

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Minutes of the meeting held on
22 July 2013

COMMITTEE

Doreen Grant (chair), Richard Wright, Gerald Eyers, Mark Wall, Pauline Perrin, Sharon Edmonds, Ken Edmonds, Lyn Jones, Graham Brown, Norman Cowell, Alisa Creaser, Kate Lynch, Sarah Neale and The Mayor of Wells

1. **Apologies** – (Pauline Perrin, Alisa Creaser PG reh.)
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** - agreed
3. **Matters Arising**
 - Hearing loop - **GB ongoing**
 - Divers' Hut repairs – **MW - ongoing**
 - Update on title deeds/ownership – **RW - ongoing**
4. **Correspondence**
 - Renewal of the business combined NODA insurance. Agreed to renew but look at updating contents insurance **RW and MW** to look into this.
 - Music Festival Raffle – Agreed to give 2 complimentary tickets for the first night of 'Rumours' – **GE** to arrange
 - Our neighbour (Ena Cole) has asked us to look again at the tree; its canopy is getting very large. – **MW** to investigate
 - Lois Harbison asked members to look at opportunities to celebrate Shakespeare's 400th birthday. www.rsc.org.uk/open-stages There is a project from the RSC to work with amateur companies around the country in 2016. Lois is not offering to lead this, but might be involved – especially if we were presenting Romeo & Juliet. **KE** to investigate.
5. **Treasurer's Report – PP**
 - Mort - Box Office - 47% House, Total £2613, final details to follow.
 - The accounting year has been moved to finish on the 31st December, so this year will be a short one.
 - Final figures for Beauty are nearly complete. There are some final issues over lighting and stage costs that need to be resolved.
6. **Membership**
 - Membership Application Form, **SE** suggested some word changes, final version to circulate the committee before approval. **SE ongoing**
 - Social night – another good night. Thanks to the Bar group who have organised this. **GE** to check that the signing in book is up to date.
 - Dinner Dance, date to set – **GE** has asked Louise Baker to get going on this.
 - New Member – Richard Bessant – Social Member - agreed
7. **Publicity**
ntr
8. **Theatre Renovations**
 - Long term plans for renovation, repair and maintenance – **MW & GE ongoing**

- Orchestra Pit sub-group report – the fund raising section are getting ideas but will wait to get the nod to start. The technical section is preparing information and a proposal. They have look in detail at – under the stage, rear entrance, stage levelling, site lines, sound and vision monitors. GE and MW recommended that the whole project should be brought to the membership and agreed at an EGM. Careful timing and project management is essential. **RW - ongoing**
- Bar changes – A working party will deal with several changes in the bar area during August 11-13. A new salt machine (water softener) will be installed. After this a new TV monitor, performance lighting and new furniture can be looked at. The committee are concerned that the bar area is frequently being left in a mess (dirty glasses out, door open, empty's not taken away etc). It may be necessary to change the door code so that only a bar supervisor can open up and has to take responsibility to closing the bar. We agreed that changes would come into effect on September 1st and the membership would be informed by email of that. DG to talk to Sarah Briton and Gill Kerton. **DG - ongoing**
- Fire inspection report - new extinguishers installed – **RW – done**

9. Production/Trifold/Hire

- (8.30pm) Brian Epps - *'Spend Spend Spend'*. After an enthusiastic and informative presentation the committee agreed to ask Brian to direct the show in May 2015. **RW** to contact Brian, **GE** to look at dates. For the first time in many years this would mean the director's fee (£1500) would need to be added to the budget. We are now looking for a producer, MD and choreographer for the show.
- 2014 calendar presented by GE - agreed
- Mort – review – The committee felt that the play was very good and enjoyable. The sound and lighting were excellent. The performances were great especially Mort and Death. Congratulations to all involved with the show.

Productions planned

- **July 26 and 27 2013 – *Endgame* – Maria Olteanu-Furze - Directing, DG - Producer, Catherine Tucker - Set Design.**
- **September 11 – 14 2013 – *Pajama Game* – AH - Directing, Sheila Ross – MD, Carol Applegate – Choreography, GB - Lighting, PR - Sound, Chris Spray - Stage Manager, Budget – agreed, Ticket price - £12 & £9, Rehearsal schedule - agreed**
- **October 23 – 26 2013 *Rumours* by Neil Simon – DG - Directing, MW – Set Design, Georgia Wall - Stage Manager, Bill Hayward - Lighting & Sound, Sophie and Emma Longley - Props, Budget TBA, Ticket price – TBA. Reh schedule - agreed**
- **December 14 – 21 2013 *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* – SE - Directing, Nick Barlow - MD, Vicky Orman - Producer, Charlie Watkins - SM, Sarah Briton - Costume, Cast - Adult Choreographer, Ella Upham - Children's choreographer, GB - Lighting, PR - Sound -, FB - Prompt -, Lesley Ricketts - Props, Budget – TBA, Ticket price – TBA, Rehearsal schedule – agreed**
- **March 26 – 29 2014 – a Play? Any volunteers?**
- **May 19 - 24 2014 – *Into the Woods* (rights received), Lois Harbinson – Directing, GB - Producing, Sheila Ross - MD, Catherine Tucker – SM, SN - Choreography, Louise Baker - Costumes, GB - Lighting, GB - Sound, Emma Longley - Props, Budget – TBA, Ticket Price – TBA, Rehearsal schedule - TBA**
- **September 24th-27th 2014 – Play or musical? Any volunteers?**
- **December 2014 – Pantomime? Any volunteers?**
- **March 2015 – a play Any volunteers?**
- **May 2015 - *Spend Spend Spend*, Brian Epps – Directing,? - Producing,? - MD,? – SM,? - Choreography,? - Costumes,? - Lighting,? - Sound,? - Props, Budget – TBA, Ticket Price – TBA, Rehearsal schedule - TBA**

- **May 2016 – Ken Edmonds** has suggested that we consider ‘Kiss Me Kate’ as this is the 400th year after Shakespeare’s death. Other Shakespeare productions might also be considered for this year. **Ongoing.**

10. Training - ntr

11. Show Reviews

Youth Dance Academy – Exeter – wonderful talent, our own Jess Mitchelmore involved, very good
SN

12. Any Other Business

GB – do we want a Panto video recording? – SE to decide

13. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 3rd September (chaired by GB) then
Monday 7th October (chaired by PP)

Meeting finished at 21.44, many thanks for your attendance