

SPC COMMITTEE MEETING

9th June 2011

University Arms

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Julie Smethurst, Janet Bower, Els Pearse, Peter Quarrell, Dan Spicer, Howard Dore, Sally Turnbull, Paul Duffield, Daphne Sidney, Kate Reece, Jenny Swan, Ann Holloway, Helen Kirk, John Spence.

APOLOGIES:

Angela Argenzio, Rachel Mallaband, Sue Pennington, Liz Charlesworth, Richard Salt.

MINUTES of Meeting held on 4th April 2011 were signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING:

Housing our extensive library of music was discussed. The idea of splitting it up is a possibility for making it more manageable. An indication of the size of the library might be critical to finding volunteers.

Janet is to include the relevant information in the Summer Newsletter in the hope that someone might feel able to house it.

75th ANNIVERSARY:

Everything is in order for the event on 18th June although Helen Kirk, the Social Events Officer, said that she would appreciate help on the day. It is anticipated that a loss of about £2,000 is expected and Julie reminded the Committee that we had previously decided that the legacy from Miriam Gilchrist should be used to cover this.

Helen was warmly thanked for all the work she has put into organizing what promises to be a memorable event.

FUNDRAISING:

After some discussion it was agreed that the Grand Raffle be postponed. There has currently been no response from the four stores which had been approached for raffle prizes. Peter Quarrell has produced a document showing the possible revenue from such a raffle and he was thanked for his efforts.

The setting up of the 'Friends' scheme is progressing well and it is anticipated that its launch will take place in the autumn. This will be promoted at the Anniversary party where there could be a number of people who might be interested in the scheme. In addition, Members will be asked to each find a 'Friend'.

Sale of music and CDs has produced about £70 so far. The Walkley Festival and the Sheffield Pride events are expected to be suitable venues for further sales.

Kate Reece was thanked for her diligence in organizing the sale.

2011-12 SEASON:

'Music Nation' 4.3.12. Our involvement in this has been named 'Alight' .

As yet there has been no funding available for this. Sara Unwin to be approached with a view to her making some funding bids on our behalf. There has been a lot of enthusiasm shown for 'Alight' by various organizations in the area.

Suggestions for pieces to be performed include 'Spem in Alium' and 'The Ode to Joy'. It was thought that one of our Members, Yaron Hollander, who is a composer might be commissioned to write a piece for the event. There have been a lot of ideas for venues and events leading up to and on 4th March 2012 including one in the Town Hall, courtesy of the Lord Mayor.

HALLE/SIV

There was much discussion re the financial requirements of the Halle. It was agreed that we would not contribute to the Conductor's fee for the Faure concert.

It was agreed that we will contribute to the Halle's transport costs for the Walton concert on 7th October, if the orchestral rehearsal ends up in Sheffield. The amount will be equal to the cost of the coaches which we would have incurred had we been required to transport SPC to Manchester, less the cost of the possible extra (piano) rehearsal which may become necessary if the orchestral rehearsal is on Tuesday 4 October.

THE ARMED MAN 28.4.12.

Darius has expressed concern that there is little evidence of activity to promote this concert. The Meeting agreed that a Concerts Committee be set up to deal with this. Julie Smethurst, Janet Bower, Angela Argenzio, Rachel Mallaband, John Spence and Els Pearse were appointed. It was thought very desirable that Ruth Jones be approached too, but personal reasons may make it difficult for her to participate.

SINGCLUDE:

Five people have now been trained to operate the C-max Stairclimber. They are Janet Bower, Kate Reece, John Morgan and two members of staff at the City Hall. Penny Webster and Pat Wiltshire who are close friends of Dorothy Plant, the principal user of the C-Max, have expressed a desire to be trained.

The official launch of the C-Max is planned for September in the Memorial Hall. Lord Winston has been invited to head this but unfortunately is unable to attend. Lesley Garrett will be approached now as she has local connections, has performed alongside SPC and is the patron of 'Lost Chord'.

The logistics of loaning the C-Max to other choirs was discussed but nothing firm was established.

MEMBERSHIP:

The proposal that we should buy new folders and pass the cost on to Chorus members was considered, and there was then much discussion over whether to have a logo on the front at an additional cost of £1 per folder. It was agreed that there should be a show of hands at the next rehearsal to establish the feeling on this.

Felicity Goodliff, a long-standing, pro-active and conscientious member of the alto section, is leaving the Chorus and will be given honorary membership.

Badges: This produced a lot of discussion and eventually it was agreed that Voice Representatives should wear an un-named, plain coloured badge at rehearsals and that Julie Smethurst (Chairman), Janet Bower (Administrator), Angela Argenzio (Finance Officer) and John Spence (Membership Officer) should be provided with badges showing their name and office.

Janet was asked to arrange this.

The weekly notices are to be managed by Janet as a default and contributions by others will be by arrangement with her. Darius will be asked to request that members listen to the notices before leaving the hall during the break. The relevant notices will be put on the password protected area of the website.

The Committee was reminded that the AGM is on 11th October 2011. This is earlier than in previous years and Annual Reports should be given to Janet by the end of July.

Ann Holloway was thanked for her useful contributions to the Committee over the last two years. She is stepping down owing to pressure of work.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for 20th September 2011.