

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 3 October 2017 at Holy Trinity School Bury

Present:

Officers: Graham Bolton, Chairman; Jean Seymour, Secretary/Programmes; Rosemary Artley, Treasurer/Flowers/Gifts

Committee: Chris Babbs, Trustee; June Bowker, Publicity; June Duckworth; Dorothy France, Minutes Secretary, Membership; Naomi Jahoda, Trustee; Juan Ortuño, Director of Music; Rachel Riley, Concert tickets; Richard Smith, Programme Advertising; Geoff Stokes, rehearsal chairs.

Apologies: Tina Dixon, Vice Chairman, Website

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed that the workshop on Saturday 30 September at Holcombe Brook Methodist Church had been a success.

Minutes of the meeting 4 July 2017 were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising: The Longfield Suite was fully booked so the March concert would be at All Saints Church Stand.

Treasurer's Report

The balance in the Business Premium account was £11,827.90 and Community account £6,438.63. There were some uncleared cheques and a small amount of subscription and season ticket money to come in. Members' BACS payments had been paid into the Business Premium account. The gift aid refund received in July was over £1,000.

Future Programme 2017/18

***Carmina Burana*:** Juan would confirm the name of the tenor soloist. Noelle Williamson would sing the alto solo in the Beethoven *Choral Fantasy* and the soprano, baritone and tenor would be from The Brixii Singers. We would need another soprano and tenor.

Rachel had sold 2 tickets and more had been sold by The Fusilier Museum. Tickets can also be obtained via tickets@burychoral.org. The society would not profit from the concert but any surplus would go towards the hire of music. Some members had asked about a coach from Bury to the RNCM on the day of the concert. Graham would check how many people were interested. The coach could pick up from Holy Trinity School so that members could use the car park.

There may be a photo opportunity at the RNCM and Graham would enquire about the cost. The rehearsal would start at 2.30pm and finish at 5pm but the choir could leave earlier. Dress: The Brixii Singers would wear their usual uniform of black for ladies with a coloured stole and black shirts for men. Bury Choral members would dress as usual.

Christmas Concert: The first half would include Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* (12 mins), 4 classical pieces and 4 popular carols for audience participation. We would need a professional soloist for the Vaughan Williams. There would be a piano solo and an organ solo in the second half. We could include Peter Skellern's Medley of Christmas Carols but there might be a problem with performing rights and copies may not be readily available. Juan also suggested Anderson's *Sleigh Ride*, *The Snow Waltz* and Rutter's *I Wish You Christmas*, an item from Rimski-Korsakov's *Christmas Eve*, a piece by Michael Haydn and a Messiah chorus for the second half. Juan suggested a string quartet accompaniment. Rosemary will work out a budget. We would charge £8 per ticket; the concert would be obligatory for ticket sales. Any unused tickets should be returned, as space would be limited in the church. There would be 8 rehearsals after *Carmina Burana* before the Christmas concert.

***A Batty Night at the Opera*:** - Saturday 10 March 2018 at All Saints Stand - *Die Fledermaus* semi-staged but the chorus would be able to use scores. There are no choruses in the first act but we could add 2 numbers. Acts 2 and 3 have 6 choruses so 8 in total. We would need an orchestra and keyboard, and 7 soloists would be needed plus a few small parts from the choir. Fees could be £100 per soloist. The treasurer will draw up a budget and details of the orchestral players will be required.

There would be a longer interval at the next rehearsal on Tuesday 10 October so that members could speak to someone they didn't know and welcome the new members.

Website: This has been updated further. Tina would take over updating on her return.

Come and Sing Day Saturday 17 February 2018: The sub-committee would meet and work out arrangements now that the programme has been largely settled with Juan. It includes Thomas Campion's *Never Weatherbeaten Sail*; Bach's *Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring*; Vivaldi's *Gloria (opening)*, Mozart's *Lacrimosa*; Elgar's: *Songs from the Bavarian Highlands (first number)* and a Taverner piece. Holcombe Brook Methodist Church had been booked but the venue might be changed.

Marketing

Members would be encouraged to add friends' contact details to an email list to keep them up to date with forthcoming concerts.

A governor at Bury Church High School had expressed an interest in the choir and asked if we could come and sing at the school.

We needed to keep a record of soloists for future use and Sarah had been helping with this; Graham will enquire if she is still interested.

The future programme for 2018/19 would need to be decided at the next meeting. The November concert would commemorate Armistice Day in 1918 and the sub-committee would meet to discuss the programme.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 14 November 2017 at 6.30pm.