

Whitehall Choir Committee
MINUTES of the
Meeting held on 7 March 2016 at St Peter's
6.30pm

Present: Patrick Houghton (Treasurer), Mark Graver (Librarian), Martin Humphreys (Publicity), Richard Grafen (Webmaster), Penny Prior (Business Manager), Julie Dyg (Alto Rep), Kate Goulden (Soprano Rep),

Apologies: Jonathan Williams (Chair), Joanna Tomlinson (Secretary), Paul Spicer, Alastair Tolley (Tenor Rep), Daniel Lambauer (Bass Rep)

Agenda item	Discussion	Action
Minutes 18/1/16	Taken as read. Individual paragraphs to be covered by the agenda.	
Choir tour: Vienna 28 April – 2 May 2016	DL/JW continued to work on the social programme – to be advised to those going on tour. Nearly all monies due to Rayburn Tours had been collected. PH had circulated details of the pieces to be sung from ESM and midi files were available. Potentially the whole of the English Landscape programme would go on tour but PS was still negotiating which pieces would be sung with the local choir, Cantus Novus. Cantus Novus would take care of promotion of Vienna concerts. WHC choir members would be asked for photos/comments on return for WHC promotional purposes.	DL/JW PS
Finances (PH)	PH presented an updated version of the Income and Expenditure report. The public version was now on the Charity Commission website. Healthy choir finances remained dependent on ticket sales. The tour would appear in due course as a separate 'event'.	PH
Holy Trinity Sloane Square, 21 April 2016	Flyers (2500 for £48) should be available next week. Timings on 21 April might be tight if there was a service before the concert - tbc. Rehearsal on 8 March would be in St Peter's (church) and would be partly recorded for a You-Tube publicity film. PS to say a few words.	PH MH/PS
Choir Workshop, St Mary le Bow, 11 June 2016	PS was keen that this should be a 3 line whip for choir members: an opportunity for 'development'. Venue had been booked but no facilitator as yet and no precise timings. We agreed that the facilitator should be part of the draw. Price of £15 to be confirmed.	JW PS
St James's Piccadilly, 14 July 2016	MH circulated publicity plan and asked for suggestions for additional / different publicity. French schools/cinemas to be included. KG to use friends with contacts at French Embassy to explore possibility of 'Intranet' or mailing list, but pointed out that Bastille Day celebrations could well include evening fireworks removing target French audience. French language publicity video to be produced in parallel to PS video.	All MH/KG
St John's Smith Square, 22 November 2016	St John's needed a title for the concert and names of soloists. Henry Neil was booked as the principal soloist (others tbc). "A Mozart Reflection"? Blackford orchestral scores were proving difficult to source.	JT MG/PS
Recruitment	Possible actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Target non-auditioned choirs which also contained good singers - Use of ringers – some might stick - Target colleges – need for 'young' voices - 'Bring a friend' – especially to the Come and Sing - PS to do video for the Come and Sing - Gather quotes from members as to why they like WHC - Canvas reasons for discontent & minimum 'engagement' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Choir should own decisions: Ctte needed to increase engagement & vice versa. Welcome involvement of all and 	JW

	<p>continuous feeding in of ideas.</p> <p>- Importance of social media and word of mouth.</p>	
AOB	<p><u>Rehearsal venue 15 & 22 March:</u> St Peter's unavailable. St Matthew's Great Peter Street have been approached. Helen Smee to take rehearsal on 15 March.</p> <p><u>Come and sing:</u> Plan still to sing Dvorak <i>Stabat Mater</i> on for Saturday 8 October, at Church of Holy Spirit, Clapham.</p> <p><u>3 year plan:</u> as this covered 3 years some flexibility was to be expected. PS was considering whether the Macmillan <i>7 Last Words from the Cross</i> was realistic. Some outside help (ringers) would be needed.</p> <p><u>Audition process:</u> Some members had passed the last re-auditions with suggestions for development. PS should be encouraged to follow up on this 'homework'. Further re-auditions, if necessary, needed planning. Possible use of Workshop day? JW to discuss with PS?</p> <p><u>Choir preparation:</u> PS was producing rehearsal schedules. We should respond by doing preparation. Part reps to feed back specific rehearsal instructions to those absent.</p> <p><u>Use of plastic cups at rehearsals:</u> Kate Hand had written direct to JW. Discussion to be taken off line.</p>	<p>JW / PS</p> <p>Part Reps</p> <p>JW</p>

The meeting ended at 2020

Forthcoming meetings:

- Monday 9 May 2016**
- Monday 20 June 2016**
- Tuesday 19 July 2016 (AGM)**
- Monday 19 September 2016**
- Monday 7 November 2016**