**KELSBORROW CHOIR**

**COMMITTEE MEETING held on Thursday 12th January 2023 at 33, Peel Hall Lane, Ashton Hayes.**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Elaine Campey (Chair), Janice Anderson, Jim Edwards, Veronica Barnett, Mary Stubbington, Heather Oulton, Malen Johnson, Alan Burgess, Margaret Corlett, Christine Tickell.

1. **Apologies:** Chris Davies, Sue Witter, Irene Wilkinson.
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2022 were approved and signed.
3. **Matters arising:** Extra copies of All Bells in Paradise have been ordered by Margaret Corlett.
4. **Correspondence**: Jim advised that no correspondence of note had been received since the last meeting.
5. **Treasurer’s Report**: Heather presented the accounts.
   1. **Christmas** The Christmas concert raised £1250.00 with a cost of £445.09 leaving proceeds of £804.91. It was agreed that due to our location within the store, the collection at Grosvenor garden centre was very poor. Christine suggested that maybe next year the new Chester market might be a good venue? Elaine reminded the meeting that the £300.00 from the concert raffle, must go the food bank. It was agreed that out of the Christmas fundraising we should donate £1,000.00 to the food bank. Will the food bank come and collect? Heather doubted whether they would so maybe send a cheque along with some photos’.Elaine asked if we could get something into the Chronicle?
   2. On other matters Elaine asked if we had heard how much money had St Helen’s church made from our concert? Heather said that we hadn’t heard.
   3. Elaine further questioned where we were on gift aid? Heather said it was due.
   4. Margaret confirmed that we had spent approximately £500.00 on new music.
   5. On the matter of the card reader Heather confirmed that it was now available. To use it, it needs to be linked to an App on a ‘phone.
6. **Social Group.** Mary advised the meeting that the Helsby golf club lunch would cost £17.00 as it now includes teas and coffees. There are 26 confirmed attendees and ~ 9 maybe. Jim confirmed that he would invite Spen and Miggs.
7. **Publicity.** Christine advised that she was still waiting to hear from Ellesmere Port Trinity Methodist Church regarding the possibility of a concert. Margaret was asked when did she believe we would be ready to perform a concert? Margaret advised that about 20 pieces needed to be ready and that took time. Not all Choir members attended each week, plus there was the question of whether a soloist would be available. A possible concert has been suggested for December 2023 in Upton Village Hall for the Horticultural Society there. It would need to the SATB and not a karaoke performance. Margaret and Lynne need to be available.
8. **Christmas 2023.**
   1. **Christmas Concert**. Malen suggested that our concert should be maybe a week later? Same venue. Alan spoke positively about 2022 being a great afternoon concert in a great venue. Janice (who was sat in the audience) said that the sound hadn’t been very good. The curtains on the stage absorb too much sound. Maybe reverse the seating and sing at the other end? The centre does have tiered staging. It was agreed that we would go for Sunday 10th December at the same time, 3:00pm. Alan asked that the refreshments be offered at half time as it was chaotic at the end with people clearing away chairs whilst others were drinking tea. Finally, Alan asked that it be noted that John Willis was brilliant as Father Christmas.
   2. **Carol Singing. Bolesworth Castle.** The meeting asked if we would return to Bolesworth if asked. The consensus was that it’s a great venue and a great opportunity to sing but not if we are stood outside. A gazebo would be an essential provision by Bolesworth if we were to return.
9. **Any Other Business:** A number of items were raised –

**Music Committee**. Margaret noted that the previous meeting had raised the question of whether we should have a Music Committee. She confirmed her willingness to work with, one but questioned whether members really appreciate how much time it takes to identify new works. Alan had suggested a few pieces and after consideration Margaret had selected and purchased one of those works. Alan thanked Margaret for her consideration; new works were good for the Choir and good for our audience. Elaine advised the meeting that the copies of the Wonderous Cross were being donated to the County Library. Margaret asked that the Choir continue to make suggestions about what is liked and not liked. In conclusion it was agreed that we would not have a music committee.

**NAC**. Elaine confirmed that the NAC were planning a workshop at Caldy Valley in April.

**AGM**. This is scheduled for 7:15pm on Tuesday 21st February. Margaret asked that she be given a slot to speak in the Agenda. The subject of fees was discussed – should there be an increase? It was agreed to discuss it at the AGM and see what the Choir wish to see happen. Jim asked if anyone present wished to leave the Committee? Malen said that she believed that she had done her part and didn’t seek re-election.

**New members**. Mary stated that she believed that the new members who had joined us recently weren’t being given any guidance. It was pointed out that surely it is the responsibility of the Section Leaders to do this.

The next meeting would be held at Elaine’s house on Thursday 2nd March at 7:30.