

Whitehall Choir
Minutes of Committee Meeting, 30 May 2018, 6.30pm,
Committee Room, St Peter's Eaton Square, London SW1W 9AL

Present: Patrick Haughton (Treasurer, deputising for Chair), Ruth Eastman (Secretary), Joanna Tomlinson (Music Director), Kate Goulden (Soprano Rep), Jacky Ertweman (deputising for Alto Rep), Philip Pratley (tenor rep), Daniel Lambauer (Bass Rep), Martin Humphreys (Publicity Manager), Richard Grafen (Webmaster), Alison Williams (Librarian)

Apologies: Jonathan Williams (Chair), Jane Mackay (Alto Rep)

| Agenda Item | Discussion | Action |
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| Minutes of last meeting, actions, and matters arising not covered elsewhere | Minutes Unchanged. Actions None. Matters arising None. | |
| St Peter's Eaton Square, 28 June 2018, Bernstein <i>Chichester Psalms</i> and works by other American composers | Everything in hand. Ian Williamson looking after party. Opportunity for presentation of new president, if one in place. Donations of £5 will be invited to go in a box on the table to defray the costs of drinks and refreshments. Reference to the donation needs to go in the programme. (Post meeting: done.) | |
| Come & Sing Mozart <i>Requiem</i> , Clapham, and invitation to perform in Brandenburg Sinfonia series at St Martin-in-the-Fields | Come & Sing, 8 September <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flyers need to go out before summer break. (Post-meeting: eflyers have been circulated to Part Reps; printed copies due at rehearsal on 19 June.) AW will organise scores (Novello) – new/hire copies for participating members and (£10 refundable) hire copies for guests. She will poll members via part reps about availability and music requirements (post-meeting: done). A volunteer will be needed to help AW hand out scores. If singing space limited at St Martin's, preference will be given to those who attend the C&S, as it also serves as a rehearsal. Singers who know the music and/or study it beforehand will still be considered. Attendance price: £15 for members; £20 for guests; price for both includes refreshments; audience price £5. Maybe Gill Carruthers can run refreshments/cakes with other volunteers? (Post-meeting: Gill has kindly accepted.) Contract with Church of the Holy Spirit: PH has copy to fill in and return. (Post meeting: done.) St Martin's concert, 13 September <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Still awaiting confirmation of start time from Bob Porter. (Post-meeting: we've heard from Bob that the concert will start at 7pm and singing space is limited to 40.) The first half will be a larger orchestral piece. There isn't enough time to rehearse an extra choral piece. | AW |
| St John's Smith Square, Thursday 28 March 2019, Haydn <i>Creation</i> | Need to finalise soloist details for SJSS spring catalogue, which goes to press in July. (Post-meeting: soloist arrangements well underway and blurb written.) | JT/PH/RE |

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| St Peter's Eaton Square, Thursday 27 June 2019, A Very British Summer | Church booked ages ago but we need to hire a piano for Ian. | PH |
| Update on committee roles, AGM elections | <p>Committee job descriptions These still need to be written in good time for AGM so people can see what each role entails. The Business Manager post, which remains vacant, has changed much over the years owing to Eventbrite so this should be easier than in years past. In light of this and other posts that have changed because of social media etc JW has asked PH to update job descriptions. (Post meeting: done and with Committee for comment.)</p> <p>Update on chairman nominees We have one nominee. (Post meeting: Sam Foley has kindly volunteered to be Returning Officer.)</p> | |
| Update on fundraising including proposal for corporate sponsorship, President/Patrons and Friends structure | <p>Sponsorship Since last meeting a flyer has been produced with guidance from Lucilla Poston and Bridget Gardiner. This will be circulated around the choir to see if anyone has ideas about who/which company it could be sent to, which Lucilla and Bridget could then approach. (Post-meeting: PH has emailed the choir.)</p> <p>President Progress towards finding a new president is now underway, thanks to a chance encounter by one of our members with our retiring president, Sir Martin Donnelly, former Permanent Secretary for BIS and more recently former Permanent Secretary for DIT. Sir Martin expressed interest in maintaining his links with the choir, which is good news. In our next conversation we shall ask whether he thinks his successor at DIT might be receptive to an informal approach by JW or PH.</p> <p>Patrons We have a shortlist of possible people, who will be approached by their respective proposers asap.</p> <p>Friends KG suggested a three-tier restructure which she will draft and send to PH. (Post-meeting: PH has received this and gone on to revamp the scheme in painstaking detail, a massive job well done. News of it is ready to be circulated to Friends. Reference to the new scheme is also in the summer concert programme.) JE has kindly agreed to look into revitalising the new Friends scheme. Within this context we need to keep up with leavers and ensure all contact details consistent with 2018 Data Protection Act. PH will send Data Protection document to RG for posting on the Members' Page. (Post meeting: done.)</p> | JW/PH JE |
| AOB | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Next season's rehearsal and concert dates are needed. (Post-meeting: dates are now on the website.) 2) Three tenors are leaving. Choir will be asked if they know of any potential new tenors. Word will go out on social media – RE will do a Tweet and remind Gemma Steel to post on FB. (Post-meeting: both done.) There is also mention of us needing tenors in the programme. 3) Christmas music will be chosen from two books (<i>100 Carols for Choirs</i> and <i>Noel!</i>) to keep it simple, says JT. The Judith Weir we're singing in the November concert is likely to be reprised at Christmas. | |

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| Future committee meetings (all in Committee Room, St Peter's Eaton Square, except for AGMs) | This season AGM: Tuesday 3 July 2018 (Parish Hall) Next season Thursday 6 September 2018 Friday 9 November 2018 Thursday 17 January 2019 Friday 15 March 2019 Thursday 9 May 2019 Thursday 6 June 2019 AGM: Tuesday 2 July 2019 (Parish Hall) | |
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The meeting ended at 8.45 pm.