

Ipswich Hospital Community Choir

Minutes from the Zoom meeting on 5th January 2021

- **Minutes from 1st December 2020 –approval /action**
 - The minutes were approved.
 - PR has made several attempts to contact St Peter's about using the venue as a rehearsal space, but he has not had a reply.
 - FH to offer our support for the Hospice Remembrance service later in the year. FH will contact Maggie Porter directly to enquire as she was our contact for IH band who oversees bookings for St Peter's. **FH /DI to remind FH in August.**
 - It was noted that our bank balance is in a stronger position due to the members' donations of last year's outstanding fees. Last year's charity donations are still in the account. These will both show up on the end of year report. **NC**
- **Possible future plans including co-hosting and breakout rooms**
 - Zoom rehearsals will continue, to comply with the current lockdown restrictions.
 - The committee successfully explored extending the use of Zoom by trialling co-hosting and breakout groups.
 - It was decided that each rehearsal will include a ten minute breakout room to enable the social side of choir to develop further. In the first instance these will be broken down in to three groups: Sops, Altos and Tenor/Bass **NC**
 - The members will be reminded that the rehearsals will be one hour in duration, to enable the break to take place, when the Zoom invite goes out this week. **NC**
 - **NC** During the month of January, feedback on this change will be gathered by the section reps. **REPS**
 - A review of the trial will be an item on the February meeting agenda. **DI**
 - Committee members are to keep in mind other possible venues for future face to face rehearsals. **COMMITTEE**
- **Spring Term schedule**
 - NC presented the Spring Term schedule. Some music is scheduled in for two consecutive weeks to avoid losing the impetus of the first session and to reinforce the learning. Songs with no rehearsal time scheduled for the Spring will be removed from the plan. **NC**
 - The Halloween titles will remain on the plan to remind members that we have a provisional concert this Autumn and so we still need to remain familiar with them. **NC**
 - The schedule will be sent to the members by email. **NC**
 - The schedule will be published on the website. **PR**
- **Recent recordings – pitfalls, considerations for the future**
 - IF sent the committee a link to a method for recording voices which would help with co-ordinating the recordings and sending them to the MD. Members would need to download an app to be able to use this. PR will investigate this and feedback at the next meeting. **PR**
 - The Once in Royal David's City video was not a success due to a variety of reasons including timing issues due to the backing track not having enough verses and the distortion of faces due to differing aspect ratios of members' phones.
 - A method to consider for the future is to video the choir singing in gallery view on Zoom and then to merge this with the recorded track.

- **Publicity –**
 - A Winter's Tale and When You Believe are on our website and are available for public viewing. We could consider adding more tracks from future recording projects or selected tracks from the CD that we recorded in the chapel. We will consider options at the next meeting. **DI to add to agenda**
 - Another local choir was featured on Rendlesham Radio – they interviewed their leader and played some of their tracks. This may be something for us to consider in the future. **FH**
 - NF is volunteering for hospital radio. This could help us to publicise the choir in the future.

- **Membership – how to encourage missing members to return after lockdown**
 - This is not a priority item during the current restrictions but it will continue to be an agenda item until the guidance changes.
 - It was noted that some members are still keeping in touch, through email contact, even if they are not joining the Zoom sessions.

- **AOB**
 - Nothing raised.

The next meeting is on 2nd February 2021 at 7.45pm.