

## Ipswich Hospital Community Choir

### Committee meeting minutes

18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 7.45pm at Fiona's house

#### Apologies from SN and AV

#### Minutes of the last meeting (17/10/23)

- **Approval** The minutes were approved and accepted.
- **Action updates**
  - The large reusable cheque, for charity presentations, is being made. **AV/CV**
  - The new members pack has been updated. **SN**
  - Our patron has been contacted by the MD and informed of the dates of our major concerts. **NC**
  - There has been no response from the Suffolk Show organisers. **AC**

#### Membership

- **Attendance** On the whole, attendance has been good.
- **Future term dates** The next block of rehearsals will run up to the May concert. There will not be an Easter break. **FH**

#### Finance

- **Statement of Income and Expenditure**
  - A Profit And Loss statement was presented and discussed.
  - Payments for uniform and social events pass through the account but but are usually just in and out.
  - As we have low overheads, there may be enough money to purchase a foldback speaker. **IF**
  - It is to be noted that, if PR does not continue to host our website, there may be additional annual costs. **PR to investigate prices.**
- **Musical Director remuneration review**
  - The committee decided to raise the MD's hourly rate to £50 having looked at Making Music's suggested rates. This will have a knock on effect on our future finances but, with the current number of members, will be covered comfortably.

#### Musical director's report NC

- NC is very pleased with how this year has gone so far, and that we are still attracting new members.
- We will revisit some of our pieces that have already been learnt but not performed eg Aquarius.
- For the May concert, NC is considering:
  - James Bond Medley
  - A Million Dreams
  - What Was I Made For from Barbie
  - The Road Goes On from Lord Of The Rings
- The one minute warning before the start is working well. Reps to set a good example.

#### Section reports

- **Soprano**
  - The sopranos are happy at the moment.

- One member has suggested that we have a WhatsApp group for section communication, which would bring us into line with the other sections. **AV to set up with permission from the members.**
- **Alto**
  - Unfortunately, the altos have lost three members. These losses were all for a valid reason,
  - The two new members are being well supported.
- **Tenor/Bass**
  - There has been no negative feedback but it has been noted that some members are reluctant to sit near some of the weaker members.
- **All Sections**
  - A new concert formation will be devised – all reps to communicate specific information to NC eg 1s and 2s

## Website

- **New events enquiries page**
  - AC has drafted an online form for new performance enquiries. She will send the draft to the committee **AC**
  - The form will be created and linked to the contact page on the website **PR**
  - The form could be adapted for new member enquiries. **SN**
- **SN needs to be informed about members who have left to help her to maintain accurate records. REPS**

## Clothing

- **Current stock situation donations**
  - There are lots of polo shirts in stock. More fleeces and hoodies need to be ordered. **FH**
- **Second hand charity**
  - Reps need to ask leaving members if they would like to donate their old uniform. **REPS**
  - We will charge £5 for a polo shirt and £10 for a fleece. **FH**
  - The income from this will appear on the financial statement but goes directly to the charity fund.
- **Past uniform code clothes eg. tops, shirts**
  - It was decided that the original blue shirts and the blue sparkly tops will not be used again and may be discarded.
  - The formal, long, blue dresses will be collected in and advertised for other choirs to buy. The proceeds will go to charity. **PR to send a list of past members to AV to start this off.**

## Past events

- **Kesgrave Shopping and Pamper Evening 24/11**
  - This event went well. **NF** interacting with the audience worked well and we would like this to continue.
- **Volunteer Christmas party 19/12**
  - This went well despite the small number of members who could attend. This was recorded by someone and it would be good to have a copy of it for our website. **DI to contact organiser to see if she knows who it was.**
- **Cornhill steps**
  - The town centre was very quiet so there was a very small audience. We were very well looked after by the organisers.

- **Hospital carol concert 20/12**
  - There was a lovely atmosphere at this event and we were well received. Numbers were a problem – out of the ten sopranos who said that they would attend, only two turned up so the descants that had been rehearsed could not be sung.
- **Light Up A Life service 17/12**
  - A very special event which we were all proud to be part of. The organisers were so pleased that they have asked if we would be involved again next year.

#### **Future Events**

- **Spring Concert at St Peter's – 04/05**
  - A poll is needed for this event. PR
  - We will need to liaise with Andrew Mayhew and Maggie Porter AC/FH
  - Our contributions for the raffle and liaison with the raffle ladies at the venue will be needed. SN
- **Ipswich Music Day 07/07 tbc**
  - This will go on the website to inform members of the date. PR/AC
- **Christmas Concert at St Peter's 07/12**
  - The MD will meet with Laurence Killian to plan this event. NC
- **Christmas Shopping And Pamper Evening 22/11 tbc**
- **Light Up A Life service 15/12 tbc**

#### **Social Events**

- **Christmas Party 2023**
  - This was a successful evening and enjoyed by all. The venue and the buffet was very good and we will try to book again. Provisional date 13/12 PR

#### **AOB**

- A letter from DG was shared re his birthday party. He will send us a general invitation to send to all members.
- Committee members will have a new email address for choir purposes . PR will send out details and committee members will set them up and agree a date to start using them.

**The next meeting will be on 21/3 at Nick's house. Since changed to 28/3**

- SN and AV need to be informed of the dates of the new meeting. DI