

FUNTINGTON PLAYERS

Draft minutes of the Management Committee held in Ratham Lane, Bosham on 18th October 2021.

Present:

Barbara MacWhirter (chair) Scilla Jutton-Holland Tony Clark Jan Copsey
Aaron Baker. Margaret Edwards Alan Copsey(for part of the meeting)
Richard Sanderson

Action Points in bold italics. Newsletter items marked N.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There was an apology from Steve Pearce

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes were accepted as accurate.

MATTERS ARISING

The fire doors are not to be used unless there is a fire. Other matters were dealt with in the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Subs are about 80% in. Some cast members are still yet to pay. Alan will give them another reminder. About 30% of the tickets for *Amateurs* are sold already. A few bills have come in but there is nothing unexpected.

MEDIA REPORT

The programme has been put together by Alan and Pat in line with usual practice: the director and producer agree on what information needs to go in. The photos have come from Rosey and have been approved. Pat has done many programmes for us and we appreciate the level of expertise that she brings to the job.

Social media is engaged on lifting our profile and it can be a slow process. Instagram is also being used and Aaron puts in the hashtags that are most likely to draw interest to our productions. Some cast members are also Facebooking mentions of the current production. Adverts have gone into local magazines and Paul put in a crossword relating to the play. The boards will go out soon along the road.

HEALTH & SAFETY, TECHNICAL MATTERS

The situation in the kitchen remains the same with both sinks leaking. The old buckets catching the leaks have been replaced with new ones. Tony reported that there is a meeting of the hall trustees this week and maintenance is on the agenda.

A BUNCH OF AMATEURS

Alan reported that the play is going well and the cast are now fit and well. Props and sound are well underway. There will be another meeting in the next couple of weeks to work on technical issues. The only problem that has not been fully resolved is the instant costume change required when they stage *Lear*. It might be that they will have to wear some of it from the start under their everyday clothes.

The bar issues were discussed again and it was decided that no other siting was possible. It has to be in the Jessie Sparkes room. The auditorium cannot be ventilated via the fire doors now as they are in such a poor state. There will be a circulatory system so that the audience goes in one way and out

the other with no gathering inside the bar. There will be an usher on duty in the bar to keep the flow going. *Scilla* is putting together a rota of helpers and the choice of drinks will be limited to keep things running smoothly. The wines selected for sale were based on advice from June and Eric and from Richard who provided very good wine at a reasonable price for AWD. We still need a Front of House Manager. Jan would put out a call in the Newsletter (N).

AWD

Thanks were expressed to all who were involved in AWD. It was agreed that it was a very successful venture that we hope will be repeated. Margaret suggested that as the plays were polished we might like to do performances on two evenings next time. It was acknowledged that we managed to involve a number of new members both as actors and backstage support. Setting props and scene shifting was quite complex as it was such a short time from Get In to performance.

Feedback suggested that more time to rehearse in the hall would have been helpful. Authors were welcome to come to rehearsals and it was interesting to hear their comments on their plays. Suggestions from authors early on in rehearsals could possibly be accommodated.

Margaret said that there were many positive comments from the audience of 38 people who could be fitted in. She will be working on the feedback with Pat and Steve and will record possible developments from it. The bar working on donations paid off with a modest profit and programmes were not charged for. Ticket prices rose to £5 but it was felt to be value for money.

It was good to see some new young people taking part. Difficulties retaining young people were discussed.

CORSO POETRY EXHIBITION

A post exhibition website will be set up with a link to Funtington Players.

BLUE SKY THINKING

No issues at present.

FUTURE EVENTS/CAFE EVENINGS/PLAY READS/STUDIOS

- FPs were asked about a fund-raising event for Friends of Chichester Hospital in January. We might be able to do something in the future, perhaps a murder/mystery but *Barbara* will let them know that we cannot offer anything until later next year.
- Gill Lambourn will run a playread of *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller on 29th October in the Village Hall.
- Barbara will run a playread of *A Small Family Business* by Alan Ayckbourn on 3rd December
- Workshop 9th December on acting in the round with Isobel Higlett.
- A college lecturer has offered to do a workshop on Stage Management in the New Year
- Scilla offered to manage a playread of the *The Madwoman of Chailot* by Jean Giraudoux that Hilary suggested for early next year.

MAJOR PRODUCTIONS

Tony will direct *Our Country's Good* as the Spring Production 2022.

MEMBERS UPDATE

Nothing to report.

SOCIAL EVENTS AND NEWSLETTER ITEMS

12th Night event 14th January provisionally at Restaurant 64 Chichester College. **Barbara** would confirm details with College.

AOB

None.

NEXT MEETING DATES: Monday 15th November and Monday 13th December at the Copseys' home.