

Ipswich Hospital Community Choir

Committee meeting minutes

14th April 2022 at 7.30pm at The Green Room

Minutes of the last meeting (13th January 2022)

- The minutes were approved and accepted.

Membership

- **Attendance**
 - The attendance register was shared and members showing amber or red concerns were discussed.
 - Unfortunately, seven members have left since January.
 - It was decided that, if current non-attending members do not sign up for next term, we will assume that they have left.
- **Recruitment of new members (including update on publicity poster)**
 - We need to encourage new members. When visitors are allowed to come back in to the hospital, we will be more proactive.
 - We could advertise in local news leaflets eg. Ipswich Flyer, Kesgrave Flyer. **SN**
 - Thanks was expressed to SN for her work on the flyer. IF road tested this and fed back comments :
 - Use a more modern font.
 - People wanted to know how much membership would cost.
 - Take the hospital phrase out.
 - Take “We would love to hear from you,” out.
 - Reinforce our USPs – the wide range of musical repertoire, no need to read music, friendly.
 - Include pointers to the website, Twitter, Facebook.

Cost will be investigated and flyers will be printed. **PR**

Covid arrangements

- **Changes to RA due to changes in testing availability and current guidance**

As free Covid tests are not available any more, it will not be a requirement for members to test before attending. Members will be told not to come if they are feeling unwell or if they know that they have been in contact with someone who is unwell. IF

The RA will be changed to reflect this IF

Finance

- **Statement of Income and Expenditure**
 - An amendment was made to the previous statement (31/12/21) due to changed stock figures.
 - NC shared a projected statement to include subs paid to the end of May. After a six week break due to visiting restrictions in the hospital, the already paid subs will be

taken forward when we can meet again so we have a low income situation. However our financial situation is stable.

- There will not be a charity donation this year due to the lack of subs paid in through lack of face to face meetings.
- Although the karaoke evening was a success socially, it made a loss financially. In the future, events like this will need to be better attended or we will need to charge more,
- **New uniform order**
- As we have new members, a uniform restock is needed. FH will order fleeces and polos in popular sizes. T shirts and hoodies will be ordered as required. £500 will need to be spent. FH
- Our original style fleeces are no longer available. A sample of the new style is being sent.
- In the interests of sustainability, second hand uniforms from past members can be donated and sold for a £5 contribution to our current charity.

Musical director's report

- We find ourselves in a very unusual situation as we have not had face to face rehearsals for 6 weeks, leaving us with only three weeks until our major concert. Due to Zoom rehearsals we have a sound knowledge of our material but it will need some tweaks and work on dynamics etc. We also need to recognise that some of our older familiar numbers are not well known to our newer members. Performance etiquette reminders will need to be given. NC
- After the Felixstowe concert, there will be a less intense period. We can use our current material for Music Day with perhaps just one new piece introduced such as Vivaldi's Gloria.
- We need to finish Les Miserables which has not been worked on due to the upcoming concert.

Section reports

- **Soprano** No specific feedback to share. The new members seem to be keen. A concern for the rep is that a new member accessed her private phone number and she would like to know how. PR will investigate if our numbers are accessible through the website. **PR**
- **Alto** Again no specific feedback. It is unfortunate that some members have left. It is hoped that Dawn will return and the new member is positive.
- **Tenor** No feedback given to rep. It is a shame that a strong, accurate member will not be available for the summer term.
- **Bass** There have been recent changes in this section. The new member seems useful.

Website

- **Progress with the manual for web site management.**
- Some sections are already written. There will be descriptions of processes with pictures. **PR**
- NC can download music and documents. He is happy to write the method for uploading music and other files. He will send this to PR to check. **NC**

- SN updates the membership part of the website.
- Our social events are not on the website. These would have to be for personal sharing only.
- **IT deputy role.** There are no obvious candidates for this role.

Future Events

- **Booth Court**
 - This event will have to be after Music Day, possibly at the end of July. It may be held outside. **VM**
- **Concert with Ipswich Hospital Band 7/5**
 - We will take our banner and flyers to this event. **PR**
 - The music tracks will be emailed in advance to the tech manager. **NC**
 - The members will receive an email detailing the order of songs, clothing and rehearsal times. **NC**
- **Suffolk Remembers 21/6**
 - VM will send details of our requirements eg. seating, numbers and electricity supply to the organiser. She will discuss repertoire and number of pieces required. **VM**
 - A poll will go on the website **PR**
- **Ipswich Music Day 3/7**
 - Our application for this event has been submitted. The closing date is not until early May.
- **Christmas Shopping and Pamper Evening 25/11**
 - It will be suggested to the organiser, when contacted later in the year, that we will sing for twenty five minutes, take a ten minute break, then sing for a further twenty five.
 - A request has been made to the organiser that the incense stall is sited away from the stage. **DI**
- **Hospice Remembrance Service 18/12**
 - We will be able to use last year's repertoire from the cancelled concert, possibly adding one new piece.
- **Possibility of recording a carol concert in St Augustine's to be recorded for hospital radio.**
 - The committee are open to the possibility of this being followed up.
- **Singing on the children's ward**
 - This will be postponed indefinitely due to the Covid situation.

Social Events

- **Choir Social Evening**
 - It was agreed that this was an enjoyable evening for the members. PR was thanked for organising the venue and the karaoke.
 - It was felt that the buffet was not up to the usual standard for that venue.
- **Choir 10yr anniversary Jan 2023 – do we want to mark the occasion?**
 - This will be an agenda item for the next meeting. **DI**

AOB

- **Term dates were discussed.**

- We will finish our current period on 25th May and have a break in Jubilee week (1/6)
- We will return on 8/6 for eight weeks.
- There will be a three week break in August – 3/8, 10/8 and 17/8.
- The new term will start on 24/8.

The next meeting will be on 12/7 at Phil's house.