**Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Zoom**

**04/02/24**

**Committee Meeting**

* Apologies:, Paul Burfitt, Gillian

Present: John, Laura, Susan, Jo, Dave, Gwyneth, Mary, Tim, Paul Goss, Mark, Sue, Vicki as guest.

**Minutes of previous meeting**

* Vocal coaching is complete. All took part in the coaching. Jacqui will record on the membership list.
* Gwyneth was absent – correct notes.
* Financial report – Hall hire – fee mis-quoted – is around £8k + add ons. £25k was the all-in cost of the entire concert when we put on Elijah. John feels a step too far to take on the Bridgewater and that level of cost when struggling to fill concert halls. Reserve is there to produce these types of concerts but will need to consider venues.
* Away day – have around 41 – slightly less than wanted but will go ahead with these numbers. Would we invite Marcus as our president to come and sing and join us for supper. John will ask him.
* Tours – David Hoult would be worth talking to in terms of help organize future tour travel arrangements.
* What music do we want for Away Day – confirm to Gwyneth.
* Reminder on reserve to Trustees for Tours in future
* Chair role – John looked at this but decided not to write a role profile because would either be a list of things John has done which are not necessarily Chair related, the Chair role is about attributes also. Committee discussed and agreed that should have an element of key things like – Relationship with Neil, empowerment to make ultimate decision if no decision reached, step into conflicts arising.
* Scoping exercise for Bridgewater Hall is not yet complete.
* Widor – Spoke to Joe Judge but not a goer with his choir.

**Chair election process**

* Should the Chair election be a Choir, Committee, Trustee process?
* Historically been typically approached by exiting Chair to take on role and then appointed at AGM. Agree this is the best approach. However need to be transparent to the Choir that John will be standing down.
* Need to get Role Profile drafted - Jo will do first pass at this.
* Committee should start to discuss names/who would be potential candidates. Section Reps can support here with knowledge of section.
* No-one present at the meeting currently on Committee wanted to put themselves forward at this stage.
* Question to John was that if get to Oct and no-one wants to step in, would he consider continuing. John wouldn’t leave the Choir in the lurch but does strongly want to step down.
* Committee to put together short list of people they think would be suitable to approach.
* John would be happy to continue on the technical side of things once not Chair.

**Financial Report**

Still expecting to make surplus, but lower than previously provisioned due to lower numbers at the Singing Day. Christmas was very successful.

**Declaration of interests**

Laura - New role as Secretary for St Michaels Parish Church for Macclesfield the Church

No-one else recorded any change.

Laura to check with Gillian, Paul, Sue to check no change is status.

**2024/2025 Season**

* RNCM, Stockport, Bramhall, Stockport
* Nov 16th RNCM – Bruckner Mass in E as 200th anniversary. Look to add Lili Boulanger motets, Saint Saens motet.
* Singing Day – possibly Carmina Burana - Neil to consider – would need 2 pianos. Bach Magnificat, Karl Jenkins – The Armed Man. Look at something populist to bring in a higher participant number.
* Apr 5th Bramhall – Alexanders Feast – Full Programme
* June 28th - St Georges Stockport – Vierne/Widor – need to check on Organ situation. Needs good organist, set as if 2 organs. Widor 2nd choir with lower voices – maybe a useful collaboration – possibly with Halle academy choir? John to speak to Joe Judge

**2025/2026 Season**

* Need repertoire ideas for 2025/26
* Need to start to get venues booked.
* People to come to March Committee meeting with Repertoire ideas.

RNCM, Stoller, St Georges.

**2023/2024 Season**

* Audience numbers – Not back to pre-covid, most people come through Choir. Unless go with popularity unlikely to increase numbers. How tap into congregation, and into university audience for Holy Name concert. Tap into departments who have an interest. May have an impact on our existing audience. John to add transport links to webpage.
* **Spring/Summer**
* Will need Choir coach to Huddersfield, but not to Cathedral. Needs space for Supplementers also.

**Musical Directors feedback**

Rehearsals going really well for March concert, sounding great. Think it will sound great in Holy Name.

**Sections reps**

* Paul Burfitt – nothing raised.
* Mark – Tenors – no issues raised.
* Gillian – Sops – nothing shared.
* Sue Mason – nothing shared. Whether someone should temporarily take on role of Alto Rep – not officially but just that people can approach a committee member.

**AOB**

* Committee area – John to send out password.
* Singing Day went really well, singers took up the pieces really well. Jo would look to co-ordinate more in advance so not feeling as panicky up to Christmas that got everything we need. We need to plan earlier to get requests in for help.
* Can we get leaflets for Singing Day and potentially March concert at Nov concert to give as much advance notice.
* Move next Committee meeting to Monday 18th March – Face to Face, at Jo’s
* John to look at joining enquiry form on webpage as its not working currently.
* John to add the Janacek to the website as people already asking about tickets.

**NEW ACTIONS**

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|  | Action | Owner |
| 1 | Invite Marcus to the Away day to sing and join us for supper | John |
| 2 | Speak to David Hoult in terms of support in travel arrangements for future tours | John |
| 3 | Confirm Away Day music to Gwyneth for anything she needs to provide | John |
| 4 | Jo to draft first level of role profile for Chair | Jo |
| 5 | Announce John stepping down at end of season | John |
| 6 | Committee to put forward ideas for shortlist of candidates for Chair | All |
| 7 | Need to come to March Committee with repertoire ideas for 2025/26 season as needs tying down | All |
| 8 | John to add transport links to webpage for Holy Name concert | John |
| 9 | Get Committee to stand up for new members | John |
| 10 | Website Committee area – John to send out password.  Look at enquiry form as not working  Add Janacek info on as people already enquiring about tickets | John |
| 11 | Look at whether could have publicity ready for Spring concert in time to distribute at Nov concert next season | Mary |
| 12 | Carry over: Scoping exercise for Bridgewater Hall costs | Laura |