

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Minutes of the meeting on
Tuesday 8th July 2015 at 7.30pm

COMMITTEE

Chris Briton (chair), Gerald Eyers, Richard Wright, Pauline Perrin, Ken Edmonds, Alisa Creaser, Graham Brown, Lyn Jones, Sharon Edmonds, Gina Cleverley

1. **Apologies** – Lyn Jones, Gina Cleverley, Alisa Creaser, Ken Edmonds

2. **Minutes of the last meeting** - agreed

3. **Matters Arising** -

- Carnival Night payment. – **CB** - ongoing

4. **Correspondence**

- Wells City Band concert in aid of the Pit Development Fund – **GEE** Feb 13 2016. Dot Poole Musical Director – GEE to contact regarding the theme/ choice. The theatre to organise publicity, tickets, price etc. GB lighting and p.a. GEE producer. WCB wait to hear if we are running a raffle that night. Contact - Jane Hill (Treasurer). Ticket Price £5. Yes to raffle. Valentines and Film Movies theme.
- Waitrose in Wells is now running our Stage and Pit project as part of its Community Matters charitable collection. The green token system - the 3 boxes (ours is one). £1000 each month is given to those charities in the proportion of the tokens collected. We are there for the whole of July. SO - if in two minds, shop at Waitrose and vote for us!!!! – **RW**
- Cleaning the building - Sandy and CB. There is now a new hand vacuum located in the bar. CB is happy to cover Sandy when she is away. It would be useful to get a record of Sandy's cleaning routine – **PP** and **CB** to talk to Sandy.
- Matthew Maisey Panto script and licence – **RW**. A copy of the script is now with RW. Licence to pay.
- For information - *'David Beach passed away following a heart attack last week. He will be cremated at Taunton Deane Crematorium on Tuesday 14th July at 11.00am. Many will have known David and been inspired by him, as I was. He initiated the Cinderella Trophy Competition and for many years he adjudicated all productions single-handedly. His adjudications were always encouraging and he had a real love of pantomime and an eye for detail. I have no doubt that his enthusiasm and knowledge were in no small measure a factor in creating the very high standards of amateur pantomime that we enjoy in Somerset today. He will be sorely missed but his legacy will live on. Sam Allen, Moderator, Cinderella Trophy Competition'*
- Proposal to co-opt Dave Collyer onto the committee - **RW** - agreed
- C & J Clark have pledged a substantial sum to the Pit Project provided that our Arts Council application is successful. - **RW**
- Letter from Ina Cole regarding the tree. - Our neighbours propose to apply for permission to substantially prune the tree by our entrance gate. It was agreed to support this provided estimates of costs were looked at before work commences. **RW**
- Letter and photographs received from St. Cuthbert's Church showing where a downpipe from the Theatre is starting to cause damage to the boundary wall. Agreed to ask Angelo to deal with this quickly. **PP** (this is now done 10/7/15).

5. **Treasurer's Report**

- Spend Spend Spend – we are still waiting for final invoice from the rights holders (S. French). It looks like the show made a loss of about £1000.
- Dinner dance – the theatre subsidised this event by more than £250
- BOVTS – Thankfully, after a flurry of last minute ticket sales, we made a profit of about £250. RW will contact BOVTS to see if a date earlier in June was available (this year clashed with the Glastonbury Festival)

6. Membership

- New members – Geraldine Hale, Ordinary - agreed
 - There will be several children cast in LLU3 to add
- Dinner Dance **Friday June 12th** tickets £20 and £25 for non-members. Committee agreed to review this at the next meeting. Date for 2016 to be agreed
- Bar calendar 2016 dates agreed– **GEE**
- Date of AGM – Friday 18th March

