

## WCCC Virtual Committee Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1100 - Minutes

**Present:** Judith Aldridge (JA), Carole Oliver (CO), Kevern Oliver (KO), Sarah Donaldson (SD), Phil Crowther (PC), Robin Walker (RW), Michael Brierley (MB) (attended for 1130). Anne Renshaw (AR), Eileen Roberts (ER), Sue Stanford (SSt)

minute		Action
1	<b>Welcome and apologies</b> <b>Apologies:</b> Rebecca Jones (RJ), Mark Wilson (MW), Richard Holroyd (RH), Stephen Shellard (SS), Helen Randall (HR)	
2	<b>Minutes of meeting on 14/04/21 and Matters Arising</b> Minutes unanimously agreed with reference to Youth Choir in minute 6.2 changed to Voluntary Choir.  <b>4.2 Lichfield Wedding</b> Speculative discussion about reasons for low number signing up e.g Covid uncertainty, distance and weekday commitment. Cancellation will mean loss of income. KO will make a further appeal for singers with deadline of 27/05/21. If numbers are insufficient SS will report to bride at their meeting on 29/05/21 and help to explore alternatives.  <b>Weekday Bookings</b> Unanimous agreement that WCCC should not automatically turn them down but consider each case on its merits.	KO          KO SS          KO
3	<b>3.1 Financial Report</b> £12128.01 is in the WCCC's designated Cathedral account. £1175 gift aid for 19/20 and 20/21 is now in our account. KO will write to members about new arrangements for subs payments and Gift Aid. CO and KO thanked for their work on Gift Aid.	KO
4	<b>Membership</b> KO confirmed that there are 33 members of WCCC, down from a peak of 43 in recent times. General discussion about the size and nature of the choir raised the following points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normal chamber choir size is around 30</li> <li>• General feeling that the choir shouldn't need to get any bigger</li> <li>• The need for a pool of more than 30 singers arises from the need to cover absences for services/concerts knowledge of this makes it easier for members to opt-out</li> <li>• What is needed is more commitment from some members</li> <li>• Some members seem normally to come and go to rehearsals</li> <li>• Attendance requirements should be more rigorously applied</li> <li>• Majority of members exceed attendance requirements and are committed</li> </ul> Agreement that this a matter for the AGM when members will be reminded of the commitment required. KO will brief SS and there will be further discussion at next meeting.  Prospective voices: Agreed need to build a waiting list of people of auditioned singers who want to join the WCCC	SS, KO

	Currently there is 1 alto who needs to finish trial session plus 1 alto, 1 alto/tenor and 1 bass in the pipeline.	SS KO
5	<p><b>Return to Singing</b></p> <p>ER reported on 18/05/21 guidance from DCMs and its impact on plans for return to rehearsals.</p> <p>After lengthy discussion about possible options e.g outdoor and/or sectional rehearsals, it was agreed that the WCCC would revert to Zoom rehearsals from 03/06/21 onwards. KO will inform members.</p> <p>RW happy to help and continue with Zoom sessions. Accepted suggestion that SS should be co-sited with him in order to make conducting more meaningful KO will check with SS that he is happy to do this.</p> <p>ER will continue to monitor DCMS guidance and report as necessary.</p>	<p>KO</p> <p>RW, KO, SS</p> <p>ER</p>
6	<p><b>6.1 Looking to the future Patronage</b></p> <p>ARn reviewed the points about the positive benefits of Patronage which she had made in her briefing notes for 14/04/21 meeting</p> <p>MB explained that patronage was not something which the Cathedral is used to but that the WCCC would need to liaise with other Cathedral departments and put the idea to chapter, along with suggested names, before proceeding with the it.</p> <p>The majority was in favour of the idea and ARn agreed to prepare a briefing paper for Chapter to consider.</p> <p><b>6.2 Planning and staging future events</b></p> <p>KO explained why he thought that the management of the WCCC would benefit from a simple, more systematic, project management-based approach to the delivery of major events such as the proposed. 2022 Christmas Carol recording.</p> <p>Unanimous agreement that this was a sensible way ahead and that the pro-forma which KO had produced was a good starting point for it.</p> <p>It was agreed that the proposed Christmas Carol recording will be the pilot project.</p>	<p>ARn, KO</p> <p>KO</p>
7	<p><b>AGM</b></p> <p>The idea of a face-to-face AGM on 01/07/21 was discussed and rejected in favour of a postponement until September 2021. The principal reasons were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuing uncertainty about the Covid-constraints which may be in place post 21/06/21</li> <li>The overriding need to make best use of rehearsal time between now and the July singing commitments</li> </ul> <p>Therefore the existing Committee's remit will continue until the delayed AGM is held. KO will inform choir of the decision and the reasons for the delay.</p> <p>In order to meet the requirements of paragraph 22 of the ToR, KO will organise an email-based ballot of the Committee's recommendation to set subs at £75 for 21/22.</p> <p>AGM reports will be circulated to members prior to the AGM</p>	<p>KO</p> <p>KO</p>

	<p><b>Phil Crowther</b> Phil announced that he was standing down as chairman and member of the WCCC with immediate effect.</p> <p>His decision was because of his need, in the light of his forthcoming major surgery, to self-isolate and concentrate on his coping with his surgery and recovery.</p> <p>He thanked the Committee for its hard work during these difficult Covid times and KO for the support he had given him over these last months.</p> <p>KO agreed to send an appropriate message to choir members which would include contact details for those who wished to contact Phil.</p> <p>The Committee unanimously thanked Phil for his chairmanship but first and foremost offered him love, prayers and good wishes. MD assured Phil that the prayers and best wishes of the Cathedral community would be with him.</p>	KO
	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b> 03/07/21 at 1100. MW will host</p>	MW, KO