

NDC COMMITTEE MEETING

18 AUGUST 2022

MINUTES

PRESENT: Carmel Dines, Barbara Austin, Carol Chester, Clare Goldspink, Enid Weaver, John Pugh, Wendy White

1. Financial Position

Carol presented the current balance sheet. This shows a current bank balance of c. £1600. However there are imminent expenses due of c.£1400 which leaves a balance of only £200. This will be supplemented by subs received from members at the beginning of September which should take the balance back up to c. £2000.

2. Return/Issue of Music on 6 September

Wendy expressed concern about the management of this task. It was agreed that there will be two stations set up in the rehearsal hall one for return of the Summer music to be manned by John/Carmel and one for issue of Christmas music to be manned by Wendy plus another committee member if required.

Barbara to send out an email to all members to remind them to return their summer music and to arrive at 7.15 so as not to encroach too much on rehearsal time.

Wendy to identify any members she feels would also benefit from a telephone reminder.

John offered to gain access to the storage to file any late returns after Wendy has stored the bulk returns from 6 September.

In future Wendy would prefer to return to the system of music being returned on the first Tuesday following the last concert date. E.g at Christmas this will be Tuesday 6th December.

It was agreed that members should be encouraged to adhere to that date by including a social element of chat with tea and biscuits/cake.

3. Ladies Flowers for Christmas

Carmel presented an example of red fabric roses (similar to the white summer ones) for ladies to wear with black attire at the Christmas concerts. These are just under 4 inches in diameter and include a clip on the back. They cost £12.99 for 8. **Carol** to order 48.

4. Christmas Concerts Update

There are 4 concerts currently scheduled with our 2 regular venues of Harold Wood Methodist Church and All Saints confirmed. The other 2 are at Havering Road and St. Michael's. The committee feels that St. Michael's is unlikely to confirm as they cancelled the summer concert when they realised that the choir did not perform only secular music. There are some reservations about this venue in any case.

As we would like to do a minimum of 3 concerts **Barbara** is to reconfirm arrangements with Havering Road and if this is a definite booking then the St. Michael's concert will be cancelled.

Should Havering Road not be going ahead **Barbara** will contact United Reformed Church Romford to see if they would like the third date.

Carmel to get contact details from Trinity Church in Upminster as a potential alternative and for consideration for future concerts.

5. Potential New Members/Members Issues

Barbara has had enquiries from 4 ladies who would like to potentially join us.

1 will come on our first week back

2 will come on 20th September

1 is keen to join but will be going abroad for 6 months from October. It was agreed that she could be invited to try rehearsal/s before she goes with a view of returning around the Easter period next year.

It is not clear which voice parts these new recruits would sing.

Enid commented that there will have to be some remodelling of the seating plan when we return as certain sections need strengthening and the new people will need to slot in as appropriate.

Barbara has spoken to Chris Lehane (bass) who does want to return at some point but is currently unsure when this might be.

Jeff Saunders will not be back in early September but will return as soon as he can.

Ken Worsley will not be returning to choir on account of his advanced years and increasing frailty.

6. Any Other Business

John made the point that doing four concerts is becoming increasingly physically demanding for him as they involve him doing the lion's share of the set up and dismantling before and after the concerts (which is quite strenuous) combined with then singing and the standing up/sitting down for 2 hours of the actual concert.

He asked for the committee's approval to limit the bookings to 3 per season. It was agreed that this would be the case and that we would avoid having concerts on 2 consecutive nights.

John said that he would need to purchase more of the black concert folders at a cost of £8 each. It was agreed that he would order 20. Members allocated the folders will be asked to pay for them. **Barbara** to include this in the New Members Information sheet.

Barbara issued draft copies of the New Member Information Sheets. **All Committee Members** to review these and revert with any comments.

Barbara reported that Peter West has asked for Enid to use a microphone in rehearsal as he cannot always hear her when she is giving instruction from the piano.

This will be arranged by **Clare/Carol**.

Carol reported that the social function at the Gidea Park Golf Club has been booked for Tuesday 10th January 2023.

This will be a similar format to the last event. **Carol** will issue details and provide menu choices to members in due course. Tea/coffee to be included this time at a cost per head of £1.

Carol advised that we may need to source an alternative music provision.

Enid mentioned that the rehearsal on 4th October will have to be cancelled as she has her next eye appointment on that date. **John** will book in an extra rehearsal on Sunday 20th November from 2-4 pm.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 2109 hours.