

SANDBACH CHORAL SOCIETY
Committee meeting
08/10/19

1 -Present

Margaret Smith, Sue Cooke, Pat Arnold, Frank Barker, Julie Barker, Ena Furber, Joyce Watson, Karen Wainwright, Sandy Boyle

2 – Apologies

Stephen Newlove

3 - Minutes 18/07/19

Accepted. To be posted on website

SC

4 – Matters Arising

Margaret has emailed AG about his new contract. He is happy to accept it. Contract will be issued shortly

MS

5 – AOB items for end of meeting.

- a) Members' handbook/ new members' pack
- b) Safeguarding
- c) Programme content
- d) Ticket pricing
- e) Rehearsal tracks for individual parts on website
- f) MD feedback after concerts
- g) Items for announcements at rehearsal this evening

6 – Treasurer's report

Only one member's subs have yet to be paid. Pat will follow up
All bank balances are in a healthy state. Grant feedback form from Sandbach Council following Singing Day has been submitted

PA

7 – AGM matters

See AOB items above

8 – Election of Vice Chairman

Julie Barker was elected.

9 – Review of Singing Day

The day went well and generally favourable feedback was received. Sue thanked for her all her hard work. Organisation will be handed over to Jayne Bunn for next year. She will need to set up an email address for bookings. Sue will advise.

SC

Margaret will produce the flyer and application form, Secretary will issue contracts
Following feedback and discussion at the AGM, there will be no charge for the performance at the end of singing day. Donations will be invited.

MS/SC

There will be no soloists engaged for Singing Day in future. It is intended to raise funds and be a fun day. A complete polished performance by the end of the day is not the aim.

There was a discussion about the date for next year. The last Sat in Aug 2020 is part of Bank Holiday weekend. The first Sat in September would be a better date. Margaret to enquire about the availability of Sandbach Girls' School

MS

10 – Concert Updates

a) November 2nd '19

Booking for the Town Hall and for the Harmonium confirmed. Jane Barber (Town Hall) and Pam (Harmonium) will liaise.

Julie and Frank will deliver PA, keyboard and podium

Pre-concert rehearsal 2pm-5pm. Members to be warned of difficulty of parking in Sandbach on Sat afternoon.

Stephen to be asked about additional singers because of costs, completion of stage seating plan and additional music required.

Contracts to soloists have gone out. Charlotte Richards, Helen Gregory, Tim Kennedy, David Cane. Sectional rehearsals if possible Oct 15th and Oct 22nd if poss. Availability of room to be checked with Jayne Bunn.

Possibility of additional rehearsal on Thurs 17th Oct discussed. Stephen's availability and room availability to be checked.

MS

John Yates has offered to look at the programme. Margaret is liaising with him.

MS

Poster information is with the printer in Middlewich. The mock up should be received today and posters will then be printed promptly. Joyce is away next week so Julie will collect.

JW/JB

Agreed a standard poster design will be used in future, possibly with changes of background colour, to aid product recognition.

No banner for concert because of difficulty in finding a suitable place to display it.

Andrea will bring tickets to rehearsal this evening. Karen Wainwright agreed to take over ticket sales and will liaise with Andrea

KW

Cheshire East will be sending a VIP. Sandbach yet to confirm who, if anyone, will be attending.

Refreshments will be cakes and soft drinks. Price of bar to be investigated

MS/SC

b) Dec18th 2019

Room available from 3.30. Time of pre-concert rehearsal to be confirmed.

Stephen has given soloists names to Sue but fees not yet agreed. Members to be asked about copies of The Messiah tonight (Watkins Shaw edition).

Copies of Pergolesi to be ordered.

Julie to ask Stephen about an additional rehearsal on Nov 30th

JB

Margaret will circulate the new programme for the Christmas concert

MS

Ticket prices will remain the same because of engagement of soloists

c) March 28th 2020

All correspondence about church booking will be through Kevin Birch as there is no vicar in post at present.

Stephen Davies to order Duruflé and European Sacred Music.

2 soloists to be engaged.

No update on state of organ

d) July 12th 2020 Bridgewater Hall

Tickets will be £15. Members may be able to attend rehearsals at Altrincham CS and Congleton CS for extra practice. We would offer same arrangements to Altrincham and Congleton members.

Sandbach CS rehearsals will run on into July

Coach transport for members and audience to be discussed after Christmas

11 – Website and Social Media

Website and twitter up to date. We now have an Instagram account and already have 100 followers.

AGM minutes to be uploaded

SC

There was a discussion about uploading rehearsal files to the website. Agreed that these needed careful checking for accuracy and for copywrite issues. To be sent via email to members, not placed

on website.

12 – Fundraising

Pat has responded to Sandbach Town Council following Singing Day.

Sainsburys donation applied for.

No other grant applications planned at present. Need to discuss with Stephen his ideas for future events which might entail additional expenditure which might be supported by a grant. Planning meeting required. Stephen to be consulted about a date as soon as possible. Dec 3rd suggested.

Timing of concerts also to be discussed, afternoon? No interval?

MS

Frank will enquire if the price of a coach to take members to Bridgewater Hall for July concert could be covered by a grant

FB

13 – Social events

Annual Dinner Jan 11th 2020 Crewe Golf Club

Choir Quiz Sat Feb 8th 2020 TBC

Sandy hoped SCS would be able to send a team to U3A quiz on Nov 6th as they support our quiz.

Julie, Frank and Pat agreed to attend. Members to be asked at rehearsal tonight

SB

14 – Making Music, Charities and correspondence

Letter following Singing Day about imbalance between parts (many more women than man)

Letter from Kate Hawkhead. She has returned to the choir and will attend rehearsals but not sing in the Nov concert. Good to have Kate back.

15 – AOB

a) New members' pack will become a Members' Handbook. The wording in the handbook in all sections will be the same as the Constitution

b) Kathrine Flavell has now left the choir. Jane Peach to be approached to become Safeguarding Officer.

c) Following discussion at the AGM programme in future should have less religious content and a narrator used for some works. To be discussed at planning meeting.

d) Sue presented suggestions for pricing and complimentary tickets.

Agreed as follows :-

Concerts without orchestra - £10, no concessions under 16 free

Concerts with orchestra - £12, no concessions under 16 free

Christmas Concert - £10 no concessions under 16 free. The intention in future is that there will not be soloists at the Christmas concert. There are soloists this year and tickets saying £12 have already been printed. Agreed tickets £12 but advanced bookings £10

No Complimentary tickets for guests of people performing in the concerts

Civic dignitaries, MP and president will receive complimentary tickets

Vice Presidents and Honorary life members will no longer receive complimentary tickets. Margaret to write to them about this matter

MS

e) Links to free rehearsal part files will be emailed to members.

f) MD has agreed to give feedback after each concert

g) Announcements for tonight.

Availability of tickets for Nov concert, £1 each to be given to part reps next week for raffle prizes, additional rehearsal Nov 30th, sectional rehearsals Oct 15th, Oct 22nd

Next meeting Tues Nov 12th 2pm 152 Colleys Lane
Planning meeting Tues Dec 3rd 2pm 152 Colleys Lane