

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Minutes of the meeting on
Monday 5th October 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, Dave Collyer

Apologies – Pauline Perrin, Dave Collyer, Graham Brown,

1. Minutes of the last meeting - agreed

3. Matters Arising – The Burger Van that uses the theatre car park during Carnival night will pay the Carnival Committee as usual. CB will arrange for our payment to be transferred from the CC.

4. Correspondence –

Planning consent to trim the large tree in the car park has gone through Wells Planning Committee. The application has been made by our neighbour Ina Cole. It was agreed that in the future when the tree needs another trim, the committee would make the application and ask that permission was granted for regular pruning, say over a 10 year period.

5. Treasurer's Report

- We are still waiting for Spend Spend Spend final royalty details from Samuel French.
- It is too early for final figures from LLU3.
- It is too early for final figures for the Music Night Concert.

6. Membership

- New members – some new members will be joining for pantomime, Vicky Orman and Sarah Neale are coordinating this.
- **Dinner Dance** – now booked at the White Hart for **Saturday 27th Feb 2016**. 40 places available (first come first served basis), £25 tickets – formal dress, 3 course sit down meal (the menu look very good) 7pm for 7.30pm. Music and other details to be arranged. **AC**
- **AGM – Friday 18th March 2016**
- **Hallowe'en Party Saturday 31st Oct**. Check posters for details. **AC**
- **Carnival Night Friday 20th November**. It was agreed to run the bar for members and signed in guests. No food. **AC** will arrange a bar rota.
- **Play / show reading group. AC – meeting on 22nd Oct**. to discuss options.

7. Publicity

The new High Street banner – this seemed to work well. GE will order these as required. Producers are advised to give at least 3 week for delivery before the box office opens i.e. 5 weeks before the show runs. The cost of the 2 billboards and the banner is approx. £200. **GE**

8. Theatre Renovations

1. The Stage and Pit Project.

(note from DC) - The construction drawings are now finished and I am preparing to offer them to several builders for costing. After discussion with the Structural Engineer, the metalwork for the project will be separated from the tender documentation, and presented to Masters of Easton for costing. The board and glass frontage to the new moveable pit safety barrier will also be separated and managed in-house.

This will leave the excavation, any underpinning and construction work for general builders to consider. Bringing these separate areas together, and other related works - e.g. electrics, will require project management which I will undertake.

Subject to Committee approval, the provisional period being offered to contractors for construction work, is 8 to 10 weeks from early June 2016. **DC**

2. The Bid for funds for auditorium seating from the Bath Theatre Royal, is still ongoing. **RW**
 3. Bar lighting and music system. **GB - ongoing**
 4. Rostrum to go in Bar, this will go ahead when it is needed, please let **GB** know.
 5. Stage cloths and storage – **GE** – Chris Spray and the crew for LLU3 have completed the process of sorting and racking the stage cloths. Many thanks to them.
 6. Chris and team have also installed some additional stage cameras that cover the wings and pit, as well as giving ‘night vision’ – many thanks for this work which was all at minimal cost.
 7. We need to look at our fire extinguishers, replacement and servicing policy – **RW ongoing**
9. **Productions/Trifold/Hire**
- **Little Lights Up 3** – review – Great, went down well, lots of positive comments. Ticket sales were disappointing and down on projections. This could be a number of issues, but it was felt the poster / title of the show was not strong enough. Thanks to all those involved, particularly Tina Evers and Nick Barlow who did so much work to make this a really pleasant show for cast and audience.
 - **October 3rd – 2015. Saturday Night is Music Night** – review – a very successful evening with lots of different people taking part and contributing to its success. Many thanks to Gina and all the team.
 - **December 12th – 19th 2015 – Pantomime - *George and the Dragon* written by **Matthew Maisey**, Director – **Matthew Maisey**, Producer – **Vicky Orman**. MD - **Sheila Ross**, Choreography - **Sarah Neale**, Lighting - **GB**, Sound - **Pete Ross**, Costume coordinator – **Gina Cleverley**, Props - **Nick Barlow and Lesley Ricketts with Vicky Orman**, Prompt – **Freda Brown**, Budget – **agreed**, Ticket Price – **£10 and £8**, Rehearsal schedule – **done**. **Bar staff show coordinator - AC**. **GE** to talk to Jackie Young regarding arrangements for FOH.**
 - **March 9th – 12th 2016 – *Inspector Drake and the Perfekt Crime* by *David Tristram*. Director - **Doreen Grant**, Producer – **?** Stage construction – **Mark Wall**, Lighting – **Rob Rogers**, Sound – **Adrian Mitchell**, Costume - **?** Props – **Jo and Mike Scammell, Vicky Orman**, Prompt – **?**, Budget – **tba**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **tba****
 - **Spring Show 16th-21st May 2016 – *Return to the Forbidden Planet*, Director - **Lois Harbinson**, MD - **Sheila Ross**, Rights have been agreed. Producer and Lighting - **GB**, Costumes - **Louise Baker**, Prompt – **?**, Budget – **tba**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **tba****
 - **September 21st- 24th 2016 - *Twelfth Night*, Director – **RW**, Lighting - **GB**, Costumes – **Louise Baker**, Prompt – **?**, Budget – **tba**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **tba****
 - **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?** All suggestions to **AC** for the reading group to look at.
 - **May 2017 – Any Ideas?** All suggestions to **AC** for the reading group to look at.
 - **September 2017 Any Ideas?** All suggestions to **AC** for the reading group to look at.
 - **Pantomime 2017 Any Ideas?** All suggestions to **AC** for the reading group to look at.
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10. **Training**
SE has recently completed some First Aid Training, she will check the First Aid boxes.
11. **Show Reviews**
The Encounter at The Bristol Old Vic. Written by Simon McBurney, it has one cast member travelling into the Amazon. An amazing and unique audio experience. A must see. LJ

12. Any Other Business

- Car parking – we seem to be gradually filling up with authorised visitors. Could everyone please use the polite notices in the workshop to discourage visitors.
- New bar prices and now in operation. RW
- KE and SE volunteered to help behind the bar on the 18th Oct for Comedy Night. Many thanks.
- SE volunteered to write thank you cards to recent directors and MD's.

13. Date of next meeting - Monday Nov 2nd then Tues 1st Dec, then Monday 11th Jan 2016