

NEW DIMENSION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

7TH JANUARY 2020

Those Present: Jackie Glendenning, Wendy White, Carol Chester, Barbara Austin, Clare Goldspink, John Pugh and Enid Weaver

CHAIR

Jackie welcomed the committee. Previous minutes were passed with no outstanding issues. Jackie will advise choir that although she isn't leaving choir, she is standing down as Chair. . All other members are happy to restand. **Barbara to do nomination slips** to leave out 2nd week back. Carmel has shown interest in taking over the roll. **Jackie will prepare agenda for AGM**

TREASURER

Carol advised she has found an accountant (Frank) who has very generously offered to do our accounts for just a couple of free concert tickets. We are waiting for the final bank statement expected 10th January and then he will be given the books. Our bank balance is healthy. We will keep subs at £30 this term but next term we will need to put the subs up £5, back to the original cost of £35 per term, as we are going to have to pay for larger storage facilities for all our music. It is no longer feasible for Wendy to continue with the current storage facility or the limited access given to her.

Carol has booked Top Meadow for 14th July. However, the venue has asked for a much larger hire charge as our numbers are small. Under 50 people will now cost £200 (plus food) and they now won't let us hire the venue if numbers are under 30. **Barbara to check ASAP how many members are interested** and if numbers are low we will need to look for an alternative venue. However, Barbara and Carol have already been looking and it is difficult to find a venue for our sole use at a reasonable cost.

SECRETARY

The Xmas Meal at Top Meadow was a success and we are happy to book again this year. We do however, realise that some members don't like coming out at night so we will look into an afternoon tea during Spring Term. **Carol is looking at Marygreen Manor's current prices and also La Rouge at New City College Redbridge.** Barbara looked into Vertigo Lounge Hornchurch. It holds up to 30. If we have 25+ afternoon tea is £13.95 and we would have the room to ourselves. **Barbara is going to visit to make sure it would be suitable.** Other venues were out of the question due to the hire charges on top of the food. Clare mentioned Tea Island in Hornchurch as a lovely venue for afternoon tea if there were fewer members interested. **Carol to also check venue size of Tea Room in Langtons.**

We will ask members 2nd week back for a show of hands to see how many would be interested in afternoon tea which will then determine the venue.

Also 2nd week **Barbara to mention that we will be updating members details.**

Summer Concert Dates are as follows:

Sat 27th June – tbc but asking St Chads

Sunday 28th June tbc but asking St Chads

Friday 3rd July tbc but asking Harold Wood

Saturday 4th July – already booked All Saints

Xmas Dates - Selection from Friday 27th , Sat 28th Sunday 29th November

Friday 4th Sat. 5th Sunday 6th December

Barbara to contact all churches and get dates ASAP so we can put an entry into Haverling Arts Festival Brochure.

It was noted that although the sound for audience seems OK in United Reformed that choir members find it very difficult to hear those around them. In addition our audience numbers are not as good as the other venues. **Barbara to investigate a few churches as a possible alternative venue:**

Trinity United Reformed Church Upminster

St Mary's Catholic School Hornchurch

United Reformed Nelves Hornchurch (although we did feel this may be too close to All Saints)

MD

Enid has already given Wendy a list of music to order for Xmas Concerts. Two people asked Enid about singing with us during St Chads concert but unfortunately, they haven't contacted anyone yet. We have music available for 4 more members, but no-one is currently on the waiting list. **Barbara to advertise on Nextdoor and local selling sites.**

TECH

John is going to ask members ASAP if any would be happy to have their music on a USB stick rather than a CD. It is very time-consuming putting resources on to CD plus USB is re-usable so better for the environment. Obviously if anyone can't use USB John will continue to do CD's. **John to bring list of members to mark their preference.**

Carol to explore costs of supplying USB sticks with flip lids. Wendy requested it is made clear that these are only used by choir to avoid copyright problems. At end of concerts they will be returned.

LIBRARY

Wendy explained why the current storage facilities are no longer viable (see above). **Wendy will go through music lists with Enid** to see if we can sell off any music we will no longer need.

Carol to check proper storage facilities at Shurgard in Romford.

There are a few members still to return music due to sickness. **Wendy to remind them to return first week back.**

AOB

AGM will be held before choir rehearsal on 4th February. Clare will not be there and as we don't usually serve refreshments **Barbara will advise members to bring their own that evening.**

Jackie passed on the sad news that Margaret Palmer's husband, who had been unwell for some long while, passed away in his care home on New Year's Eve. His funeral is to be held on Monday 20th January. Margaret is doing well and said she would be very pleased to see some choir members at the remembrance service and afterwards for refreshments at Harold Wood Methodist Church at 1.30pm. **Barbara to send email to members.**

Barbara to contact Havering Arts Festival office to save a space for our Summer Concert Advert.

Beryl had suggested a list of some of each concert's song titles on posters helped people realise our concerts weren't classical or church music. John has done this in the past and it was felt it was a good idea to repeat.

Next Committee Meeting (After AGM on 4th Feb)

Thursday 23rd April - Johns - 31 Home Way, Harold Wood, RM3 0HD

(for Satnav it's Zero HD)