



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING IN THE SEDGWICK ROOM, DENT, ON TUESDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2023

Present: Jenny Robinson (“JR”), Thelma Belfield (“TB”), Helen Reynolds (“HR”), Anthea Boulton (“AB”), Tara Guthrie (“TG”), Jen Hartley (“JH”), Steve Bramall (“SB”) and John Feltham (“JF”)

- Spring Concert:** JH outlined the draft running order which, at present, will constitute a first half of about 40 to 45 minutes and a second half of around 30 minutes, with suitable spots for our special guest Peter Wilson (aka Peter Van Hulle), as well as **Grievous Bodily Harmony**. JH will consider whether another item needs to be added. It is envisaged that the finalised running order will be circulated to the choir at the end of March. JH will share with Roger Bush the music to accompany the choir and Peter (**Both actions, JH**). The choir will be reminded to ensure that all concert music is to be held within a suitable black folder/binder. It was agreed that no scarves will be worn by female choir members. Although the extensive (and distracting) lighting provided in previous years will not be utilised, TG will discuss with Steve Longlands whether he can provide specific lighting to improve the visibility of music for choir members (**Action TG**). Seating arrangements for the concert need to be considered, especially as the choir is now bigger than it has been for some years. The smaller blue chairs available from the school might be more suitable and logistically easier to transport to and from the church than the steel chairs used for choir practice. Additionally, it may be helpful to ask the PCC if the small pews at the front of the church can be removed. This may help to provide a greater sense of space available and the possible use of three rows of chairs, all on the same level, for the performance. (**Action JF and JH**). The choir will rehearse from 2:30pm to 4:30pm on the day of the concert, to be followed by a rehearsal for Peter with Roger. JH prefers to use a hand-held radio mic’ for introductions, etc (**Action JF to arrange**). TB has prepared a note of requirements for food/refreshments/flowers, etc, to be shared with volunteers to be drawn from the choir (to be announced at that evening’s choir practice). The usual arrangements for publicity/posters/banners/article and advert for Lookaround will be pursued in the coming weeks by JR, HR and JF. JH will draft an article for the April edition of Lookaround by 8th March (**Action JH**). It was agreed that, for this year, ticket prices will remain at £7.50.
- Rehearsal Attendance:** with only ten weeks’ rehearsals left (including that evening’s) between now and concert day, the importance of very regular attendance of members at choir practice was discussed, along with use of the rehearsal tracks uploaded by JH to the choir website (see item 4 below). Individual and unavoidable circumstances might inhibit some members’ regular attendance but, in general, JH will emphasise at that evening’s choir practice the importance of regular attendance and that rehearsal tracks are not a substitute for attendance.
- Finance/Funding:** TB outlined the choir’s current financial position in both bank accounts. Bearing in mind that the purchase/hire costs of music required for this year’s concert has not been inordinately high, it was felt that an application for any grant funding this year was not justifiable.
- Choir Website:** the committee thanked SB for his valuable and detailed commitment to the creation and development of the choir website which, in general, has been a big success. Although some members’ use of it is limited, it is hoped that this will improve in time. SB

emphasised that the website belongs to the choir, not him, and in the coming months we will need to consider in what direction the website could then take to further enhance its use. With regard to GDPR issues, SB will hide individual members' contact details so that members can only see their own **(Action SB)**. The article about the choir's history, initiated by AB, has been added to by contributions from Roger Bush and Richard Bruce, etc, and having been added to AB's original by JR, will be uploaded to the website in the very near future **(Action JR)**. Some factual details still await clarification.

5. **Music library:** Wendy Cooke's studio is not a long term solution for storage of the library. Other possibilities are to be explored, including a possible filing cabinet in the church or a nearby property being renovated by the estate managed by John Bucknall. Before these, and any other options, are explored, JR and JH will meet in the coming few weeks to establish whether the library can be further reduced in size. We will then know in greater detail exactly how much space will be needed for the library's next home **(Action JR/JH)**.
6. **AOB:** None