

MACCLESFIELD MALE VOICE CHOIR

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Held 6th September at Macclesfield Methodist Church

PRESENT Mr Bob Jenner Mr Keith Jones Mr Neil McArthur
Mr Bryan Peak Mr John Powell (Chair) Mr John Robinson

1 **Welcome** – JP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 **Apologies** Mr David Collins Mr Paul Nadin Mr Robert Owens

3 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held 2nd August were agreed and signed.

4 **Matters arising**

➤ **Dragon's Den** – Still to be actioned. **Action: NM/JP**

➤ **Choir Objectives working group** – JP's draft objectives were discussed and accepted in principle. It was agreed that some mention of recruitment is desirable as, though not an objective in itself, it is key to other aspects of the choir's future success. JP will issue a revised draft. **Action: JP**

➤ **Ticket sales etc.** – The emphasis here is very much on the "etc", e.g. advertising, programme sales, refreshments – elements that now form a substantial part of any concert profit in addition to ticket sales. This income relies very much on the need for members to step up and take an active rôle in the planning and organisation of concerts. JP will reinforce this message to members. **Action: JP**

➤ **Website photo** – hopefully this can be organised at the concert on 24th September. **Action: JP/RO**

5 **Financial Update**

As at 3rd September the balance stands at £6,708 which excludes ring fenced funds of £190 re uniform, £1,512 for the piano and £900 Llangollen deposits. There is still £100 income outstanding from the last NATO advertisement and an outstanding invoice for £80. All subs bar one part-paid have been received making 45 this year. Currently, next year's numbers could drop to 39 disregarding any recruitment. As mentioned above, recruitment is therefore key and it was suggested that there should be a further "Singing Day" and that the choir should have a presence at the Treacle Market. JP will discuss with RO. **Action: JP**

Ignoring any concert income/expenditure, the end of year balance is likely to be c. £2,200. In order to be at our minimum reserves level, the concerts for the remaining part of this year need to net £3,000. This again reinforces the importance of members selling tickets. **Action: JP to address members**

6 **Events**

6.1 **Massed Choirs**

Graham has advised that tickets and posters have been distributed to various TICs with positive results. It was agreed to hold a short meeting before Monday's rehearsal mainly to discuss on-the-day organisation.

6.2 **Backbeat**

The general feeling was that it was not possible to organise an alternative event at this stage.

6.3 **Remembrance**

Co-ordinator needed. JP and JR will approach individuals to undertake the rôle. **Action: JP/JR**

6.4 **Songs from the Shows**

Co-ordinator needed. JP and JR will approach individuals to undertake the rôle. **Action: JP/JR**

6.5 **Clayton Manor**

BP advised that we have received a request to perform an informal concert at this care home where we have done so a few times in the past. It was agreed to suggest 12th December at 7:00, i.e. immediately after the Songs from the Shows concert when members would probably still be free. We shall need to provide a piano. **Action: BP/RO**

6.6 **Venues**

➤ Fallibroome – The response to the earlier letter was disappointing in that it did not come from the Governors and did not answer the questions asked. It was agreed to send a further letter, marked specifically for the Chair of Governor's personal attention, perhaps copying Liz Durham. **Action: BP/BJ to write**

➤ Academy – Still waiting on a site visit once term starts next week, **Action: BJ**

➤ Clonter Opera – BJ has left a message seeking contact and is waiting for a reply. **Action: BJ**

6.7 **Caravanettes** – BJ advised he has discussed with RO the possibility of having a joint concert with this ladies choir shortly before Llangollen. **Action: BJ/RO**

7 **New members – uniform/concert policy**

Unlike previously, when we held a reasonable stock of the few bespoke uniform items (i.e. blazer and tie), the practicability of sourcing the new uniform for new members does mean that it is possible they will not be able to sing in any concert immediately following their membership being agreed.

8 Section Representatives

Nothing specific from reps to report.

9 Any other business

9.1 Mottram Hall

It was agreed to approach Mottram Hall to enquire whether they would like us to perform again at Christmas.

Action: BJ

9.2 Social Media

There is a need for someone to take on the task of managing the choir's social media. It was suggested that we approach local schools for any A Level student taking an appropriate course for whom this could form a practical part of the course. It would still need a choir member to act as co-ordinator and feed information. Dai Jones is happy to continue the rôle after his move until a replacement is found

Action: JP

10 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 11th October.

Signed

John Powell.....11th October 2022