

## **NEW DIMENSION CHOIR**

### **Minutes of AGM 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

The meeting was opened by the Chairperson, Jackie Glendenning. Also present were committee members: Enid Weaver, Wendy White, Carol Chester and Barbara Austin.

Apologies for absence were received from John Pugh, Clare Goldspink, Chris Hallahan, Joy Rasbash, Carol Smailes, Tanya Hunt, Maureen Glover and Gill Vicary

#### **Report from Chairperson – Jackie Glendenning**

Jackie began by agreeing the minutes from the AGM 2019, then thanked the other members of the committee for their hard work this past year. Jackie also confirmed she would be retiring from post after nearly 8 years due to moving further away, although would still attend choir.

**Report from Musical Director - Enid Weaver** Please See Appendix 1

#### **Report from Treasurer - Carol Chester**

Our books are currently being audited and figures will be available online shortly. Balance at end 2019 is £3,632.19. At the end of 2018 it was £3,736.17. So very close. We are currently covering our costs with our subs and concert sales however subs will probably have to increase by £5 to £35 to cover music storage costs. (see Librarian's report). Our Summer Concerts in total had 297 paying adults and Xmas concerts 329. Our biggest audience on one night was at All Saints 123 and smallest was at United Reformed Romford at 52 people.

#### **Report from Librarian - Wendy White**

As previously mentioned, we are going to need storage facilities as current storage is unsuitable, due to size of storage area, weight of boxes, and limited access time. Every concert adds another box with new music. The Committee are currently looking into storage possibilities. We currently pay only £250 /year to Wendy's local church for storage, but we are probably looking at £1,000 upwards for proper storage facilities. The rate at Shurgard at Roneo corner changes daily but which would be very convenient for Wendy. We are paid up until September for our current storage, but Wendy will keep a regular eye online and if the rate drops at Shurgard significantly we can lock the price in for 6 months. 20 sq foot would be enough to store the boxes and 50 sq foot would allow for a table and chair but is nearly double the price.

Nick Butler suggested to save Wendy's back she should have shelving and a work-table in the storage room. Cheryl Sinnott suggested maybe using filing cabinets as storage. Kathryn Myers may have a possible solution and will talk to Wendy about it privately. It was noted that it took a number of members 5 weeks to return music back after the Christmas Concert. In future could members please return music as soon as possible either to rehearsal room or to Wendy's house.

### **Report from Technical Officer – Carol Chester on behalf of John Pugh**

The USB sticks have been ordered but unfortunately as they are coming from China there has been a delay and will probably continue to be delayed for some time due to the ongoing situation there. John has put the rehearsal music onto the website. A couple of members using Samsung devices had been having trouble logging in so he has unlocked the site to give everyone access until the USB sticks arrive then he will sort it out, and if necessary will return to the original “username” and “password” method.

When they arrive, there will be plenty of room on the sticks to hold rehearsal tracks and concerts.

### **Report from Secretary – Barbara Austin**

Barbara has currently confirmed Concert bookings as follows:

#### Summer Concerts

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June – St. Chads

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June – to be confirmed

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Harold Wood Methodist

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July – All Saints

#### Xmas Concerts

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November – Harold Wood

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November – St. Chads

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December – to be confirmed

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December – All Saints

Barbara explained that as numbers were down at United Reformed and some members find acoustics difficult to hear members around them, she was asked to look into alternative venues.

She has approached St. Michaels at Gidea Park. The new Vicar Daniel Kirk is very keen, but he is waiting to hear from the committee who would be responsible for setting up and serving teas to confirm. If they are not interested or can't do the suggested date of Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June barbara will approach another church.

Debby offered to use her church in Havering Road which has had building work done and is now available and has a new Reverend. Barbara will contact Wendy for more information.

At this point The Chair asked for a show of hands as a member had tabled the question of whether we should do 3 or 4 concerts. The show of hands was for a clear 4. (only 3 members wanted 3 dates) Andrew Maxey suggested if we were to only get 3 bookings that we could perhaps sing in Romford Shopping Mall to raise money for St. Frances Hospice and gain some publicity for our other concerts. The committee will discuss this at the next meeting.

### **Social Events – Barbara Austin**

Barbara thanked the members who had passed on possible venues to look in to. She will leave a sheet out at rehearsal with the findings and email them to members for interest. Some are surprising e.g. Hire charges for rooms have gone up enormously e.g. Marygreen Manor is now almost £300 to hire a function room for cream tea.

**AFTERNOON TEA:** Jackie Whiteman saw an advert for the Golden Crane, 117 Avon Road, Cranham RM14 1RQ who are now doing afternoon tea for £9.95. Barbara spoke to the owner and we can book it for Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March @ 1.pm.

**SUMMER MEAL:** Top Meadow will have to be cancelled as we don't have enough members going (minimum required 30) plus hire fee was now £200.

Beryl Barbour's husband suggested his golf club, and after visiting Barbara has been offered the private restaurant overlooking the green for a reduced price of £100 (from £200) and 4 choices of hot meals and desserts with entertainment from Harvey (and some members again if they wish!) for approx. £24. Exact cost will depend on numbers. If more members come the price drops!

Barbara will email full details of these venues and meal choices for Romford Golf Club on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July and details of the afternoon tea on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March plus also print out a copy to leave on table at rehearsals.

She would ask that members put their names down for these social events (or cross off is date not suitable) ASAP either at rehearsal or by messaging Barbara

Barbara was also asked to update members details. She has provided slips for those without email but for ease she will email a form which you can return.

At this point The Chair put another member's tabled question "Could we have the Xmas Dinner Dance in January rather than December when members are busy?"

A show of hands offering December, January or Don't mind either showed clearly members were happy to have it in January. Barbara will look into venues in due course.

## **Election of officers to the committee for 2020**

The following Committee Members will remain in post as agreed by choir members:

Carol Chester - Treasurer

Wendy White - Librarian

Barbara Austin – Secretary

Enid Weaver – Musical Director

Non Elective Member Representatives:

John Pugh –Technical Officer

Clare Goldspink –Publicity Officer

A new Chairperson was then appointed having been nominated and seconded with no other candidate coming forward. We welcome our new Chairperson Carmel Dines.

Barbara thanked Jackie again for all her work as Chair and presented her with a bouquet of flowers from the choir.

With No further business the meeting was closed by the Chairperson.

Next Committee Meeting: Johns – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 at 7.30