

SURREY HEATH CHORAL CIO
Trustees Meeting
27th April 2022 7.15pm
On Zoom
MINUTES



Present

+ Keith Wigglesworth	Chairman	+ Kate Brown	Treasurer
+ Colin Gunner	Secretary	+ Salma Sams	Trustee
+ Tim FitzGerald	Trustee	+ Matthew Sleap	Trustee
+ Andrew Milligan	Trustee		
+ Sylvia Law	Minutes secretary	+ Ed Bonner	Musical Director

Apologies for Absence.

No apologies received.

Minutes of last meeting

Read and agreed and signed

Matters arising

- Keith is to talk to Rosemary Ealden about joining the committee, not necessarily as a trustee.
- There is still no information about the event on the 2nd June at Frimley Lodge Park. Tim is to pursue this.
- Salma has had no information from the person who is to run the quiz evening yet. The date will now be in the autumn term

Summer programme and July set up change

Rehearsals have begun for the summer concert, however only 35 members attended the first rehearsal on the previous Monday. There was some discussion about prediction of people who will actually sing in the concert and it was felt there may well be about 40 – 45. It is hoped that the open evening will produce some extra singers and Matthew is to contact former members to encourage them to return. We are not going to use the staging with so few singers as this will reduce the cost of the concert.

Ed is searching for another medley to add to the content. At present there are 2 medleys and 9 individual items from the 'In the Mood' book

It is to be emphasised that a certain percentage of attendances at rehearsals is a requisite of membership of the choir as last term there were an awful lot of absences, which undermined the choir's ability to sing as well as they could. It was recognised that part of the problem was the widespread occurrence of Covid infections, but it was felt that full attendance should be encouraged. The part reps have been informed of this.

Ed suggested that outfits for the summer concert, should be in line with the era of the music. Dinner suits for the men and white blouses and black skirts for the ladies with perhaps feather boas in a variety of colours.

Future concerts

- The event at Frimhurst on 25th June is to go ahead, but they have been unable so far to gain finance for the event and Keith and Ed are meeting with the organisers this week to discuss the implications. Our financial situation means we cannot really afford to go ahead if there is no financial backing.
- There have been various requests for the choir to take part in Celebratory events for the platinum Jubilee. However not a lot of information has been forthcoming about any of them as to what is required and due to our financial situation we may not be able to participate in any of them.
- Ed has put together a plan for concerts for the next 2 years. It is likely that we shall go ahead with the November event at St Peters which would include the Faure Requiem, but it will need serious thought about the finances and further discussion with St Peters. Christmas is likely to be Carols and excerpts from the Messiah or other music.

2022/3 Budget/Treasurers report.

See report

There was a long discussion about the state of the finances of the choir and what needs to be done to remedy this. At the end of the summer term it was suggested that we will only have about £2000 in reserve. Looking at our present income and the number of members, it means that we do not have the resources to continue for very much longer unless some extra measures are put in place.

There were several suggestions made:-

- Partnership with local choirs to perform concerts
- Discussion with local choirs about the timing of concerts, this might avoid clashing dates and result in larger audiences.

- Contact with local sixth Form college, offering sponsored places for young Music students for expanding their musical experience.
- A total merger with another struggling local choir.
- It was agreed that the fees for next year may have to rise to £150 and there were suggestions of how to sell this to the choir members
- Salma to explore other avenues of fundraising

- **Reports**

Treasurer's report.

See previous item

Membership

See attached report.

With the budget concerns Matthew was asked to contact previous members to encourage them to return.

Fundraising.

See report.

Salma is in contact with someone to run a quiz evening as a fundraising event in the near future. It will probably happen in the autumn term

Change to CIO Constitution

See paper

This was agreed unanimously by the trustees

Formal documents review

Colin has reviewed these since the last meeting and finds that only three documents need changing. (Data Protection, GPR and Health and Safety) He will bring the changes to the committee for approval when they are ready.

SHS Patron

A proposal has been put forward by Tim that we should consider removing Michael Gove our local MP as our patron. This was discussed and Tim then withdrew his request.

AOB

- A new law has approved the use of Photocopying material for a fee for use by choirs. This idea was discussed but it was not felt to have any financial advantages over normal score hire

Date and venue of next meeting

22nd June 2022 2.00pm

**73 Poyle Road, Tongham, Farnham GU10 1DM
Or by Zoom if necessary**