

## **Lichfield Cathedral Chamber Choir**

### **Notes of the Committee Meeting on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022, 8.00pm by Zoom**

1. **Present:** Jenny Arthur, Megan Barr, Geoff Mason, Jenny Mason, Martyn Rawles, Wendy Shepperson, Vicki Shirtliffe

**Apologies:** Andrew Woodburn-Drayton, Tina Shakeshaft

2. **Minutes of previous meeting:** These were agreed and approved.

3. **Matters arising:** Item 8: The scarves have been bought from the Arboretum and are being sold to those members who wish to own their own scarf, via MB.

All other matters arising are covered by items on the agenda.

4. **Finance:**

VS : the account currently stands at £5432.45

GM has been in discussion with the NMA about our new fee level, and it has been agreed that they will pay our previous fee of £600 for choir and conductor for this year's remaining two events. The next Naming Ceremony is likely to be in August, and VS suggested that we should write well in advance to explain that our fees need to rise and come to an agreement well before the event.

5. **Calendar of events:**

Upcoming dates: The January 6<sup>th</sup> service is no longer on our calendar, owing to a Cathedral double-booking. In view of this confusion, Martyn is re-confirming all our other planned dates with Andrew Stead.

Our services on December 11<sup>th</sup> are normal Cathedral services, at normal times.

Anniversary planning: The date of the Anniversary Concert in the Cathedral is confirmed as June 9<sup>th</sup> 2023. Martyn has been trying to find a link with the Book Exhibition which is happening at the same time, and will probably focus on settings of contemporary texts from the period of the significant books in the exhibition.

Commission: Martyn has contacted Kerensa Briggs, who seems enthusiastic about the proposition and has asked about potential texts, instrumentation etc. He is still waiting for further contact from her but will follow up shortly. No contract has been signed as yet.

The idea of a one-day (Saturday) visit to another Cathedral was discussed, with Chester being a popular choice, partly because our first visit there was in 1982 which fits in with the Anniversary idea. Simon will be asked to make enquiries.

6. **Website**

Wendy will update the events on the home page, and the photograph of the choir. It is hoped that Chris Lockwood will be able to incorporate the Moon into the photo to be taken on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October, which would make an eye-catching home-page picture.

## **7. AOB**

- a) Recruitment: Paul Allen has put Martyn in touch with a potential tenor, who is being followed up. There are three ladies who may wish to join the choir. Hetty, an alto, has already sung with us at a rehearsal, and Alice and Bridget, both sopranos, have expressed interest. After some discussion, it was decided to encourage them all to trial/audition, especially as the attendance is very rarely complete for services.
- b) Martyn raised the issue of finding accompanists, now that Liam is in Coventry. Nigel is available for Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, and Martyn has approached Cathy for Dec 24<sup>th</sup> and Jan 8<sup>th</sup>. Both Ollie Walker and Liam are keen to play, though that would necessitate payment by us.
- c) We have a rehearsal venue problem on November 7<sup>th</sup>, as neither Cathedral nor St Michael's is available. There is a possibility of using the Old Stables, as the piano has been tuned...to be investigated by Martyn, or possibly the school Chapel, JM to check availability,
- d) Some members have received emails regarding renewal of Safeguarding training. The details of new members have been given to Jane Hardy, who will be contacting them regarding the necessary training.

## **8. Dates of future meetings:**

Jenny M has issued a series of future Committee Meeting dates. The next meeting is Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> January.

Provisional dates are:

- Summer Tuesday 18th April 9 - prep for AGM and talk about the concert
- Tuesday 25th April AGM
- Thursday 25 May - meeting just before the 9 June concert - or maybe an after Monday rehearsal short meeting if needed

The meeting was closed at 8.54. possibly a record!