

**Wells Operatic Society Limited**  
**Minutes of the meeting on**  
**Monday 9th February 2015 at 7.30pm**

**COMMITTEE**

Graham Brown (chair), Richard Wright, Pauline Perrin, Ken Edmonds, Alisa Creaser, Gerald Evers, Kate Lynch, Lyn Jones, Norman Cowell, Sarah Neale, Sharon Edmonds

1. **Apologies** – Pauline Perrin, Norman Cowell, Kate Lynch and Sarah Neale
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** - agreed
3. **Matters Arising** – A new ‘Henry’ vacuum cleaner is now upstairs in the dressing room, please keep it there. Spare bags are inside it.
4. **Correspondence** -
  - Matthew Maisey & pantomime options. Matthew has agreed to direct next year’s pantomime which will be *George and the Dragon*. Vicky Orman has agreed to produce the show as well as write a UV scene. Matthew will be paid for the use of his script (£425), but not for directing. **RW**
  - The Divers Christmas Social. Issues have been resolved, apologies accepted. **RW**
  - Email to Chris Spray from Alistair Glanville regarding the on-line bar booking arrangements. There have been some problems with some bar volunteers accessing the website to amend the bar rota. Whoever takes over the bar organization should check how volunteers can be contacted. **GE**
5. **Treasurer’s Report**
  - Subscriptions 2015 now due. (84 paid, list on board). Agreed to give Brian Epps honorary membership for this year.
  - Subscription discussion. Subscriptions went up in Jan 2012 (agreed at AGM in 2011) from £20 to £25. Committee agreed that an increase of £5 should be made to Ordinary and Patron subscriptions and that this increase (in 2016 only) should be passed directly to the Pit Development Fund. **GE** to add to the AGM agenda.
  - End of year accounts are now made up and are with the accountants.
  - Accrington Pals: £3023 income, £2498 expenses leaves £524 profit (target was £1440). A difficult show to sell only 55% house, target was 70%. Well done to all involved.
  - Snow White: £12,038 income, £2583 expenses leaves £9454 profit (target was £7440). Really well done to all involved.
6. **Membership**
  - Carnival Night payment. – **RW** - on-going
  - Civic Night - **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015**. Mayor and 9 guests invited. NC to arrange tickets. Blue School catering. **LJ** to arrange.
  - AGM – **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015**. – Arrangements as last year. Mayor has accepted invitation, Notices are now up. Committee nomination forms are on the noticeboard. Final details at next meeting.
  - NODA Awards and the Roy Bevan Award. Arrangements are in hand - **GE**
  - Dinner Dance – **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June** – 7.30 for 8.00pm. The Swan Hotel. Ticket prices - members and life members £20, patrons and non-members £25. Louise is now arranging things. **AC**
  - Patrons - 34 at the moment, (9 less than last year). **LJ**
  - **Facebook**: Vicky Orman is very keen to act as the Theatre controller for this. Any questions or comments should go directly to her. **AC**
  - New Members – none. Spend Spend Spend cast to follow soon.
  - Parking Stickers – new stickers are available to replace the old. **GE**
  - Bar arrangements and organisation – any volunteers please talk to a member of the committee. We need a coordinator to take over from Sarah Briton and Emma Longley.

- Bar Social nights – Feb 13<sup>th</sup>. The next Social would be the 27<sup>th</sup> March (AGM evening). Then the 24<sup>th</sup> April.

## 7. Publicity

- a) A monthly 'What's on' list. Committee discussed the difficulty in getting general information out to all members. There are several ways at the moment:-
  - The Bar Noticeboard
  - The Trifold
  - The Website
  - The Theatre Facebook page

Introducing another format was seen as more work with little gain. The committee would like to encourage all members and patrons to visit the Theatre regularly to pick up information about what is going on, when and where.

