

ALTON COMMUNITY CHOIR

Minutes of the Committee Meeting – 26th November 2015 at The Friends Meeting House, Alton at 19.00hrs.

Committee: The position of chair person is vacant
 Helen Brown (Minutes Secretary), (HB)
 Sue Lawrence (Treasurer), (SL)
 Jenny Hallett (Membership Secretary), (JH)
 Carolyn Robson (Musical Director), (CR)
 Barbara Parry (Publicity officer)
 Pete Stephens (Committee member), (PS)

Pete was welcomed onto the committee and Sue Lawrence was appointed chair for the duration of this meeting.

Item	Discussion	Action / Comments
Apologies	All the committee was present	
Minutes of the last Meeting	Approval of the minutes of the committee meeting held on Thursday 22 nd October 2015. Proposed by Sue Lawrence, seconded by Barbara Parry. The minutes were signed.	HB to notify ACC that the minutes are available.
Matters Arising	No matters arising	
Key to Hall	Arrange care of key and responsibility of opening and locking up of hall for practices. (Issue raised by Gill Moore)	John Barnett has a 'back door' key, he arrives early to set out arrange furniture for practice sessions. JH has a personal key for the main door, she will unlock it. BP to have one for the main door and be responsible for locking up.
		Committee to arrange to have one another's mobile phone numbers.
Finance	As at 10.11.15	
	Charity Fund £164.96	
	Overseas Fund £469.80	
	General Funds £7,815.04	
	MD Fees for 2015/16 agreed	Agreement signed
	A replacement is needed for Gill Moore as bank signatory.	Pete's offer was accepted. Sue to make necessary arrangements.
Membership	Currently 61 members. Waiting list 8. One enquiry. 4 expected to start in January.	

Item	Discussion	Action / Comments
Correspondence	26.10.15 – email from Emily-Jane Messenger informing us re performing in public gardens in the summer. (See addendum A)	HB to reply asking for further details. Possible dates; - 4 th & 11 th June. 2 nd , 9 th & 16 th July. <i>(Done 2.12.15)</i>
		HB to ask if Emily-Jane has information about Proms in the Park and if so ask if ACC could sing. <i>(Done 2.12.15)</i>
	24.11.15 – email from Joanna Ridout re charity list for 2016/17 (See addendum B)	HB to note contents in readiness for 2016 AGM
	26.11.15 – email from Don Hammond – re possible trip to Pertuis (See addendum C)	Possibly 2017. HB to ask Don to begin to make enquiries and to get further information. <i>(Done 26.11.15)</i>
AGM	Check draft minutes.	Seem OK. Can go onto website in draft form.
	Timing of future AGM (see AOB AGM)	Before half-term in autumn term 2016 if possible.
Imminent concerts/events	Saturday 5.12.15 – Summon up the Sun. Alton Methodist Church. 5.12.15 – Summon up the Sun.	7.00pm start. Approx times – 45 minutes, 20 minute interval, 40minutes. SL email ACC with final info and requests for help. <i>(Done 30.11.15)</i>
	Arrangement for opening up and locking church.	Gill Moore will do so.
	Tickets	Printed. SL has most – some with ACC members. Price £5.00
	Posters/flyers	Posters with ACC members. A few flyers left.
	Setting out chairs	Volunteers still needed.
	Ticket sales – 5.12.15	Arrangements in hand.
	Programmes	Would be good to have programmes if possible. BP to arrange with Treloar's 100.
	Refreshments	Non-alcoholic punch sorted. Need more home-made mince pies if possible.
	Containers for collection + charity posters	In hand
	Instructions to ACC for arrival etc	ACC to arrive at 6.00pm

