

CODS Committee Meeting Minutes 9th July 2024, 7.30pm at The Old Town Hall

Present Mike Canning (**MC**) Gillian Mackenzie (**GM**) Craig Phoenix (**CP**) Holly Harris (**HH**) Lyndsey Betts (**LB**) Nicky Gould (**NG**) Carol Stoye (**CS**) Paul Walker (**PW**) Alan Baker (**AB**) Helen Clarke (**HC**)

1. **Welcome** MC began the meeting by thanking **PW** and **GM** for their work as joint Vice Chairman over the years and welcomed **HH** as the new Vice Chairman and **HC** as Minutes secretary. Thanks was also extended to **SG** who has stepped down from the committee but has been replaced by **NG**, welcome Nicky.

2. Minutes from 21st May 2024

GM We need to discuss a plan going forward as a result of the vote for remuneration.

Action point MC to collate results and comments in draft reply to all committee Members.

Action point YY to send revised version of point 1 in minutes as discussed with **GM**.

MC received a lovely letter from Debbie Allen regarding our charity donation to the NHS thanking us for thinking of them **MC** to display letter on the charity notice board at OTH

3. Treasurers report

CP Charity checks in expenditure, healthy balance, Wedding Singer QE hall hire fee to still to be paid, Band and casino deposit now paid for Winter Ball, Proposed **PW**, Seconded **LB**, All in favour Unanimous

4. TMWMA

PW Following mail chimp, no one has come forward to fill the jobs of set construction lead, wardrobe manager, props manager, production manager or lead chaperone

Mike Heath from Ashgrove kitchens happy to help with set construction, Linda from Crediton Arts Centre happy to help with wardrobe, military costumes will be ordered with the rest sourced from the store

Budget, no budget decided currently, **PW** received a grant of £500 from Frank Letch for the show

PW Martin Walker to hire and drive van, Alan Fouracre + 4 musicians, draw prizes need to be bought

Action Point PW to communicate with **NG** so she can sort the right size blacks

CP we will need paint side of stage **GM** has simple design grey and black but will need to be put back to white on get out.

Action Point CP to investigate smoke machine use

HH concern no lead on costumes or production manager and no lead chaperone **NC** has offered to fill the role of lead chaperone but is currently not qualified for the role

Action Point **PW** to contact **NC** in regards to chaperone qualifications

CS happy to do props **MC** questioned who is going to source sponsorship as sponsorship is still outstanding for the wedding singer **HC** concession ticket prices £10 date for first rehearsal Monday 5th of August 2024

PW audition panel to consist of four members **LB**, **HH**, **PW** and **AF**

Action Point PW to arrange date for auditions and liaise with Karen

GM raised concerns that production manager role is a lot of work for one person. **PW** mentioned we might find volunteers once we start rehearsals.

5. Remuneration

MC following results of the vote the membership have advised the committee to look into how it is feasible? **GM**

Raised the question that as chorus master was voted to not be paid, those that voted NO for remuneration should still have a vote on which roles should be paid, NO voters should be asked what roles they would like to be paid

MC the committee needs to decide what criteria we have for paying members i.e. qualifications, how much money?

A comment was made that potential directors choreographers should have to show hardship in order to receive remuneration. Subcommittee to be formed with two committee members to chair **CP** as treasurer and **GM** plus general membership members, details to be sent out in mail chimp to membership

HH commented that criteria should not consist of just qualifications but also experience and it's up to each potential director of choreographer to prove their worth

6. Walking the West End

MC a lot of time and money is being spent on printing, a lot of printing has been taken away and not brought back so we need to chase people who have not returned music. A discussion followed to resolve this **HH** suggested leaving

music at the old town hall, **HC** suggested signing out music, **MC** currently we have no production manager for Walking the West End, **MC** to liaise with Elaine on food, **SG** to run the bar, **CS** and **HC** decorations team, **YY** to do tables and box office, **HH** to advertise on social media

CP wanted to make committee aware that as **SG** has stood down as a committee member but still retains the use of a CODS bankcard in order to source stock for the bar, all present in agreement with this **MC** Nikki was given carte blanche on auditions everybody who asked for feedback has received it, groups and duets to be rehearsed with **BM** and performed to **NW** end of August **MC** to contact Dave Sims and feedback for next meeting if he is happy to provide the sound for the concert

7. Beauty and the Beast

MC to advertise production roles, rehearsals will start Wednesday 6th of November 2024 at 7:30pm. There will be no workshops, **GS** has agreed to choreograph and doesn't require payment

8. 2026 Musical

MC has put forward Oliver **PW** has put forward Wind in the Willows **MC** Oliver may not be available **HH** to form subcommittee for musical choices. If Oliver is unavailable subcommittee to propose an alternative show, a mailchimp to be sent out advertising for general members to join subcommittee

9. 60th Anniversary Winter Ball

HH posters and ticket design looks very good, great organisation we are very far forward in the planning well done Holly! **HH** to liaise with **NF** to get posters and tickets printed **HH** and **CP** to manage box office Cash or bank transfer preferred **HH** 3 course set menu £23 per head Starter of soup or melon, Main Course beef, vegetarian options available, Desert choice of cheeseboard chocolate fudge cake Eaton mess **HH** welcome drink of Prosecco
Action Point **HH** to source from Tesco as cheaper with corkage, soft drink available **HH** rooms still available to book for overnight stay at the Waie Inn **MC** to sort minibus

10. Mike Palmer

MP has stepped down from running the website **AB** to take on running of CODS websites committee would like to thank for all his work over the years for CODS **AB**, **CS** and **HH** to arrange collection, recognition and thanks

11. Online Box Office

HH suggested we try an online booking app as other societies have used these successfully includes seating plan online whilst there is a charge for the app, it will save hours of work for **MC**. Online box office in place for MWMA
Action Point **HH**, **AB**, **CP** to feedback at next meeting

12. Box office number

AB to source old mobile phone and new sim to use as CODS box office phone number

13. Shared Calendar

GM thought it would be useful for us to have a shared online calendar with dates of all meetings rehearsals and all information **AB** to look into and feedback at the next meeting.

14. Copplestone Primary School

HH asked if it would be possible to borrow codes PA system for an external event, Committee was unsure if working so **HH** to contact **BM**, committee happy to lend it

15. Industrial bowls **MC** industrial Bowls tournament to be held on the 5th of August with two practice Tuesdays 23rd and the 30th of July

16. AOB

NG requested agenda to be sent out further in advance **MC** commented this is due to the fact that we do not currently have a secretary **GM** happy to send out agenda more than a week before the meeting

HC Sam happy to cook food for barbecue once we have full numbers of attendees **HC** to put up a food signup sheet for salads, desserts etc.

CP new flooring required **CP** to looking into replacing floor had quotes for approximately £800, new railings to be in place for choral 2024, grant received to cover cost of railings.

17. Date of Next Meeting Tuesday, the 6th of August, meeting closed 9.33pm.