

Fareham Philharmonic Society

MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON September 25 2007

Present:

Susan Burt	Chair	Tony Hales	Treasurer
Janet Thomas	Secretary		
Frances Kay	1 st Sop Rep	Sue McMullan	2 nd Sop Rep
Meg Cox	1 st Alto Rep	Anne Stewart	2 nd Alto Rep
Richard Brent	Tenor Rep		

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Paul Catchside, Colin Davey, Sheila Javes.

2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record. Susan clarified that canteen chairs can be used but should not be returned to the canteen as the caretaker will do so.

3. Concert Planning

a) Concert for Hearing dogs for Deaf People

- The concert was quite successful and raised a good sum of money and was good publicity for the choir. Logistically everything went well and the Geographical Fugue was well received by most of the audience. Amongst the good points there was feedback from a few people in the audience that they were disappointed in the standard and especially in the lack of dynamics.

b) War and Remembrance - November 3rd

- A van will be hired to move the staging.
- Who is singing in the semi-chorus needs to be determined soon.
- A question was raised about whether or not the choir has any special obligations to check orchestra players we hire because we now have the children's choir. Tony felt that our duty of care is met by having CRB checks on those supervising the children. It was agreed that further investigation should be done to determine if there is anything further we need to consider.
- Black folders will be used at this concert.
- Everyone will be encouraged to wear a poppy.
- We will use the additional rehearsal on Thursday 1st Nov and it has been booked.
- We need some overlap rehearsal time with the Youth Choir and it was suggested that on the evening of 29th the Youth Choir could stay later and the regular choir come at 7pm. The Youth Choir needs to be told soon.

Action: Susan to speak to Colin regarding semi-chorus

Action: Susan to establish the choir's legal position on checks for orchestra and/or choir members.

Action: Susan to remind choir of black folders and poppy's

Action: Susan to check with Colin about overlap on 29th.

Action: Tony to ensure Youth Choir knows about longer rehearsal on 29th.

c) Christmas Concert – December 15th

- The concert will roughly be 20 minutes of FPC, 20 minutes of the Youth Choir and then another 20 minutes of FPC. The music needs to be sorted out soon.

Action: Susan will email Colin

Action: Janet to confirm church is booked.

4. Miscellaneous

- a) The AGM went well. Unfortunately the problem of finding a new librarian has not been solved and Margaret has very kindly not resigned. However, the Committee recognises we still need to find someone and not impose on Margaret's good nature.
- b) Tony noted that volunteers have been found to set up chairs lately. He suggested it would be useful if someone else learned how things are set up and where things are stored.
- c) A point was raised if the notice board could be put on stage as it is too low on the table to read properly. Susan pointed out that the back of it is used for non-FPC notices and could not be seen if on the stage. A compromise might be to put it in the canteen. It was decided that if the board is not full, it could be put on the stage and see how it goes.
- d) It would be useful if Karen found an "apprentice" to assist her as it is long evening with the Youth Choir as well.

Action: Susan to speak to Karen about having an apprentice.

5. Youth Choir

The Youth Choir has had a very successful launch with 30 names on the register from Year 3 to Year 11. Tony is completing the paperwork for the grant from Youth Music. Three "music leaders" have been appointed and assigned to sections in the Youth Choir. Tony needs CVs from them and Colin and Karen need to sign up to musicleader.net. Tony discovered that each county councillor has a £10K budget each year to distribute to causes and the Youth Choir obtained £1500 from John Bryant. There may be more money than we currently require and one option may be to buy a clavichord for the choir. However, we won't proceed on anything until all the money has been received and we know the budget is fully covered.

Aqualung will be coming in January/February to do a workshop with the Youth Choir. It will be open to other students as well for a fee (free to Youth Choir members). Tony is working on publicity now for the Youth Choir.

Susan said the rota for helping with the Youth Choir has been posted on the notice board up to half-term.

Action: Janet to send out letters to invite those that have helped with funding to the concert. Tony to send Janet a list of names.

6. Membership matters

- Both the alto and soprano sections have members that are concerned about feeling under-rehearsed. Some feel that jumping from one piece to another during rehearsals doesn't work and there is a lack of consolidation. The committee expressed that all comments are valued and it is recognised that different people prefer different learning styles. It is difficult to find a balance that suits everyone and sometimes extra effort to "note bash" may be required by members outside of rehearsal time.
- It was also expressed that it seems the same members are always doing the coffee rota. We all agreed to encourage others to help if they can.

7. Dates

Auditions: Monday October 8th from 7:00pm
Monday November 19th from 7:00pm
Monday 8th February from 7:00pm

Thursday rehearsals: 1st November Holy Trinity

Rehearsals 2008 – starting 7th January

Will not rehearse on Bank Holidays at Easter and in May

Thursday 1st May provisional extra rehearsal but hope it won't be necessary.

Come-and-Sing – Monday 21st January (and possibly also on the 28th)– advertise as a “fun evening to see how you like it” rather than a formal Come-and-Sing with a performance.

No Saturday workshop in 2008. Will consider again in 2009.

8. Any other business

- Publicity/advertising for the Wedding Choir was discussed. It was agreed that not too much is required as the Wedding Choir are unlikely to be able to do many more weddings than they do presently. However, it would be nice to have a flyer.

Action: Janet will ask Richard if he can design a flyer for the wedding choir.

- Janet asked about the website and volunteered to take it over and update it. The Committee has agreed that a simple modern look for future programmes, flyers and the website is desired.

Action: Susan to send Janet the details and passwords for the domain.

Action: Janet to present some ideas at the next Committee meeting for the website.

9. Date and time of the next Committee meeting

- Tuesday, 13th November, 7:45 at 19 Brook Lane, Warsash at 7.45 pm
- Tuesday, 15th January, location to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 9.45 with thanks to Frances for her hospitality.