Item	Discussion	Action / Comments
Imminent concerts/events	Sunday 6.12.15 Gilbert White Museum. 3.30 – 4.00pm	ACC to arrive at 3.00pm
	17.12.15 – Orchard House – 7.00 to 7.30pm	BP in process of checking arrangements.
	17.12.15 Christmas Carols etc at 'The White Hart'	HB to email to check arrangements. <i>(Done 11.12.15)</i> PS to check informally.
Future concerts/events	25.5.16 (Wednesday) Sarah Morgan Foundation concert in Winchester	Winchester Guildhall booked. Note <i>changed</i> day and date.
	26.5.16 Lester Simpson – visiting guest choir leader – TBC	Dependant on availability. CR to contact Lester.
Suggestions for concerts and events	Joint-choirs day with Stanchester Quire, Somerset.	CR to contact Bonnie Forsyth re possibility in Spring 2016 <i>(done 3.12.15)</i>
	Autumn 2016. Possible concert for/with visitors from Pertuis.	Liaise with Don Hammond (HB)
	Possible joint-choir venture with Winchester Choir and/or Andover Loft Singers.	Currently no action.
	Dec 2016 – A Hampshire Christmas concert (Hampshire songs, carols & readings etc.)	Currently no action.
Publicity	Pete suggested possibility of having a page on 'Facebook'.	Agreed in principal – PS to look into details.
Term Dates	Spring term - 7.1.16 to 24.3.16 – half-term break 18.2.16. Summer term 14.4.16 to 14.7.16 – half-term break 2.6.16	Dates to go on website.
Website	HB aware that information on the website needs updating.	HB and PB to liaise and start making updates. <i>(Done 2.12.15)</i>
Next meeting	Thursday 28 th January 2016, 7.00pm at The Friends Meeting House, Alton	

Minutes submitted by Helen Brown (Minutes Secretary)

Proposed by – Sue Lawrence

Seconded by – Carolyn Robson

ADDENDA

- (A) Perhaps your choir would like to reserve a date for next summer to perform in the public gardens? We will be putting together a programme of local performers for next summer in the Public Gardens which we will be advertising within the Spring Altonian newsletter issue, website, Facebook page, press release and 216 what's on guide.

Do let me know if your choir would like the opportunity to perform and a few dates that you would be available, these would need to be either a Saturday or Sunday from the beginning of June – end of July.

Kind Regards,

Emily-Jane Messenger Communication & Events Officer Alton Town Council
Market Square Alton Hampshire GU34 1HD

- (B) **Music in Detention:** works nationally but is tiny – with detainees in detention centres through cross-cultural music and with communities close by – amazing work that the detention centres say helps combat boredom, depression, fights and even suicidal feelings (common in detention). And – importantly, was started as TAPS project – the inter-cultural music organisations founded by Roger Watson, who also started many of the community choirs in the county (ACC among them, I believe). I'm based/on the Board partly because of my involvement with TAPS:
<http://www.musicindetention.org.uk/>

Also, **Blue Apple** – working in and around Winchester with adults with learning disabilities and the performing arts (theatre, dance, film & more) for 10 years – again, declare an interest as have done some fundraising and intrim management for them. Punch well above their weight (around 3-4 FTE staff in all, 400 sessions per year & 2 major public productions): www.blueappletheatre.com

- (C) Would ACC be interested in a trip to Pertuis, Alton's twin town in France?

An active member of the twinning in France is also an active member of a well-established choir and the possibility of a visit was (very) briefly discussed when I saw her during a visit in September. I could explore this further if you wish. From Don Hammond

Further notes from Don;-

- Not sure how long we think that we (ACC) need to plan in advance
- I assume we would want to go in school holidays or half term
- The twinning association has a trip to Italy scheduled for the Easter holiday - it would not be good to clash
- Pertuis are due on a twinning visit Alton in the Autumn of 2016 - date still to be fixed but we must not clash with that
- Pertuis Town Council owns and runs a small theatre and they have an autumn/winter programme of Friday evening concerts/plays etc - could be a good platform

If the committee wants to proceed in principal Don will establish firm contacts for us in Pertuis and ask them to think about timings