**Derby Hospitals Choir – Minutes Meeting 10th May 2023**

Present:

David Henshaw Chair

Kath Cawdell Secretary

Michael Wilcockson

Kathy Greig

Joy Walsh

Apologies: Anne Mellors and Shirley Searson

Previous minutes and matters arising:

David followed up the account with St John’s and the invoice has now been received; further booking for rehearsals have been made.

Finance summary:

The balance will be £852.48 after the St. John’s invoice has been paid.

The AGM costs have been paid and a £20.00 donation received from Derventio for loan of music. It was agreed at the AGM that the subscription be £20.00 per person, the committee agreed that no fee need be paid by non-singing members.

Constitution:

David had considered a range of constitutions from other choirs and circulated a re-worded document which was discussed and agreed. The preferred name is Derby Hospitals Choir and options to include health charities alongside hospital charities will be included in the discussions with Jill Matthews. **David to arrange Kath to accompany if possible**.

The focus for becoming a Charity needs to encompass ‘furthering the Arts and/or health’ and a standard equalities statement must be included in the constitution. David queried whether we would qualify as we do not have a turnover of funds in excess of £5,000.00. **Michael to contact Nick Prichard** at Community Action to discuss and proceed with the application for charitable status if appropriate. Further queries in relation to this are: what format would it take; does the choir need to have Trustees; can Gift Aid be claimed; and how long does the registration process take? Following any alterations made after this meeting the changed constitution will need to be formally agreed by the wider Choir membership. David has received an offer from Bernard Thorpe to be one of the trustees for the Choir in the event we become a charity.

We need to enquire with Cathy MacLean if she wishes to continue as patron. **David to contact.** Maura Teague has also shown interest in the Choir and has been a support over previous difficulties.

Website:

David has updated the website with the date of the 2023 Concert. The site does have a contact form and some enquiries have been made through this route. Could attention be drawn to this through the Hospital intranet system? This to be followed up with Jill Matthews.

Concert 2023

A shortlist of potential beneficiaries to be drawn up for a membership vote at the first rehearsal on Wednesday 13th September in St John’s Methodist Church, Allestree. (**David to cancel the 6-Sept rehearsal booking**). This may be dependent on discussions with Jill Matthews. The concert will take place on Friday 1st December at 7.30 in St Alkmund’s Church, Kedleston Road, Derby.

David gave out a list of music with a request to consider so that the concert programme can be finalised at the next meeting. The plan this year is to use music from the Choir library; new music would cost approx. £1.80 - £2.00 per copy.

A summer newsletter is to be issued to members giving them details of the concert and rehearsals. **Kath to draft a letter.**

AOB

David confirmed that we will be able to hold a raffle and serve alcohol at the concert.

Michael suggested further contact with the Telegraph who had responded well to his previous contacts.

Next Meeting:

**7.00pm on 19th July 2023 at 1 Quaker Close, Melbourne, DE73 8GW**