7. Publicity

High Street banner, supplier to be identified for LLU3. **KE – ongoing.**

8. Theatre Renovations

- Orchestra Pit Development. The subcommittee meet this week to confirm details for the Quiz night and Variety show night in Oct. The total of £10, 000 is now very close and we wait to hear from the Arts Council. – **RW**
- Ongoing items taken from the **maintenance minutes** are –
 - a. Bar lighting and music system – **GB ongoing**
 - b. Auditorium seating – on hold until the Pit Fund is complete. **KE** has received some quotes for 20 seats (those that will be on top of the new pit) These range from the very basic - £3000+VAT, to mid value £4,500 +VAT, or the super-doper £5,500+VAT
- Building Paintwork. It was agreed to leave this until the Pit Project and auditorium seating expenses are clearer.
- Rostrum to go in Bar - **GB** will make these for September.
- New Keyboard and storage. The new piano is now on order. Locking the dressing room door is ongoing – **GE**

9. Productions/Trifold/Hire

- **June 25th BOVTS - *Beau Stratagem*.** Review – mixed feelings about this production; some aspects worked some did not.
- **September 23rd – 26th 2015 (Now extended to the 22nd Sept) – *Little Lights Up 3*** Director -**Tina Evers**, Producer - **GE**, MD - **Nick Barlow**, SM- **Chris Spray**, Set Design – **GE** and **Gareth Luxton**, Adult Choreography – **Judi Neale** and **Tina Evers**, Children’s Choreography – **Sarah Neale**, Sketches coordinator – **Doreen Grant**, Costumes **?**, Lighting- **Rob Rogers**, Sound – **Adrian Mitchell**, Props – **Val Burbidge**, Budget – **agreed**, Ticket Price – **£10 and £8**, Rehearsal schedule – **done**
- **October 3rd – 2015. *Saturday night is Music Night*.** - In aid of the Pit Development Fund. Ticket price **£10**. **SN** and **GC** –directors. Producer? MD? Lighting - **GB**, SM?
- **December 12th – 19th 2015 – *Pantomime - George and the Dragon*** written by **Matthew Maisey**, Director – **Matthew Maisey**, Producer – **Vicky Orman**. MD - **Sheila Ross**, Lighting - **GB**, Sound - **Pete Ross**, Props – **?**, Budget – **tba** (GE to do rough budget and set a meeting date), Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **tba**
- **March 16th – 19th 2016** – Doreen Grant volunteered to arrange something – we may need to move the date of this one week earlier - to provide room for the AGM - **GE**
- **Spring Show 16th-21st May 2016 – *Return to the Forbidden Planet***, Director - **Lois Harbinson**, MD - **Sheila Ross**, Rights have been agreed. **GB** - producer and Lighting
- **September 21st- 24th 2016 - *Twelfth Night***, Director – **RW**, auditions and casting are likely to be in January 2016. Lighting **GB**,
- **December 10th - 17th 2016 – *Pantomime*** – Director - **Sharon Edmonds**, Writer and Producer – **Vicky Orman**. MD - **Sheila Ross**, Adult Choreographer – **Kim Fisher**, Children’s Choreographer - **?**, Stage Manager – **Charlie Watkins**, Lighting - **GB**, Sound - **?**, Props – **?**, Budget – **tba**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **tba**
- **March 2017 – Any Ideas?**

- **May 2017 – Any Ideas?** All suggestions to **AC** for the reading group to look at.
- **September 2017** - reading group are considering options (Alan Hooley has offered to direct the musical farce 'Act Your Age').

**10. Training
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11. Show Reviews

Betrayal: A Polyphonic Crime Drama - based on the music of Gesualdo di Venosa, the 16th-century composer who gained notoriety as a murderer, this piece of immersive music theatre places the audience inside a dark world of disturbed minds and chilling secrets. The most amazing show in a Salisbury car park - 6 singers and 6 dancers. **PP**

The Day They Kidnapped The Pope by Joao Bethencourt at Strode. Street Theatre. Interesting, weird set could be simpler, funny, and enjoyable. **SE**

12. Any Other Business

NODA awards – some still remain not presented GE to organise.

SE is performing in the Hot Fuzz Murder Mystery in the White Building this weekend.

12th night is coming to the Bishop's Palace this summer – worth watching.

13. Date of next meeting - Tues 1st September then Mon 5th October