

## **Ipswich Hospital Community Choir**

### **Committee meeting minutes**

**12<sup>th</sup> November 2024 7.30pm at Nick's house**

#### **Welcome to new committee members and acknowledgement of new roles.**

- JH and JC were formally welcomed on to the committee taking on the roles of Treasurer and Bass Rep respectively.

#### **Minutes of the last meeting (05/09/24)**

- The minutes were approved and accepted.

#### **Membership**

- **Attendance**
  - There are forty eight current members.
  - Individual cases of poor attendance were discussed in case support was needed.
  - To attract new members, our fliers will be displayed at Kesgrave, St Peter's, the hospital events and the volunteer lunch. **DI**
- **Future term dates**
  - We will finish this term on 11<sup>th</sup> December , not the 18<sup>th</sup>, and we will restart on 8<sup>th</sup> January.

#### **Finance**

- **Statement of Income and Expenditure**
  - A statement showing the past two months transactions was shared.
  - We are still in a strong position.
  - Following on from a query at the AGM, it has been agreed that we will transfer some of our reserves to a high interest account and add the interest gained to our charity donations. **JH to investigate.**
- **Implementation of Annual Membership**
  - The members will need to set up a standing order of £36 to be paid to the choir account quarterly starting on 1<sup>st</sup> January. **JH** to draft instructions and send to the committee. **FH** will inform members of this coming change in her email following this meeting.
- **Collection of choir dresses for sale**
- Only six dresses have been donated so far. There will be a final email with a specific last date sent out. If there are not enough to sell as a job lot for a choir, they will be listed on Ebay/Vinted. If no interest, they will be donated to charity. **AV**

#### **In lieu of the Musical Director's report**

- **Evaluation of Edie's leadership so far**
  - The members are happy with our temporary MD.
  - Not sticking to the arranged schedule took some by surprise.
- **Future plans**
  - Her current contract is until the end of December.

- As it is important that NC does not return until he is sure that he is physically able to and, to avoid any pressure on him to do so, we will offer Edie the role for January and then implement a rolling one month contract giving notice by the 14<sup>th</sup> of the previous month. **FH**
- NC will support her by adding her scores to Sibelius. **NC (n/a)**
- **Repertoire for Christmas performances**
- We have nine Christmas songs ready for performance which take twenty five minutes to perform in total. To allow time for the change over from one to the next we need to add another nine minutes.
- Upcoming performances which need longer programmes can be padded out with:
  - Kind Of Magic
  - Rhythm Of Life
  - Somewhere Only We Know
  - Sing
  - O Come All Ye Faithful
  - Hark The Herald Angels Sing
  - Festive Finale
- NC suggested a repertoire for each event which will fill the expected timings.

### Section reports

- **Soprano**
- The sopranos are happy and settled. There is still an imbalance between ones and twos.
- **Alto**
- The altos are happy and settled.
- **Tenor**
- The tenors are happy and settled.
- **Bass**
- The basses are happy and settled. Some are finding the volume of the backing tracks too loud.
- **ALL REPS** to prepare a new seating plan ready for consideration at the next committee meeting. To be put on the agenda **DI**

### Website

- **New website host update**
- We still need to find someone to manage our website, including day to day management. **PR**
- It was suggested that we contact Identity Web Design (who host NC's website) **PR**
- **Updating content**
- We should all look out for outdated content on the website. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### Future Events

- **Hospital Christmas Market 21/11**
- Informal dress
- Arrive by 11.15am.

- **Christmas Shopping And Pamper Evening 22/11**
  - Informal dress.
  - Arrive by 6.15pm.
  - **NF** to introduce us.
- **Christmas Concert at St Peter's 07/12**
  - Formal dress.
  - We still need to confirm a pianist for the choir only songs. **NC**
  - FH to contact MP about the suggested concert programme. It is usually choir only blocks, band only blocks and joint blocks. FH
- **Volunteers' party 10/12**
  - Informal dress.
- **Light Up A Life service 15/12**
  - Formal dress but with blue ties for the men.
- **Hospital carol service 20/12**
  - The service will start at 1.30pm.
  - Silent Night, Ding dong, Once In Royal David's City, O Come All Ye Faithful
- **Section reps to do a standing plan for all events.** REPS

## **Social Events**

- **Christmas Party 2024 13/12**
  - Thirty two members are coming – only one left to pay.
  - The land lady will be informed about dietary requirements **SN**
  - A Christmas quiz will be prepared. **DI**
  - We will have background music (and a disco ball!) **PR**
  - We will have some games at various times in the evening. **SN**

## **AOB**

- **Request for a member to volunteer to take on responsibility for uniform items.**
  - JH has a spreadsheet with choir clothing detail on.
  - FH has sorted the clothing in to boxes.
  - FH will draft duties for the new "wardrobe master/mistress" including keeping up stock and frequency of sales. **FH** to send to committee.
- **A new members details form will be prepared.** FH
- **NC thanked the committee for their support over the last weeks.**
- **It was suggested that we put photos of the committee on our website for the members.** PR to collate. ALL to send on photos.
- **We need an updated photo for the front of the website.**
- **The committee lunch was enjoyed by all. This could become an annual event after each AGM.**

The next meeting will be at Nick's on 11<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm.