

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Minutes of the meeting on
Monday 15th August 2016 at 7.30pm

COMMITTEE

Chris Briton (chair), Cllr and Mayor Alison Gibson (President), Richard Wright, Pauline Perrin, Ken Edmonds, Alisa Creaser, Graham Brown, Lyn Jones, Sharon Edmonds, Mike Scammell, Dave Collyer, Gerald Evers

Apologies Alisa Creaser, Alison Gibson, Lyn Jones, Richard Wright (late), Dave Collyer (left at 8.20)

1. Minutes of the last meeting - agreed

2. Matters Arising – as below

3. Correspondence

- a. Emails received from both Mark Wall and Lisa Cope expressing concerns over the progress of the Stage and Pit Project now that Arts Council funding has been rejected. The committee looked at the minutes of the EGM (Dec 2014) and understand that the achievement of the project was not solely dependent on the society gaining an Arts Council grant. The membership vote at that meeting, and at the 2015 AGM indicated that it was a valuable project to proceed with.

However, the committee felt that without Arts Council funding, the low level of other money raised and the time elapsed from the EGM, it would be sensible to look at other possible 'projects'. It was agreed that at the next committee meeting (Sept 12th) a number of options will be explored:-

Graham Brown will look at future lighting issues,

Ken Edmonds will remind us of the seating options we looked at last year,

Dave Collyer will present the case for the Stage and Pit Project,

Gerald Evers (or Mark Wall) will look at roofing problems and options,

Pauline Perrin will clarify the funds that we already have available.

All committee meetings are open for Ordinary Members to attend (but not vote); we would welcome any views and opinions from the membership.

The next stage would be to formalize a proposal (timescale, costs, fundraising needs etc) and present this to the AGM in March 2017.

GE to reply to Mark and Lisa.

Treasurer's Report

- a. Website and Box Office developments. Nick Barlow and Chris Spray are discussing options. Nick will talk to members of the committee and Box Office staff to get information and feedback ready for the next phase of the website development. The committee wish to thank Chris for the enormous help he has given over the years. We are hugely grateful to him for his commitment to the website project. We really appreciate all that he has done.

4. Membership

- a. New members –

Susan King – Social membership, agreed subject to payment (application on the board)

Burnie Mundy – Ordinary - agreed

- b. AGM – **Friday 24th March 2017.**

c. Dinner Dance – date and time to be confirmed **AC** - ongoing

d. Family and Friends Picnic date (Sat 10th Sept? tbc) **AC** - ongoing

5. Publicity

Twelfth Night – all ongoing. KE is investigating using a mail drop or paper delivery options.

6. Theatre Renovations

- a. The Stage and Pit Project. – see 3a above
- b. Bar lighting **MS** - ongoing
- c. Roof and gutters – we agreed to ask Mark Wall to inspect and recommend any work that needed to be done. Waiting to hear. **GE** see 6e below
- d. PAT testing – **MS** - ongoing
- e. Maintenance plan. – arranged meeting with Mark Wall on Thursday 18th Aug.
- f. Bishops quote for a new mains lighting starter switch, to be positioned in the lighting box, rather than using the metal contact switch in the rehearsal room. **GB** Quote - £406.92inc VAT, **agreed**.
- g. Fire / Emergency procedures. **GE** has spoken to Chris Spray who is happy to act as our coordinator. **GE** to print documents and make these available to all in the bar.

7. Productions/Trifold/Hire

- a. Details and dates for the Mayor's Fundraising events-
 - i. **Mayor's Charity Quiz Night and Supper** at the Town Hall on **Saturday 22nd October 2016, 7pm for 7.30pm start**. We will provide and run a bar (**RW, MS**), **KE** will arrange a quiz master, we will support the sale of tickets from the Town Hall – max teams of 6, £5 per person, book place, pay on the night. It might be necessary to set up on the Friday – because the Market makes it difficult to access on the Saturday. Arthritis Care will support arrangements. The **Mayor** will arrange a 'sandwich' supper. The **Mayor** will arrange advertising, which we can also promote though our website etc. Raffle prizes and the Quiz Prize tbc. PA in town Hall. Theatre volunteers will be needed to run the bar, check tickets on the door, serve the food and arrange the venue. The theatre should be able to provide a number of teas for the event. Terry Ricketts Quiz Master with Lesley as scorer.
 - ii. We will support (on the door etc) a **Wells City Band concert** at the Town Hall. Depending on the date it might be possible to also provide the bar, we could arrange publicity, and ticket sales if needed; Date now agreed as **Sat 8th April 2017, 7.30pm**. Further arrangements to follow in the New Year.
 - iii. We will support the event organised and run by Arthritis Care on **Saturday Sept 10th the Grey Dog Jazz Band** will play outside at the front of Town Hall, a collection will be made.
 - iv. Arthritis Care are also looking into a **Film Night** with supper at Wells Cinema in **Feb 2017**. Details to follow.
- **September 21st - 24th 2016 - *Twelfth Night***, Director – **RW**, Choreography – **Tina Eyers**, SM – **Charlie Watkins**, Props - **Pat Watkins**, Lighting - **GB**, Costumes – **Louise Baker**, Prompt – **Freda Brown** , Budget – **agreed**, Ticket Price – **£12 & £10**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**
 - **December 10th - 17th 2016 – *Jack and the Beanstalk*** – 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 **Lesley Ricketts**, Budget – **done**, Ticket Price – **£11 and £8**, Rehearsal schedule – **done**
 - **March 2017 – Any Ideas?** All suggestions to **AC** for the reading group to look at. Doreen Grant is possibly thinking of a few?
 - **May 15th-20th 2017 – *Our House***. Director - **GE**. Choreography - **Tina Eyers**, Rights received. MD – **Teresa Barlow**, Assistant MD – **Sheila Ross**, Producer – **AC**, SM – **?**, Props – **Val Burbidge**, Lighting - **?**, Sound – **Adrian Mitchell**, Costumes - **?**, Prompt – **?**, Make up – **Helen and Julie Makin**, Video recording – **Adam Lanfranchi**, Budget – **tbc**, Publicity - **?**, Ticket Price – **£13 & £10**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**
 - **September 2017 Any Ideas?** All suggestions to **AC** for the reading group to look at.
 - **Pantomime 2017** - Director - **Ken Edmonds**, Vicky to write it!

- 8. Training**
DC - to look into Charity Commission training.
PP - to contact accountants – financial information training – to be arranged for Mon 6th March 2017 7.30-8.00 to be confirmed.
- 9. Show Reviews**
None this month
- 10. Any Other Business**
MS – the bar fridges had been turned off?? If anyone knows why please let MS know.
GB & MS – The front door has been found open on a couple of occasions. The back door can be difficult, so please check that it has been closed correctly. **GE** to ask members to be vigilant.
- 11. Date of next meeting – Monday 12th September (apologies LJ) then – Monday 17th October**