

FUNTINGTON PLAYERS

Draft minutes of the Management Committee held on Monday 17th October 2022 via Zoom.

Present:

Barbara MacWhirter (chair) Scilla Jutton-Holland Jan Copsey Richard Sanderson
Tony Clark Sue Wilkins Margaret Edwards
Gill Lambourn attended for the *Alfie* item.

Action Points in bold italics. Newsletter items marked N.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Aaron Baker

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes were accepted as accurate.

MATTERS ARISING

Rights for *The Crucible* were not available so a majority of the committee agreed that the next production will be *Alfie* by Bill Naughton.

ALFIE

Gill is confident that she can cast this play as there has been a lot of interest in it. A reading of it was held on 14th October and the audition will be on 26th October. Sue has offered to attend the audition to act as an assistant. Gill has invited some people who might be contenders from outside the Players to attend. It was stressed that if any are cast, they are expected to pay membership fees. She said that as it runs for about 2 hours she does not wish to cut it.

She plans to keep the staging simple. A moveable screen would be useful. Alan Copsey has offered to design the lighting plan. Tony will meet with Gill to discuss staging options. He suggested that some furniture could be hired from CFT. He also pointed out that because of the timing of Easter, the performances are in the last week of March. All the planning dates for publicity, Bolton Twill etc. will also be early; Bolton Twill is planned for 11th February. The Twelfth Night Dinner is on a Thursday in January, a rehearsal night, so that too might need to be compensated for. We were reminded that it is much more effective to do all the normal tasks at one Bolton Twill rather than having to split it as we did this time to accommodate AWD. This was agreed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Rights and scripts for *Alfie* have been paid for. Bar profits for AWD were £108. This was an inflated figure as wine left unsold from the last production was used so there were no expenses this time.

MEDIA REPORT

There is not a lot to report regarding the website as Pat is not well. The two videos for *Titfield Thunderbolt* have been very well received. Flyers have gone out but deliveries may have been delayed by the postal strike.

HEALTH & SAFETY, TECHNICAL MATTERS

Nothing to report.

AUTUMN 2022 PRODUCTION: The Titfield Thunderbolt

Barbara has organised for the publicity to go out in the village magazines. For the next production, if Carole is not able to manage it as her husband is not well, Sue would be available to help. Aaron

is not able to do the Stage Management job so Barbara has found a person who she knows from West Dean who has kindly agreed to step in and take this on. The signs needed for the station are really good. The music man- John G. is also working well and this aspect of the production is making good progress. Barbara would like an audience at the dress rehearsal if possible as the cast need to interact with them. As there is not going to be a prompter and the FOH Manager has a small part, Barbara will be the person in the audience who will escort them out in the event of an emergency. Sue offered to prompt during rehearsals.

AWD

Margaret reported that CATCH was performed to an appreciative audience of 36 on October 8th. There were seven new plays, including two by writers new to AWD, Grace McClurg and Yvette Walters. Some 'new' actors joined the regulars – Clare and Jason Burt, Louisa Stodd, Carrie Allen, and Ellen and David Hayes.

She said that they are grateful for all the wonderful support of committee members and the backstage team – led by Rona and Tony, but impossible to achieve without Pat, Scilla, Steve, Richard, Clare, Ellen and David. She also said that they await the final figures from the Treasurer, but having taken £180 in ticket sales and £108 from the bar, they hope that despite adding one more hall rehearsal to the schedule we have comfortably broken even again.

AUTUMN PRODUCTION 2023

It was agreed that this is Alan's *Disposing of the Body* that was postponed. Helen HR might direct for us at some time in the future.

BLUE SKY THINKING

Nothing to report.

FUTURE EVENTS/CAFE EVENINGS/PLAY READS/STUDIOS

- *Breaking the Code* by Hugh Whitmore has been rebooked for Friday 21st October.
- Playread of *Sisterly Feelings* by Alan Ayckbourn on 9th December

MEMBERS UPDATE

Carrie Allen, who stepped in to fill a gap for AWD, will be sent a form to join us.

SOCIAL EVENTS AND NEWSLETTER ITEMS

12th January has been booked for a 12th Night dinner at the college.

Bolton Twill for Titfield Thunderbolt will now be on Friday 28th October

Bolton Twill for Alfie is 11th February 2023

AOB

Rosey needs to be contacted regarding photographs of the production.

Barbara had discussed the programmes with Pat and we are working on having an A3 black and white sheet which would be given out free. They would cost approx. £50 for 300

NEXT MEETING DATES: Monday 14th November and Monday 12th December