Pit sub-group report - **RW**. The sub group have worked hard (particular thanks to Dave Collyer and **RW**) to produce three options – 'all bells and whistles' (£80K), a 'minimum' solution (£35k) and a middle option. It was agreed the 'half way solution' was not an option. Committee agreed to ask the sub committee to look at fund raising possibilities and practicalities - report to next meeting. Full details of the 'projects' are available should members wish to understand more detail, either contact **RW** or attend the next 'Pit' meeting. The sub committee are determined to produce a viable option that will benefit the society as a whole - actors, musicians, back stage, FoH etc. Committee will discuss final proposals and then present them to the whole society through an Extraordinary AGM before any decisions are made. The agreement at the last AGM to investigate possible options has resulted in spending approx £1500.
  - Bar changes - **DG** – physical changes to the bar layout and tills are great; Jo and Mike Scammell have taken on ordering and stock control. The committee expressed their thanks to Gill Kerton who has now completed her bar responsibilities after many years of committed service.
4. **Correspondence**
  - A request from the Methodist Church Warden (Jackie Young) for items for an auction. – Sorry but we are unable to support this on this occasion.
5. **Treasurer's Report – PP**
  - Endgame – small loss of £60
  - PULSE £ 198 annual maintenance of heating and ventilation with certificate (to be displayed on boiler room door)
  - Compliance – We are now looking for someone to continue the work started by Chris Spray and Alan Hooley, **PP** to contact membership. The security policy is now in place and up to date.
6. **Membership**
  - Membership Application Form – **SE** – amended form completed, **GE** to arrange printing.

- Dinner Dance, date to set – **GE** – spoken to Louise baker who is investigating options.
- AGM date – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 7.30 for 8pm
- New Members - none

## 7. Publicity

- Night in the Town – Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Sept. Agreed to support. **GE** to produce fliers for PJ and Rumours. **DG** to coordinate distribution.

## 8. Theatre Renovations

- Dimmer has been changed in the bar

## 9. Production/Trifold/Hire

**Year Show Targets** – **GE** new targets discussed and agreed.

- **July 26 and 27 2013** – *Endgame* –review - wow! – high commitment, well done to all involved
- **September 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> 2013** – *Pajama Game* – **AH** - Directing, **Sheila Ross** – MD, **Carol Applegate** – Choreography, **GB** - Lighting, **PR** - Sound, **Chris Spray** - Stage Manager, Budget – **agreed**, Ticket price - **£12 & £9**, Rehearsal schedule - **agreed**
- **October 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 2013** *Rumours* by Neil Simon – **DG** - Directing, **MW** – Set Design, **Georgia Wall** - Stage Manager, **Bill Hayward** - Lighting & Sound, **Sophie and Emma Longley** - Props, **Tina Eysers** – Prompt, Budget set, Ticket price – **£9, £7**. Rehearsal schedule - **agreed**
- **December 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> 2013** *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* – **SE** - Directing, **Nick Barlow** - MD, **Vicky Orman** - Producer, **Charlie Watkins** - SM, **Sarah Briton** - Costume, **Cast** - Adult Choreography, **Ella Upham** - Children’s choreographer, **GB** - Lighting, **PR** - Sound - **?**, **FB** - Prompt -, **Lesley Ricketts** - Props, Budget – set, Ticket price – **£10, £7**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**
- **March 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> 2014** – **a Play? Any volunteers? GE is considering ‘Stepping Out’.**
- **May 19<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> 2014** – *Into the Woods* - **Lois Harbinson** – Directing, **GB** - Producing, **Sheila Ross** - MD, **Catherine Tucker** – SM, **SN** - Choreography, **Louise Baker** - Costumes, **GB** - Lighting, **GB** - Sound, **Emma Longley** - Props, **Budget – TBA, Ticket Price – TBA, Rehearsal schedule - TBA**
- **September 24<sup>th</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup> 2014** – **Play or musical? Any volunteers?**
- **December 13<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> 2014** - **Pantomime? Any volunteers?**
- **March 2015** – **a play Any volunteers?**
- **May 2015** - *Spend Spend Spend*, **Brian Epps** – Directing, **?** - Producing, **? Sheila Ross** - MD,**? – SM,? - Choreography, ? - Costumes,? - Lighting,? - Sound,? - Props, Budget – TBA, Ticket Price – TBA, Rehearsal schedule - TBA**
- **May 2016** – **Ken Edmonds** has suggested that we consider *Kiss Me Kate* as this is the 400<sup>th</sup> year after Shakespeare’s death. Other Shakespeare productions might also be considered for this year. **Ongoing.**

## 10. Training - ntr

## 11. Show Reviews

- **The Three Musketeers** – **GE** - Lyme Regis – performed by Barbershopera – absolutely amazing, funny, witty and clever – a must see (check them out on YouTube)
- **Avenue Q** – **AC** – Weston SM - Sunshine Productions – amazing ‘amateur’ puppet work, very good and professional.
- **Bouncers** – **DG** - Liverpool - Royal Court Theatre, a really good play, very well done.
- **Barnum** – **GB** - Chichester - in the rigid tent, very clever and skilful circus abilities. Actor who played Barnum was fantastic.

- **A Little House on the Side** – MW – Bath Theatre Royal, starring Richard McCabe, very entertaining, interesting story, memorable.

**12. Any Other Business**

- Bar and FoH staff shirts – GE has passed on details to Sarah Briton. Black was the required colour. Agreed to purchase some and sell them to users. KL said she knows a possible different supplier and will let Sarah know.
- PP/GE – a new member, John Little, has suggested that next year we could present something to remember the start of WW1. Any ideas please bring to the next meeting.
- Bar staff needed – please encourage members to get involved – talk to Sarah Briton or Emma Longley
- Take Art – Sarah Briton has shown around these potential hirers, details to follow.

**13. Date of next meeting** – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October (chaired by PP) then Monday 4<sup>th</sup> (Chaired by KL)