

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Minutes of the meeting on
Monday 11th January 2016 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 – Graham Brown,

- 1. Minutes of the last meeting** - agreed
- 2. Matters Arising** – as shown in the minutes below
- 3. Correspondence** –
 - Paul Toole has contacted GE to ask for available dates for hire. **SE and AC** agreed to follow this through. All dates need to be confirmed with GE before booking.
 - It was agreed to talk about theatre hire charges in Oct 2016 ready for the New Year. **GE** to add to theatre diary.
 - BOVTS are looking to book Tuesday 7th June for their summer tour of A Midsummer Night's Dream. **RW** to confirm
- 4. Treasurer's Report**
 - **Panto** – Box Office 91%, slightly down on previous years. Profit about £7K final figures to follow. 2016 subs are now due, as agreed at the 2015 AGM prices are now –
Patron £40 Ordinary Member £30 Social Member £10
Associate Member (age 14-18) £10 Child (under 14) £10 Child joining for Pantomime £5
Pay online or direct to PP. As agreed at the AGM £5 from Ordinary Subs and Patron Subs will go directly to the Stage and Pit fund.
Social Evening to be held on Friday 15th Jan can be used to pay subs. **PP, AC & GE**
GE – Car Park hire – it was agreed that in 2016 we will not be letting car park spaces.
- 5. Membership**
 - New members –**Dinner Dance – Saturday 27th Feb 2016**, 7pm for 7.30pm at the White Hart. 40 places, £25, formal dress, 3 course sit down meal with DJ. Tickets can now be bought from **AC**
 - **AGM – Friday 18th March 2016** **GE** to send out Agenda, letters and invites. NODA Awards, Roy Bevan Award, etc. **GE** to arrange.
 - Congratulations to Doreen and her team (Mike and Jo Scammell, Vicky Orman and Nick Barlow) for being nominated in the best Props category in the David Beach Awards for Spend, Spend, Spend. More nominations are on the board. The Awards evening is 5th March in Taunton.
 - Social Evening – as mentioned above Jan 15th. **AC**
- 6. Publicity**
 - Possible alternative printers for programmes and posters. **KE** - ongoing
 - The slot in the high Street used by the banner needs to be booked for 2017 – **KE**
- 7. Theatre Renovations**
 1. The Stage and Pit Project. – Arts Council application – The amended version was sent to committee and some adjustment are needed before we send it away. The subcommittee agreed that the summer of 2017 will be targeted as construction time (May-August) **GE** to arrange diary. This might mean adjusting the Spring show dates. Once the application has gone in we should know within 12 weeks and we can resubmit any number of times. Once the timescale is known it might be possible to do some minor preparation work before the Summer 2017. **RW DC**
 2. Bar lighting and music system. **GB** - ongoing
 3. Rostrum to go in Bar, this will go ahead in January. **GB**

4. New / second hand lights – **GB** is working on a planned replacement programme. Graham is also following up a second offer of lights.
5. The Tree. Joe Taylor - quote for work - Over all Crown reduction of plane tree by a max of three metres, Remove waste from site, Supply traffic management £675.00 plus VAT – It was agreed to ask for other quotations - **RW**
6. Pulse heating – **RW** Pulse have completed the service work. We wait for the invoice.

