WCCC Committee Meeting 11th September 2024 held via Zoom Minutes

Present: Peter Brook, Liz Forman, Carole Oliver, Kevern Oliver, Lynne Reekes, Anne Renshaw

Item		Action
1	Welcome Apologies: Sarah Donaldson, John-Paul Hoskins, Jenny Kettleton, Stephen Shellard, Mark Wilson, Robin Walker	
2	Minutes The minutes of the last meeting (22/07/24) were confirmed as a correct record.	
3	Financial report CO's report submitted before the meeting was noted. There continue to be ongoing concerns about recovering Gift Aid, which she was chasing up.	
3.1	CO's projections for the rest of the financial year were also noted with thanks — we should break even, but only just which shows the importance of donations and events such as weddings for which we can charge, especially if we were to keep subs down.	
4	24/25 Events	
4.1	Westminster Abbey Nothing particular to report, the next update/communication from Kevern will be after the AGM.	КО
4.2	25 th Anniversary Social in the Undercroft – 19/10/24 LR's report regarding this was noted. There are significant ongoing problems with the cathedral regarding this. They are planning on charging us significant amounts to lock up at the end, and despite the booking having been made in March the cathedral team are now raising concerns about the numbers involved and are suggesting that the Old Palace might suit better. The ongoing difficulties with communication between us and the Cathedral are exacerbating the problems. After much discussion and expressions of frustration it was agreed that PB will draft an e-mail to convey the extent of the ongoing difficulties we are still having, to ne sent to JPH (copy SH)	РВ
4.3	been made tomorrow will be postponed until we had further clarity. 25 th Anniversary Evensong and Reception No update on this currently. Further complications were noted about the choice of 15 th March as the suggested date, due to other events taking place on that day.	
4.4	Possible Tour KO spoke to his report regarding a suggestion raised by Benedict Coleman. Stephen is keen, as were some members of the committee. Some time next	

Autumn was suggested. It was felt that we need slightly more details (mainly related to cost/accommodation/local arrangements) before we can take the suggestion to the choir so that members can make an informed decision about whether or not they would be interested. KO will have another conversation with Benedict to establish more details to bring to the next meeting.	КО
Membership KO's briefing was reviewed. There is also an alto try-out coming up in the next few weeks. KO reports that Stephen is very concerned about the Tenor and Bass lines. He would be keen to recruit more, but these would be additions to the choir so would potentially take our numbers up above 40 which then pushes acceptability (based on a longstanding view expressed at previous committee meetings). AR remarked that it is quite some time since choir members have been reauditioned and perhaps this would be sensible to maintain quality. It was agreed that we need to seriously consider female tenors, and indeed perhaps some of the current altos would be able to move down to sing tenor. Do we need a formal recruitment drive? And if so, what form would this take? PB stated his willingness to set up a brainstorming session with a smaller group to examine options for targeted recruitment, with results to inform the next committee, if that would be welcomed.	
Upcoming General Meetings	
Papers have been circulated for the SGM on the 19 th September. PB will chair this meeting, and confirmed that SD will have returned from her holiday in time to be present too. It needs to be clear that the presented changes have been agreed unanimously by the current committee following months of work. LF agreed to print off a dozen copies of the circulated papers so that these can be given to members who request them.	LF
AGM LR is on top of the paperwork for this. The documents will be sent to KO for circulation before LR goes on holiday to be distributed after the SGM. LR and PB have a planning meeting scheduled prior to the AGM to make sure the details are clear. In the event that the SGM doesn't approve the changes in the ToR, the AGM papers would need to be amended back to match last year's papers and members would need to stand for election to the various posts which are empty.	LR/KO LR/PB KO/PB
LF reports that we've received a request for carol singers via the website today, and she will go back to them to find out more details. It was confirmed that we would normally charge at least £120 to cover payment for RW and SS at the least. LF has also received an update from Eileen confirming that rehearsal venues for the rest of this term have been finalised and are on the website. This week	LF/KO
	cost/accommodation/local arrangements) before we can take the suggestion to the choir so that members can make an informed decision about whether or not they would be interested. KO will have another conversation with Benedict to establish more details to bring to the next meeting. Membership KO's briefing was reviewed. There is also an alto try-out coming up in the next few weeks. KO reports that Stephen is very concerned about the Tenor and Bass lines. He would be keen to recruit more, but these would be additions to the choir so would potentially take our numbers up above 40 which then pushes acceptability (based on a longstanding view expressed at previous committee meetings). AR remarked that it is quite some time since choir members have been reauditioned and perhaps this would be sensible to maintain quality. It was agreed that we need to seriously consider female tenors, and indeed perhaps some of the current altos would be able to move down to sing tenor. Do we need a formal recruitment drive? And if so, what form would this take? PB stated his willingness to set up a brainstorming session with a smaller group to examine options for targeted recruitment, with results to inform the next committee, if that would be welcomed. Upcoming General Meetings SGM Papers have been circulated for the SGM on the 19 th September. PB will chair this meeting, and confirmed that SD will have returned from her holiday in time to be present too. It needs to be clear that the presented changes have been agreed unanimously by the current committee following months of work. LF agreed to print off a dozen copies of the circulated papers so that these can be given to members who request them. AGM LR is on top of the paperwork for this. The documents will be sent to KO for circulation before LR goes on holiday to be distributed after the SGM. LR and PB have a planning meeting scheduled prior to the AGM to make sure the details are clear. In the event that the SGM doesn't approve the changes in the ToR, the AGM pap

	to the piano, and will return the room to the state in which we find it at the end of the evening.	
8	Date of next meeting: TBC following AGM	
	PB thanked all members of the committee for work and support during his tenure as chair, and thanks was returned to him for all his hard work on behalf of the choir.	