

SURREY HEATH CHORAL CIO
Emergency Trustees Meeting
22 May 2021 9.15 Am
On Zoom
MINUTES



Present

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

Apologies for Absence.

Debra sent her apologies

Reason for meeting.

On May 17th 2021 new Covid guidelines came into use for Stage 3 of the release of Lockdown. It was understood by non-professional choirs in general, and validated by Making Music, that non-professional choirs would be able to restart face to face rehearsals as per the guidelines established in October/November 2020, i.e. In a Covid safe venue and as an organised group while taking note of the requirements of social distancing, ie 2 metres apart, choirs could meet face to face.

Our first such face to face rehearsal since November 2020 under those conditions went ahead on Monday 17th May 2021 with 26 attendees; however on Tuesday 18th May 2021 fresh guidelines came out which prohibited singing in groups of more than 6 inside, under any circumstances.

This meeting was to discuss the options open to us in these new circumstances. We have been urged by Making Music to write to our MP, the Culture Minister, and to any one we know in the House of Lords to ask that these guidelines be reviewed ASAP.

Discussion

Ed Bonner had replied to Keith's email about this with three suggestions (see email 1) for the immediate future.

These were discussed including ending our singing year now and resuming in September, as several local choirs are doing. However, the suggestion that was decided upon was his idea of taking advantage of the various rooms available at High Cross and rehearsing in 2 groups of 6 in 3 blocks of 40 minutes, in separate rooms; a total period of 2 hours. This would

allow all those wanting to sing to attend and sing face to face for some part of the evening. It would also ensure that the particular voice parts could have some practice with other voice parts.

Action:- Keith to inform the members of the choir about the current situation and the plans to ensure that members can still sing together. (see email 2)

Action:- Ed, in consultation with Matthew, to work out a rota system to ensure that all members get the chance to sing in one of the three sessions.

Action:- Sylvia to prepare the new music (Vivaldi's Gloria) for members to pick up at the beginning of their session on Monday 24th May.

Action:- Keith to arrange the date for the next committee meeting, as the next planned meeting has been postponed under the present circumstances.