

MACCLESFIELD MALE VOICE CHOIR

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Held 4th September 2023 at Macclesfield Methodist Church

PRESENT Mr Ciaran Fleming (Chair) Mr Keith Jones Mr Neil McArthur
Mr Paul Nadin Mr Shane Owens Mr Bryan Peak
Mr John Robinson

1 **Welcome** – CF was welcomed to the meeting as acting Chair and thanked for doing so.

2 **Apologies** Mr David Coggan Mr Chris Cromar Mr Robert Owens

3 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held 8th August were agreed and signed.

4 Matters arising

➤ **Dragon's Den** – Still in progress. **Action: NM**

➤ **Sponsorship options** – Not able to be progressed at present.

➤ **Choir photos** – NM has identified the outstanding photos and will try to acquire them over the next few weeks. **Action: NM**

5 Financial Update

5.1 Forecast

PN presented a forecast for the year end which showed a slightly reduced balance of £8,648 including ear-marked funds of £587. The forecast still includes projected concert income of £4,000 for the remainder of the year but takes into account a number of additional costs.

6 Events

6.1 Prestbury

Harry reported that everything is in place and he has tickets and posters. Tickets are also available via the website. Members need to sell them.

6.2 Joint concert with BackBeat

Laurie attended the meeting and confirmed most aspects are now place. It was suggested that the programme should reuse that of the Prestbury concert, obviously amended as appropriate. In principle, a “glossy” programme needs to pay for itself by way of advertising. It was pointed out that, if we wish to use the organ, we need to check with the church that it is available. Overall capacity for the church needs to include all those taking part. We also need to check re lighting and the sound system. **Action: LK**

6.3 Remembrance concert

No report from TN but the immediate aspects are covered.

6.4 Songs from the Shows

Mike Batson has agreed to coordinate. We shall need to organise an accompanist as Anna is not available. BP will refer to CC. **Action: BP**

6.5 Informal concert – Mottram Hall

Confirmed for 24th December, 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Section reps are requested to check numbers. Although this does not call for a full choir, we do need some members to attend! **Action: reps**

6.6 Joint concert with Bollington Singers

BP will investigate possible venues. No date agreed but will be in March before school Easter holidays to fit with their rehearsal schedule. **Action: BP**

6.7 Joint concert with Côt Melbion Colwyn

Awaiting contact from them when they reconvene later this month.

6.8 Joint concert with Côt Melbion Maelgwn

To be considered for autumn 2024. **Action: BP**

6.9 Joint concert with Audley

Now not likely to be until 2024.

6.10 Cornwall Choir Festival

Waiting for approximate accommodation costs from organisers. Members will then be asked to indicate whether they wish to attend. **Action: BP**

6.11 Other Concerts and Venues

KJ has produced a summary concert schedule which gives an easy overview of the next few months. The committee expressed their appreciation and confirmed the schedule should be maintained as a working document. **Action: KJ**

7 Section Representatives

Nothing that is not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

8 Any other business

8.1 Contact with schools/colleges

The committee thanked Laurie for the work he has done on preparing a letter to schools inviting them to become involved with the choir. CF said that, although the letter was excellent, we wondered if it was too long, which may dissuade teachers from giving it sufficient attention. It was also suggested that we should emphasise the potential benefits to schools themselves as well as benefits to individual pupils. LK will produce a redraft which, in any case, would be better sent once the new school year has had time to settle down. **Action: LK**

8.2 Choir recording

Following LK's suggestion of making sample recordings available via the website, PN offered the assistance of his nephew in accessing tracks from choir cds/dvds. SO also agreed to investigate. Thought needs to be given on how to present these on the website and also regarding any performing rights issues. **Action: PN and SO**

8.3 Town Council Funding

NM advised that there is funding available from the town council for local organisations that support the area and he is drafting a suitable application.

9 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 3rd October. BP gave his apologies and asked NM to take the minutes.

Signed

Ciaran Fleming.....3rd October 2023