

Beaumaris Singers Committee Meeting

7:30 pm Wednesday 20 September 2023

Minutes

Those Attending- John Armstrong (Secretary), Peter Wiles, Helen Mitchell, Simonie Fowler, Nicky Warner, Lesley Armstrong.

Apologies: Jeremy Stagg, Evy King, Jack Brookes.

1 Minutes and Actions from Previous Meeting

The minutes were approved.

Appendix 1 contains the reported status of meeting actions. Actions 9/5, 5/4, 5/5, 5/9, 6/2 – 7 have been completed. Action 6/1 has been closed and action 5/8 carried forward.

2 Future Concert / Event Plans

a) Christmas Concert 9 December 23

At the rehearsal the previous evening, the 3 pm earlier start time requested by the church had been agreed. There will be a warm up for the choir at 2 pm and a full rehearsal on the Friday evening before at 7:30 pm.

Refreshments are to be provided by the church. A raffle was suggested with a Christmas hamper as the first prize and a bottle of wine as second and third prizes.

Ticket prices were agreed as £10 for adults and £5 for children. (Note: at the church's request, it was later agreed that the adult ticket price would be £12.)

Peter is to produce a concert post on his return from holiday.

Action: Peter to produce a concert poster for the Christmas Through The Ages concert.

It was confirmed that there would be no Audience participation carol.

b) Christmas events

Newport Christmas lights switch on– Helen confirmed the date as 24 November and that we will be invited again after last year. We will consider whether to attend when we receive the official invitation from the council organiser with details.

Market Hall – Helen mentioned another option of singing in the upstairs gallery of the Market Hall on the same night as the Christmas lights switch on. This option will also be considered with the council organised event.

Sunnycroft, Wellington – Helen has emailed the National Trust property asking whether there is any opportunity to sing carols, as we have done in previous years. A response is awaited

Severn Valley Railway – John said that he will not be making any enquiries this year because Kidderminster station was the only location offered last year.

TSB Wellington Customer Christmas Party– John reported that there was no prospect because he had enquired last year but the new branch manager had not responded.

Care Homes – to be discussed further at the next meeting.

Chetwyn Church Christingle – we will be as usual asked to provide a choir for the Christingle service.

Christmas Meal – the Tuesday evening following the Christmas concert was agreed as the most suitable date. Further details to be discussed at the next meeting.

c) Easter Concert March 2024

Following consultation with Jack, the concert date was set as Saturday, 23 March. John had already checked with the St Nicholas church that the date was available and will now make the booking.

Action: John to book St Nicholas church for the Easter concert on Saturday evening, 23 March.

d) Future Programme

Following consultation with Jack, the date of the summer concert was agreed as Saturday 22 June. The venue is to be the Cosy Hall, with a similar café style concert to the last concert in June, which was considered very successful.

Action: John to check the date with Evy and book Cosy Hall for the summer concert on Saturday evening, 22 June 2024.

3 Finance

Carried forward as Jeremy was not present.

4 AGM Tuesday 31 October

Under the revised constitution, the AGM needs to be held within 3 months after the end of the financial year on 31 July. The proposed date of Tuesday evening, 31 October was confirmed.

Action: John to issue the AGM calling notice.

5 Membership

Simon Toghill has recently decided to leave the choir because he is unable to attend rehearsals regularly. The total choir membership is now 37 - sopranos 9, altos 9, tenors 4 and bases 5.

Helen has recently checked with Jack that a friend of tenor Clare, who has professional singing experience, could be considered as an addition to the second soprano section. John reported that he had recently received two enquiries from sopranos about joining the choir, and, as previously agreed, had advised them they had been put on a waiting list.

It was now agreed that a strict waiting list was not necessary and prospective new members could be considered as long as their voice blended with the choir, which could be readily assessed as part of the audition process.

Action: John to invite the two sopranos currently on the waiting list to rehearsals.

There was some discussion about how more men could be recruited and Helen suggested a special singing workshop for men.

Action: Helen to discuss with Jack a singing workshop for men.

6 AOB

None.

7 Date of Next Meeting

7:30 pm Wednesday 15 November 2023 at Helen's.

Appendix Committee Meeting Actions Status 19 September 23

Ref	Action	Person	Status
6/1	Review access permissions for all choir Google Drive subfolders	John	Closed
9/5	Put a copy of the revised constitution once approved on the choir website.	John	Completed
5/4	Ask the Swann Inn about choir car parking arrangements for the Christmas concert.	Jeremy	Completed
5/5	Discuss committee membership with altos Mary and Carolyn.	John	Completed
5/8	Produce a data protection policy compliant membership form for committee approval.	Helen / Simonie	In progress
5/9	Check available dates for the Easter 2024 concert with St Nicholas	John	Completed
6/2	Continue discussions with the Civic service council organiser for the choir's solo pieces to be in the main service.	John	Completed
6/3	Extend the Cosy Hall booking for the Summer concert to commence at 3:30 pm.	John	Completed
6/4	Submit topics for the MD discussion to Jeremy and Nicky	All	Completed
6/5	Arrange the MD discussion date and venue with Jack.	Jeremy	Completed
6/6	Produce a revised Chairman / Secretary responsibilities document with an established Membership Secretary role.	John	Completed
6/7	Consult members to find the most suitable date for Caroline's bring your own picnic.	John	Completed