

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Minutes of the meeting on
Tuesday 1st Sept. 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

1. Welcome to Dave Collyer, **Apologies** – Gina Cleverley
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** - agreed
3. **Matters Arising** -
 - Carnival Night payment. – **CB. PP** – has received £100 from Nancy Dodds, many thanks. We need to make some arrangements for next year.
4. **Correspondence**

We have been contacted by an independence insurance company suggesting we are able to have a refund from payments made to Price Waterhouse Insurance in June 2001. **PP** to investigate.
5. **Treasurer's Report**
 - NODA buildings, contents and liability policy. The premium (£1,194.82) covers £1million for the building, £5million liability cover, but only £10,000 for contents. After discussion it was agreed that this is adequate due to a second policy we hold. **PP**
 - Waiting for Spend Spend Spend final royalty details from Frenches.
6. **Membership**
 - New members – several new Associate and Full Ordinary members were passed as part of LLU3.
 - **Dinner Dance** Committee reviewed the whole event. AC and Louise Baker are looking at various options including venue, time of year and formality of event. Suggestions included a February event, alternating formal and informal years, use of the White Hart and Town Hall, hog roast in the summer etc. Discussion with costings to be recorded at next meeting. Date for 2016 to be agreed.

AC

 - Date of **AGM – Friday 18th March 2016** agreed
 - **Social events** – Hallowe'en etc. – AC some events are now planned and calendared. A full programme will be known when the Dinner Dance is finalised. **AC**
 - Play / show **reading group** – AC circulated a list (on bar noticeboard) with suggestions. A reading group are going to look at options. **AC**
7. **Publicity**

Box Office - The main domain for our website is currently Littleheatrewells.org (expiring in Jul 2017, £24 to two years). We also have WellsLittleTheatre.co.uk (expiring in Mar 2017, £6.49 for two years). It is now possible to register .theatre domain names, .e.g. WellsLittle.theatre, wos.theatre. These cost £41.99 p.a. (Chris Spray). Committee discussed and agreed to keep the domain name we use i.e. **littleheatrewells.org**

Banners, fliers and newspaper publicity is in hand for LLU3.
8. **Theatre Renovations**
 - The Stage and Pit Meeting met on 18th August. Our application to the Arts Council was for a project costing £30,000 to £32,000 and they have given permission to us to apply for £20,000. We have raised approximately £9,000 ourselves. The project itself did not include arranging for new seating,

although there was a small amount included for adjustments that we would have to make in respect of this. The immediate need is for up to £5,000 for the two rows of seats. Committee discussed and agreed with the suggestion that we make the application in relation to the seating. We can therefore distinguish a possible grant from Bath Theatre Royal from the Stage and Pit Project, applying for that money towards either overall seating (cost £40,000?) or limited expenditure connected with the Pit Project. **RW** Committee agreed to apply for £10,000 from Bath Theatre Royal for seating, explaining to them that this is part of a bigger project to reseat the whole auditorium, with a total cost of approx. £40,000, and that the present seating came second hand from them in 1995! **RW**

- Ongoing items taken from the **maintenance minutes** are –
 - a. Bar lighting and music system – **GB ongoing**
 - b. Auditorium seating – on hold until the Pit Fund is complete. **KE** has received some quotes for 20 seats (those that will be on top of the new pit) These range from the very basic - £3000+VAT, to mid value £4,500 +VAT, or the super-doper £5,500+VAT **see above**
- Rostrum to go in Bar - **GB** will make these for September. - **ongoing**
- New Keyboard and storage. The new piano is now here. Locking the dressing room store (DRS) is done – **GE**
- Mendip planning application is in - for work on the tree **RW** - **ongoing**
- Stage cloths and storage – **GE** – Chris Spray and the crew for LLU3 have started the process of sorting and racking the stage cloths.
- Replacement LED Par flood. Another of our original set has failed. Stage Electrics £186.74 plus the VAT. Agreed to purchase new one. **GB** - **done**
- We need to look at our fire extinguishers, replacement and servicing policy – **RW** to check arrangements.

9. Productions/Trifold/Hire

- **September 22nd – 26th 2015 – *Little Lights Up 3*** Director -**Tina Evers**, Producer - **GE**, MD - **Nick Barlow**, SM- **Chris Spray**, Set Design – **GE** and **Gareth Luxton**, Adult Choreography – **Judi Neale** and **Tina Evers**, Children’s Choreography – **Sarah Neale**, Sketches coordinator – **Doreen Grant**, Costumes **GE** and **TE**, Lighting- **Rob Rogers**, Sound – **Adrian Mitchell**, Props – **Val Burbidge** and **Geri Hale**, Budget – **agreed**, Ticket Price – **£10 and £8**, Rehearsal schedule – **done**
- **October 3rd – 2015. *Saturday Night is Music Night.*** - In aid of the Pit Development Fund. Ticket price **£10**. **SN** and **GC** –directors. Producer **GC** Lighting - **GB**, SM -
- **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 - **?**, Props – **?**, Prompt –**Freda Brown**, Budget – **agreed**, Ticket Price – **£10 and £8**, Rehearsal schedule – **done**
- **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. **GB** - Producer and Lighting
- **September 21st - 24th 2016 - *Twelfth Night***, Director – **RW**, Lighting **GB**,
- **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.

10. Training
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11. Show Reviews

Talking Heads by Alan Bennett at Bath Theatre Royal good, but a little slow. CB GE
RSC Valpone by Ben Jonson. Interesting and somewhat on the edge. CB
Mack and Mable at Chichester with Michael Ball - wonderful GB
Shakespeare's 12th Night at the Bishops palace. Not the best acting and general performance
staging ok, but a really good atmosphere, good crowd
Around the world in 80 days at the Tobacco factory – excellent, lots of parts played by 5 people who
worked hard making the set from stuff on stage. Inventive. RW
Edinburgh Fringe – The Giant Leap. The moon. A challenge to American dream. Soon there will be
an American flag on her surface – but is it real? By Mickey Down and Konrad Kay. Very funny. LJ
Love Birds (KPS productions) - A quartet of penguins and a trio of parrots sing and dance! - LJ

12. Any Other Business

GE - Community Choir –Teresa Barlow is starting a community Choir. A very successful introduction
session was held in August. There may be hired times to follow.

GB - Theatre lanterns are now heading towards the end of their life as the bulbs are likely to
become scarce as production runs down. Replacements are very expensive. Suggest to look at the
long term budgeting of the replacements lights.

RW - Waitrose the green token system raised £304 for the Stage and Pit fund.

13. Date of next meeting - Mon 5th October then Mon Nov 2nd then Tues 1st Dec