DERBY HOSPITALS CHOIR

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on January 23rd 2019 at the RDH

Present

Louise Hill (in the chair), Elaine Finn (Vice Chairman), Dick Williamson (Treasurer), Di Alleyne (Secretary), David Henshaw (MD), Chris Bradbrook, Val Edge, Maggie Evans, Jean Green, Kathy Greig, Richard Kendall, Dave Mitchell.

Prospective Committee Members for AGM - Wendy Chambers, Linda Hardy, Christine Hulland, Tony Lloyd, Sue Worrall.

Apologies

Sue Lloyd (prospective committee member).

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on December 5th 2018 were approved.

Correspondence

Louise had received a card from Sir Stephen Moss congratulating us on the concert and enclosing a

cheque for £40.

Cathedral concert feedback and ideas for 2019

The feedback from the cathedral concert had generally been excellent.

One complaint was that the microphone was not loud enough and the compere could not be heard. Louise had had a meeting with the Cathedral and this would be rectified next year.

The morning arrangements left a lot to be desired as the piano had been wrongly situated and part of the staging had to be dismantled. The tables for the back of the Cathedral were not in place and the verger had to be hounded by the ladies to get them in place. This was caused by there being only one verger when there should have been three.

Car parking outside the Cathedral in the evening was not organised properly and two people received parking tickets. Next year a parking attendant will be installed

The refreshments for the dignitaries and the choir did not go smoothly and the mulled wine ran out before everyone was served. Next year the choir will have to go to the Beddoes Room for their refreshments. The Cathedral staff did apologise for the lack of mulled wine and the piano fiasco and gave us a rebate for both.

Publicity for our concert by the Cathedral had been non-existent although Kathy said she had contacted them and they had promised to include us in their events lists. Next year we will have 2X A3 posters printed which the Cathedral have promised to display and their shop will sell tickets for us.

The band were very pleased with our arrangements for them but thought that they had a bit too much content. They were very tired at the end. The public were delighted with the band and requested that we have them again. We had actually provisionally booked a saxophonist called Alistair Parnell for next year and a discussion followed between Louise and David H as to if or how we could incorporate both in to our programme. David will liaise with Rebecca from the Derby Music Centre and Alistair Parnell to try to resolve the issue.

Front of house. This year was an improvement on last and ticket checking went well. It was good to have stewards from the Orthopaedic Department and future recipients will be told they also will have to provide them on the night.

Prize Draw – it was suggested to raise the price to £1 per ticket in line with other draws. This was agreed. This will make the filling in of ticket stubs easier.

Feedback from Woodlands Concert.

The choir was set up differently and did not sound as good. The venue was expensive and the profit made was only £510. Louise had found the organisation very arduous and not worth the amount of money raised. She said she would not arrange a second concert another year but if the choir wanted one they would have to form a subcommittee to arrange it. This was put to the vote and it was unanimously agreed (if a little reluctantly by the singers) that we cancel the second concert in future

The band has been invited to take part in the National Concert Band Festival Finals at the Northern College of Music

Manchester on April 4th 2019. We decided to fund this event by giving them the Woodlands concert proceeds and making it up to £550 which would cover their costs.

Carol Singing Feedback.

Singing at the LRCH had been lovely and we will repeat it next year. However, singing at the RDH had been a waste of time. We sang 24 carols to an audience of two at the most at any one time and didn’t get a single clap! It was decided not to repeat this next year.

Committee jobs for next year.

1) The Chairman Vice Chairman Treasurer and Secretary have all agreed to stay on but Dick would like to recruit an assistant for when he decides to retire. Tony Lloyd agreed to this

2) Concert tickets online – Louise.

3) Company advertising for the programme X 2.

4) Publicity including posters and adverts X 2 - Sue Worrall and Linda Hardy agreed to this.

5) Hospital selling coordinator.

6) Practice Booking - Richard

7) Music coordinators – Val and Maggie + Elaine

8) Proof Reading – Richard.

9) Fund Raising Subcommittee – Jean and Louise.

AGM Date and Venue

Broadway has increased the price for this event from £100 last year to £250 this year. We managed to reduce the fee to £150 but still considered it too expensive. Louise has provisionally booked Little Eaton Village Hall for the event. The date is 5th April. This was agreed.

Updating Music stock

Louise asked David to look through the list and tell us which music can be discarded. Following that the music store at the LRCH will be cleared up by the Music coordinators.

Finance update.

Dick had prepared a 4 year analysis of our expenses. Our final balance looked extremely healthy but was inflated by the large donation given to us by the Rotary Club. Dick did warn us not to expect such a large total in future. The price for the music hire was down as a result of David doing arrangements of the music and thus enabling us to make photocopies.

The Orthopaedic Department would receive £10,650 and the Band £550.

Events for Summer 2019

Last year we did not hold a Strawberry Tea and it was decided not to this year. However the committee did go out to dinner (self financed ) and that had proved very enjoyable. It was decided to repeat this event this year. Louise will look into it.

Any Other Business.

1) This year we need to raise money to finance the prize draw prizes. On April 26th Louise and Jean will organise a Cake sale at the RDH and ask choir members to provide cakes and help to sell them.

2) Richard said he had received a magazine from Making Music of which we are members and would circulate it to any committee member. Louise took it first.

3) Tony asked if the bar which projects from the wrought iron screen on the way out of the staging could be protected in some way as he had injured his head on leaving the stage at the afternoon rehearsal.

4) Chris said that this would be his last meeting as he was retiring from the committee. He said he had enjoyed his time on the committee but was now finding it too much as he had family commitments. He will continue as a choir member.

5) Elaine asked about prize draw ticket selling for next year but Louise told her it would be on the February agenda.

6) Val asked if the band members could be advised not to run on the stairs at the Cathedral as she was afraid of being knocked down.

Date and Time of next meeting.

February 27th at the RDH at 7.30pm