

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Virtual committee meeting minutes
28th September 2020 at 7.30pm

COMMITTEE

Richard Wright (chair), Pauline Perrin, Ken Edmonds, Mike Scammell, Niamh McGrogan, Adam Lanfranchi, Lyn Jones, Jo Scammell, Liz Carey, Sharon Edmonds, Emma Russell, Graham Brown

Apologies – Lyn Jones, Graham Brown

1. Minutes of the last meeting -

Agreed.

2. Matters Arising - all matters ongoing due to CV-19.

a. COVID-19 - update on implications for theatre and issues relating to pandemic

Meeting will predominantly focus on this.

Discussed opening in 2020. Committee in agreement that distancing would be very difficult and not a viable option. Discussed going dark for 2020, restarting 2021 with the programme as was for 2020 and using the remainder of the year to decorate and address maintenance issues throughout building. Decided on latter option and theatre will be dark for the remainder of 2020.

Agreed assessment of work needing done over the next few months will take place on 14/07/20.

b. Radio plays at Glastonbury FM. KE & AL update. Read through next Monday - KE may not be able to attend as now stepping up for Quartet. Ongoing.

3. Treasurer's Report and Box Office

£10K grant has been received from the government. Agreed that up to the cost of the grant will be given to renovating and updating interior.

New cleaner has started and is doing a good job (rehearsal room, toilets and bar area only).

4. Membership

a. The next AGM

Probable that a March 2021 AGM will not happen. Agreed previously that committee would remain in situ for 6 months. Agreed that committee as it stands to remain for another 6 months and in the meantime to discuss and decide on a process of moving forward if there cannot be another AGM in 2021.

5. Publicity

Good Gods publicity to be decided when there is a broadcast date confirmed. As each episode released there will be a new online poster for social media & website. There will be a MailChimp to the whole mailing list to notify as episodes released and other publications e.g. Wells Voice notified.

6. Theatre Renovations

- a. Rehearsal room (painting, lighting, flooring and windows)
Due to be painted during October half term week when dance group not hiring. Rehearsal room lighting quote accepted and Neil Bishop notified. Had originally stated would be a 2 day turnaround so may be possible to arrange for same time period as painting or on days when theatre not being hired.
Flooring, skirting and curtains on hold until painting and windows finished.
Windows option 1 agreed.
- b. Toilet floors flooding
Possibly water from urinals rather than a leak. There are not any high water bills or any other indicators of water leak.
- c. **AL** updating sound and video review is ongoing. Have met with Nick and Adrian to explore options such as sound system in rehearsal room to send music to stage etc. Ongoing and **AL** will meet again with Nick and Adrian.
- d. Auditorium painting to be decided once rehearsal room finished. Possibly pre-Christmas period. Lighting to be done at the same time.

7. Productions/Hire

- a. The future - when we can start Quartet and Big Fish et al
Is not looking good. Chances of a full lockdown in 3-4 weeks likely and not getting back to any form of normality until March or after. Jackie keen to get Quartet on stage for March and can do this at very short notice. Setting up publicity and box office in advance would be the challenge. Quartet easiest and cheapest so this is worth considering following guidance being used by other theatres though March may be optimistic.

8.

9. Any Other Business

- a. Anne Beechey
RW some ideas shared via email as a memorial to Anne. Agreed that the 'Good Gods' radio play could be dedicated to her as she was in the original performance. A MailChimp has been sent out and **RW** has written to Peter to share condolences from the membership.
- b. Smoke machine
RW has a smoke machine that he is offering to the theatre. Agreed to accept with thanks.
- c. Radio Play
RW thanked **AL** for the radio play and the emails from the cast have demonstrated not just the challenge it turned out to be but how brilliant Adam has been. It was very well received by all involved and everyone is looking forward to it being released.
There is space for another before we reopen if we have a writer and/or director. It would also be dependent on the engineering & technical work to be handled by Glastonbury FM - **AL** to approach and discuss.

10. Date of next meeting

Monday 02nd November 7:30pm via Skype