8. Productions/Trifold/Hire

- **George and the Dragon** – review. There were some comments over the quality of the coffee, PP to ask Mike Scammell to check ‘sell by dates’ and try a different type. There were also people asking to take bottled water into the auditorium, this is permitted. The sweets and drinks sales in the rehearsal room and corridor need to be the same prices as the bar. PP to check with Mike and GE to talk to Jackie. Thank you letters – SE. The panto was again a great success, both artistically and financially. The Dragon was amazing. Lots of good comments from a wide range of audience - funny and enjoyable. Possibly a bit long. Nice to see the slap stick back. 91% sales slightly down on previous years – not sure why, it might be the title, it might be that other societies are now producing a better product - we must not be complacent.
- **Hearts and Flowers – Wells City Band Concert in aid of the Stage and Pit fund**
Sat 13th Feb. 2016 doors open 6.45. Ticket sales **£10** via box office (thanks Norman) and on the door.
 Start 7.30, 45 mins then 20 minutes interval then 45 (finish 9.20ish)
 Musical Director- **Dot Poole**
 Lights and Sound – they will need the PA system – **GB**. WCB will provide own compare.
 WC Band (x34ish) arrive from 6pm. **GE** or **GB** to let them in and arrange stage. (Stage needs to be clear and black).
 Raffle (Stage and Pit committee agreed to arrange) draw in the interval and **someone** from theatre needs to talk about the stage and pit fund – Nick Furze or RW
 Tea and coffee for band in break. (Marcel and Jackie)
 Publicity – Posters only. DC to arrange.
 PRS form - **GE**
 FoH – **GE, TE**
 Bar – **GE to arrange**
DC, RW and GC agreed to take on the arrangements for this event.
- **March 9th – 12th 2016 – Inspector Drake and the Perfekt Crime by David Tristram.** Director - **Doreen Grant**, Producer – **DG**, Stage manager - **Mike Scammell**, Stage construction – **Mark Wall**, Lighting – **Rob Rogers**, Sound – **Adrian Mitchell**, Costume – **Tina Eyers and Doreen**, Props – **Jo and Mike Scammell, Vicky Orman**, Prompt – **?**, Budget – **agreed**, Ticket Price – **£9 and £7**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**
- **Spring Show 16th-21st May 2016 – Return to the Forbidden Planet.** Director - **Lois Harbinson**, MD - **Sheila Ross**, Producer - **GB**, Choreography - **Eden Simpson**, SM – **Graham Brown**, Set Design – **Catherine Tucker**, Lighting – **Pete Ross**, Sound – **Adrian Mitchell**, Costumes - **Louise Baker**, Properties – **Lesley Ricketts**, Prompt – **Freda Brown**, Posters and programme – **Katy Biggs**, Shakespeare consultant – **Jonathan Sansam**, Photographs and Videos – **Adam Lanfranchi**, Budget – **tba**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**
- **September 21st - 24th 2016 - Twelfth Night**, Director – **RW**, Choreography – **Tina Eyers**, SM – **Charlie Watkins**, props - **Pat Watkins**, Lighting - **GB**, Costumes – **Louise Baker**, Prompt – **?**, Budget – **tba**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **tba**
- **December 10th - 17th 2016 – Jack and the Bean Stalk** – Director - **Sharon Edmonds**, Writer and Producer – **Vicky Orman**. MD - **Sheila Ross**, Adult and Children’s Choreographer – **Julie Webster**, Stage Manager – **Charlie Watkins**, Lighting - **GB**, Sound – **Adrian Mitchell**, 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 - Director** - Ken Edmonds, Vicky to write it.

9. Training

DC - to look into Charity Commission training. - **Ongoing**

CB - Wells Fire Brigade requested that they become familiar with the layout of the building. A tour was arranged. Any feedback from the Fire Service will be welcomed.

10. Show Reviews

- Peter Pan, Strode, – an alright show but something missing as a panto. Good houses and some fun aspects. The flying (x4) was good, and the London animation worked well – except where they flew through Big Ben! KE
- Aladdin, Moorlight – brilliant flying carpet scene, an overall good show. KE
- Le Miserables youth production at Wells Cathedral School, very good, amazing theatre production for students. Hired in scenery etc makes it really good. Music was excellent. -LJ

11. Any Other Business

GE – Hirers for 2016 have been invoiced and sent the following statement -

Please could I remind you that use of the car park is for members only, and that dropping off and collecting children for your classes should take place at the Chamberlain Street entrance. Members who have tasks to do in the theatre have occasionally been unable to do so because of the number of visiting cars during your lesson times. You (the teacher) are permitted to park for the duration of your teaching. Should the situation not improve during the Spring Term we will be forced to consider ending your booking at the Little Theatre.

And a notice in the Chamberlain Street entrance says –

The Theatre Car Park is for members use only.

Cars should not remain in the car park during your child's lesson.

Please respect the needs of the members.

12. Date of next meeting - Monday 22nd Feb 2015 (note change of date), then the AGM on Friday 18th March. Then Monday April 18th