

**Wells Operatic Society Limited**  
**Minutes of the meeting on**  
**7<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

**COMMITTEE**

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

1. **Apologies** - Lynn Jones, Kate Lynch, Sarah Neale, Richard Wright
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
  - NODA insurance – **RW** ongoing
  - Tree – **MW**, waiting to hear from Mendip, but it should proceed soon
  - Shakespeare's 400<sup>th</sup> birthday – **KE** ongoing
  - Long term plans for renovation, repair and maintenance – **MW & GE** ongoing
  - Orchestra Pit sub-group report – **RW** ongoing
  - John Little, has suggested that next year we could present something to remember the start of WW1. John has made some provisional research but needs support in producing and directing. Any volunteers please let the committee know. **GE** to send a notice to all members.
4. **Correspondence**
  - Email received from Gill Kerton saying she has now passed on all bar responsibilities. **GE** has replied thanking Gill for her many years of hard work. The committee are really grateful for her commitment to this responsibility over many years.
  - Letter received from Carol Applegate thanking to the committee and the members for their support during the last show. She very much enjoyed the experience.
5. **Treasurer's Report – PP**
  - Pajama Game – so far has made £378.14, Box Office was 63% - slightly under the minimum projection. Some closing costs still to be finalised. Committee commented on the issue of book hire from Weinberger's; unfortunately no deposit from cast was taken and there were 2 lost scripts and some water damage which resulted in £100 additional cost. Everyone agreed that the show was a creative success, but we must keep a closer eye on running costs – we might need to restrict show expenses if the overall show target is unlikely to be met.
  - VAT details are with accountants. PP informed the committee that it might be necessary to adjust our annual VAT returns and so make better use of any claims. At the moment it is still unclear if the Pit Project VAT expenses will be possible to reclaim. **PP** ongoing
  - Many thanks to David Papworth who has successfully sold one of the old ticket machines on eBay. £250 less postage and PayPal cost =£190. Fantastic. Proceeds to go to the Pit Project.
6. **Membership**
  - Dinner Dance, date to set – **GE** – spoken to Louise baker who is investigating options.
  - **AGM** date – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 7.30 for 8pm
  - New Members - Bridget Watts - ordinary – agreed  
- Garry Marke – ordinary - agreed

## 7. Publicity

- Rumours – all on track - fliers, banner, billboards and newspaper adverts

## 8. Theatre Renovations

- MW has cleared the gutters and central gully from leaves etc. The cast iron guttering on the church yard side plus the workshop side will need replacing soon.
- The roof over the lighting box particularly the tiles are degrading and will need replacing in the next 2-4 years.
- The flat roof over the dock doors is also in need of repair.
- **MW** will itemise these repairs and ask the committee to gain 3 quotations. We all recognise that the potential conflict of interests between MW's business and the Theatre Charity status. Nobody, especially MW wants to contravene any regulations.
- Solar Panels were again discussed. **NC** to investigate
- Box Office cupboard now has a light – thanks to Angelo. PP

## 9. Production/Trifold/Hire

There are now a number of mid-week, daytime classes using the rehearsal room. **GE**

- **September 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> 2013 – *Pajama Game*** – very good. Everyone was really impressed with the whole show. A huge effort from all, Thanks and congratulations to Alan, Sheila and the whole team.
- **October 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 2013 *Rumours*** by Neil Simon – **DG** - Directing, **MW** – Set Design, **Georgia Wall** - Stage Manager, **Bill Hayward** - Lighting & Sound, **Sophie and Emma Longley** - Props, **Tina Eyers** – Prompt, Budget set, Ticket price – **£9, £7**. Rehearsal schedule - **agreed**
- **December 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> 2013 *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*** – **SE** - Directing, **Nick Barlow** - MD, **Vicky Orman** - Producer, **Charlie Watkins** - SM, **Sarah Briton** - Costume, **Various Cast** - Adult Choreography, **Ella Upham** - Children's choreographer, **GB** - Lighting, **Adrian Mitchell** - Sound, **FB** - Prompt, **Lesley Ricketts** - Props, Budget – **set**, Ticket price – **£10, £7**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**
- **March 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> 2014 – *Stepping Out*** – Director – **GE**, Assistant Director - **Tina Eyers, ?** - Set Design, **?** - Stage Manager, **?** - Lighting & Sound, **?** - Props, **?** – Prompt, Budget - **To be agreed**, Ticket price – **£10 & £8**, Rehearsal schedule - **agreed**
- **May 19<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> 2014 – *Into the Woods*** - **Lois Harbinson** – Directing, **GB** - Producing, **Sheila Ross** - MD, **Catherine Tucker** – SM, **SN** - Choreography, **Louise Baker** - Costumes, **GB** - Lighting, **Pete Ross** - Sound, **Emma Longley** - Props, **Budget – TBA, Ticket Price – TBA, Rehearsal schedule - TBA**
- **September 24<sup>th</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup> 2014 – *Play or musical? Any volunteers?***
- **December 13<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> 2014 - *Pantomime? Any volunteers?***
- **March 2015 – *a play - any volunteers?***
- **May 2015 - *Spend Spend Spend***, **Brian Epps** – Directing, **?** - Producing, **Sheila Ross** - MD, **?** – SM, Kim Fisher has volunteered - **Choreography, ?- Costumes, ? - Lighting, GB - 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 400<sup>th</sup> year after Shakespeare's death. Other Shakespeare productions might also be considered for this year. **Ongoing.**

## 10. Training - ntr

## 11. Show Reviews

- The Private Ear the Public Eye, Bath Theatre Royal – GE excellent, funny, fast moving and an interesting creative set change – amazing.
- Henry the VI part 1, Bath Theatre Royal - GE – excellent, simple staging and ensemble percussion. Very creative and atmospheric.

- Barking in Essex with Sheila Hancock, Phoenix Theatre London, MW, Very entertaining adult humour.
- Once – the Musical, London staged set in a real working bar, interesting / strange format of Irish, /Czechoslovakian culture. Great singing, MW

**12. Any Other Business**

- Marcel Wills asked about FoH staff dressing up in costume for this year's pantomime – this was not going to happen.
- MW to look at ladders and steps specifically for set painting; he will throw out the old and replace with new.
- NC - The lack of sales during the Wednesday cast box office opening seems to indicate this is not necessary, so it won't be available for Rumours, but it will be for Goldilocks. NC to monitor the situation, and decide if it should stop all together.

**13. Date of next meeting** - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November (Chaired by KL) then Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec (chair KE) then 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014