

North Kingston Choir

Minutes

Sunday 2 November, 8pm

Present: Clare Barton, Jessica Bate, Tristan Bate (via Skype), Hannah Deveson, Vanessa Hartley, Sonja Steed

1. Welcome (Sonja Steed)
 - Discussion on duration of committee meetings- agreed that in future, we should aim for 1.5 hours (max 2 hours)
2. Apologies: Darlene Ahmed, Monica Jang, Jem Goddard
3. Music Report – Jessica Bate
 - a. Guest leader for choir workshop 12 January 2015
 - 2 options discussed (1- Rosalind O'Dowd on 12/1 focusing on vocal technique (£120 for session and prep time) or 2 - session led by a soul / jazz singer on 5/1 (£90 for the session and prep time)
 - **Decision:** JB to confirm with Rosalind O'Dowd for 12/1 (on basis that cover is required for this date which had been originally been scheduled as the first rehearsal of the Winter term. Next term's fees will include covering the additional cost of this workshop (see 4b below)
4. Finance Report – Sonja Steed (summary provided by Monica Jang)
 - a. Autumn Term 2014
 - Balance as at 2/11/14: £197 (which included all known concert expenses apart from printing). This was noted as being more than the committee had expected
 - b. Winter term 2015 fees
 - **Decision:** Committee discussed fees for **next term** and agreed they would be £35 *including* the guest workshop on 12 January 2015. This is specifically for Spring term - fees to be reviewed generally at AGM.
 - Committee discussed whether members should buy their own music. Specific links to the arrangements would be provided to members ahead of the term starting. The committee agreed that if this was the case, there should be a limit of £15 (including P&P) for the purchase of music. To be decided.
 - The inclusive nature of the choir was discussed and that where individual circumstances make payment of fees difficult, funding should be available. This will be recommended at the 2015 AGM (in addition to the recommended fees for 2015)
5. Membership Report – Vanessa Hartley

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- a. Maximum number/ waiting list
 - Following discussion at the last meeting (28/9/14), VH noted that the choir had not reached the maximum numbers that were agreed
 - **Decision:** Anyone enquiring about joining the choir for the remainder of the Autumn term will be welcome to attend a taster session but will not be able to join until the start of the Spring 2015 term

6. Anniversary concert 29 November – Hannah Deveson/ Jessica Bate
 - a. Attendance - VH to ask members to confirm attendance as part of the weekly sign in for 3/11/14 rehearsal

 - b. Logistics - Noted that JB had visited venue. Initial thoughts are that choir will perform on floor with back row on blocks if possible. Music stands will also be required
 - HD to enquire whether blocks and music stands are available at venue

 - c. Filming - discussion on videoing concert and access to the required equipment
 - TB to investigate filming options (SS will also mention in weekly announcements)
 - HD to enquire with venue about filming from the gallery

 - d. Timing and running order
 - JB is working on running order and will email the committee in due course
 - Members will be asked to volunteer to introduce some songs (as per Summer concert) via weekly email
 - Timings: members will be asked to arrive for 2.30pm warm up (where possible, committee members to arrive earlier to assist with set-up) aiming to finish no later than 4pm. Concert starts at 4.30pm, 20 minute interval approx 5pm, finishing by 6pm

 - e. Tickets - noted that only 6 had been sold. SS will mention tickets in the weekly rehearsal announcements and emails leading up to the concert

 - f. Liaising with charity - HD to liaise with venue about publicity materials for the day, providing a paragraph on the Down's Syndrome Association for the programmes and someone to speak about the charity at the concert

 - g. Programmes - committee agreed that printing costs should be kept to a minimum. Agreed that 70 would be sufficient and possibility of charging for the programmes was discussed (and will be agreed via email)
 - HD and CB to enquire about printing costs with venue and a contact

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- h. After party - committee agreed that an event locally from 6pm should be organised. CB to research options and report back to committee

7. Other Events

- a. Karaoke - Booking for restaurant in New Malden for 21 November 2014
- b. Eden Walk - discussion on timing and logistics for the day
 - Performing at 4pm - HD to liaise with charity about lighting
 - Proposed warm-up at 3pm. Noted that JB will be unable to lead this so cover will be required. SS to contact All Saints church about using their space for a warm-up venue
- c. Spring term / future 2015 events
 - Discussion on the types of events at which the choir could perform. Committee agreed that the Love Kingston day on 14 February was too soon into the new term.
 - Another possibility was to sing at Princess Alice Hopsice in Esher, although the committee agreed that something in the immediate locality would be preferred
 - HD to contact Kingston Hospital about performing mid / late March in an appropriate area
 - Big Sing 2015 - Noted that the focus of this local event is about showcasing the choir. HD to find contact and advise
 - Committee noted dates that Normansfield Theatre available for Summer 2015 performance. Agreed that we should book Sunday 14 June and advise members

8. Any Other Business

- a. 2015 AGM - Monday 2 February 2015, 9pm
 - Proposed agenda - election of officers, fees (including assistance where necessary), events schedule for year (i.e. frequency and type)
 - SS to chair
 - Members will be asked for motions (which will be voted on at the meeting) and nominations by 19 January 2015. Email to be sent end of this term.
- b. Rehearsal venue - concerns noted with current venue (particularly administration). SS to re-enquire about the possibility of Fern Hill for rehearsal space.
- c. Other events - CB investigating a theatre trip and will advise in due course.