Vicky Orman and Chris Spray are to be added to the minutes circulation list so that event details can be taken and added to Facebook and Website. GE will continue to keep the Noticeboard and Trifold up to date.
- b) A notice, visible at the front of the theatre, should direct visitors to our website for 'What's on' information. **GE**

## 8. Theatre Renovations

- Orchestra Pit Development (including handrail). **KE** has researched some information that indicates the height of the rail need only be 800mm at points that are not at the end of an aisle. This information has been passed to the working group and the Quantity Surveyor. 3 fund raising social events have been identified – a Variety show, a Quiz night and a Classical music night. Details to follow and dates to arrange with **GE**.
- On-going items taken from the **maintenance minutes** are –
  - a. Rear Emergency Exit / passage lighting – **GB** Bishops to do this work asap £633 Inc. VAT
  - b. Bar lighting and music system – **GB** on-going
  - c. Auditorium seating – **KE** has investigated a supplier in Wiltshire. This looks very promising – good quality, modular, flexible auditorium seating. He proposes to visit the manufactures and discuss our requirements before inviting them to visit us and produce a quote.
  - d. Wooden beam above the pit is due to be replaced with the steel version. Work by Crocombe Roofing, w/b Feb 9th

## 9. Productions/Trifold/Hire

- a) **New productions** – requests and ideas – **AC** will email members asking for show titles and volunteers to direct and produce.
  - b) **Long Paws Comedy Club**. The Comedy Club are planning a long weekend of events in the Theatre (May 29-31). This will put a strain on volunteers for the bar. The committee agreed that people from the Comedy Club could serve behind the bar – provided that a Theatre supervisor was with them, and that they had been trained. **GE** to make arrangements.
- **Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> 2015 – Deckchairs** four duologues, licence £90.00 for 1 night, £40.00 spent on scripts, very little other costs. Members and guests can sign up for tickets or ring Doreen, £5.00 per person. Performance in the bar approx. 45 seats. Possibility of doing the Saturday night if there is the demand. Rehearsals Tuesday nights in the bar and Sunday afternoon 15th March, set up the bar on the Thursday night 19th March. (Divers have their AGM and are happy to work around). **GB** - 'low key' lighting and sound run by Pete Ross.
  - **May 18<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> 2015 - Spend Spend Spend**, Director – **Brian Epps**, Producer - **RW**, MD - **Sheila Ross**, SM - **Catherine Tucker**, Set Design - **Catherine Tucker**, Choreography – **Carol Applegate**, Costumes – **Tina Eyers and Jenny Hailes**, Lighting - **GB**, Sound - **GB**, Props – **Doreen Grant**, Budget – **agreed**, Ticket Price – **£12 & £10**, Rehearsal schedule – **done**

- **June 25<sup>th</sup> BOVTS** return with *Beau Stratagem*. **RW** to arrange
- **Wells Variety show** in aid of the Pit Development Fund **11th & 12th July**, ticket price £10. **SN** - director.
- **September 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 2015 – *Little Lights Up 3*** Director -**Tina Evers**, Producer - **GE**, MD - **Nick Barlow**, SM- **Chris Spray**, Set Design – **GE** and **Gareth Loxton**, Adult Choreography – **Judi Neale** and **Tina Evers**, Children’s Choreography – **Sarah Neale**, Sketches coordinator – **Doreen Grant**, Costumes **?**, Lighting- **Rob Rogers**, Sound – **Adrian Mitchell**, Props -**?**, Budget – **agreed**, Ticket Price – **£10 and £8**, Rehearsal schedule – **done**
- **December 12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> 2015 – Pantomime** see correspondence above. *George and the Dragon* written by **Matthew Maisey**, Director – **Matthew Maisey**, Producer – **Vicky Orman**.
- **March 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> 2016 – Any ideas??**
- **Spring Show 16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> May 2016 – *Return to the Forbidden Planet***, Director - **Lois Harbinson**, MD - **Sheila Ross**, Rights have been agreed. **GB** - produce and Lights
- **September 21<sup>st</sup>- 24<sup>th</sup> 2016 - *Twelfth Night***, Director - **RW**
- **December 10<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> 2016 – Pantomime – any Volunteers?**

10. **Training**  
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11. **Show Reviews**  
Robin Hood and The babes in the Wood – Draycot – good fun, good script, Mendip Players – KE, SE  
Yer Tiz – KE and SE, GB, charming and very clever, very worthwhile

12. **Any Other Business**  
none

13. **Date of next meeting**

**Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> (GE chair) then AGM on March 27<sup>th</sup>,  
Then Tues 28<sup>th</sup> April (SE chair)**