

Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus
Minutes of Meeting 20th April 2010

Present

Julie Smethurst; Janet Bower; Sally Turnbull; Kate Reece; Angela Argenzio; Jennifer Swann; Els Pierce; Pamela Leon; John Spence; Sue Pennington; Richard Salt; Helen Kirk; Dan Spicer; Howard Dore; Ann Holloway; Paul Duffield; Rachel Mallaband.

1. Apologies

None

Rachel was welcomed and thanked for attending.

2. Minutes of 24 February 2010 meeting
were signed.

3. Matters Arising

Julie continues in contact with the group working on the UK City of Culture bid. Julie, Els and Sally attended the networking event on Friday 16 April and put forward various ideas on behalf of the Chorus.

4. Finance

Pamela was thanked for her finance report which was circulated ahead of the meeting.

She took questions to clarify issues.

Costs for the Armed Man music will be reimbursed.

Each "ordinary" rehearsal costs the chorus £380.78.

Three people have still not paid their subscriptions. If they do not respond to Pamela's recent emails then Julie will write on behalf of the Committee explaining that they will not be able to sing in the forthcoming concert.

A notional £2,000 will be in the budget for next year for publicity & marketing but this is only a guide figure.

Negotiations with HCS continue. Darius has offered to attend a meeting to discuss the issues with the committee. This will be following one of the 3 "extra" rehearsals after the Brahms concert.

Currently the Halle does not pay for travel when we need to go to Manchester for rehearsals. (This typically happens when concerts are not at the weekend.) We could seek to be reimbursed for this in the future as it will be expensive next year.

Decided to buy 30 copies of the Oxford Book of English Madrigals for our library and also to suggest to members that they may wish to buy their own. This is to be used at the repertoire development rehearsals in May. We will also buy 30 copies of OUP Music for Weddings for the library plus copies for any individuals who want to buy their own.

5. Christmas Concert

It was noted that there will be 2 Christmas concerts this year in the afternoon and in the evening of 12th December. Jenny and Pamela agreed to speak to Darius about some ideas for making the afternoon a child-friendly event. Hopefully the City Hall will provide refreshments for the tea break.

6. 75th Anniversary Celebrations

There was a preliminary discussion about the 75th anniversary celebration concert / party.

Date June 18th 2011. Helen / Angela to book the City Hall ballroom. Julie will also be involved in negotiating the fee with Dominic Stokes. The Bochum choir will be invited.

The launch of Bill's book is in hand. Rachel asked for suggestions for outlets which sell heritage books. She requested emails with suggestions.

7. Fundraising

The Singclude lottery bid is ready to go.

There is an outstanding issue concerning the mechanics of our bank account which will need to be addressed before any bid is accepted.

8. Membership

It was noted that recent activities have incurred increased costs in the way of printing, which the Chorus would reimburse.

9. Visit to Bochum

Julie circulated a presentation clock which has been commissioned as a gift to the Bochum choir when we visit in June. The cost is £22.

10. Publicity & Recruitment

Decided to use the "75th anniversary logo" for one year only for next season. Peter and Rachel will circulate the logo to committee members so it can be used for letterheads.

11. Armed Man

12th November is provisional date for additional performance of the Armed man in Manchester at the invitation of the Leicester Philharmonic Choir.

12. Next Meeting

27th May 2010 at Angela's house. 7.30pm.

13. AOB

- i) There was a disappointing start to last week's Armed Man concert. It was felt that a warm-up prior to the concert would have been beneficial and that we should ensure that this happens at future concerts.
- ii) The alto re-auditions will take place in the weeks following the 3 extra rehearsals in May. Letters will not be sent out.
- iii) Jenny & Angela will take the minutes for the next meeting as Sue will not be there.