

# **Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting of Funtington Players held at 42 Gobey Drive, Chichester, on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Present:** Richard Sanderson, Tony Clark, Sue Wilkins, Barbara MacWhirter, and Margaret Edwards(Zoom)

**Apologies:** Jan Copsey, Scilla Jutton-Holland, Clare Burt

## **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were accepted as accurate.

## **Matters Arising**

- a. Paul has provided a briefing note on the management of website details and passwords etc., recommending that this is undertaken by a member of the Committee.
- b. The Committee discussed whether to seek another co-opted member. No immediate action required but we should keep eyes open for likely future candidates.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Tony provided an annual comparative cost chart for the past 14 years, circulated by email after the meeting. An independent examiner is needed to review the FY23/24 accounts.

## **Media Report Update**

Barbara circulated a report showing good coverage of the FP in the local print media..

## **Health and Safety/Technical Matters**

Tony reported that the land behind the village hall, including the garages, has been bought and now forms part of the hall estate. It will provide us with additional parking space. The garages will be rented by a local builder ('Steve') for storage. The 'Waterloo Farm' project has been abandoned.

## **Members Update**

No new entrants. A new Members List will be published in September, by which time all subscriptions should have been paid.

## **MAJOR PRODUCTIONS:**

### **Autumn 2024 - *Sisterly Feelings***

Helen has been able to cast the play, with the minor exception of 2 very small non-speaking parts (M or F) which can be filled later, possibly by backstage personnel. Helen will meet Tony to discuss staging/set and lighting/sound. Barbara will try to persuade John Stone to commit as Stage Manager. Barbara said she could do props- a number of edible sandwiches will be required among other things. Scilla will do the bar. Sue was happy to continue to act as 'box office' but needs a newer, more reliable mobile phone.

### **Spring 2025**

It was suggested that Gill might like to direct *Last Tango in Whitby* by Mike Harding. She will be asked about this when she is well.

### **Autumn 2025**

Jan has suggested '*The Long Christmas Dinner*' (Thornton Wilder), providing it can be paired with a suitable short accompanying piece, possibly by the AWD team. '*Tons of Money*' (Evans &

Valentine. rev. Ayckbourn) was suggested by Barbara *as a possible for 2026*. It was agreed both plays should be read this autumn (dates tbd).

### **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration - 'The Funtington Fringe'**

9 'acts' have been selected, including a mask piece and 3 specially written songs by John Gleadall and Greg Mosse. An 'open' meeting will be held at WAVH on Thursday 16 May to introduce the 'acts' to the players and seek volunteers to direct, act, sing and/or support backstage. An MC will be required to provide 'context' for each act.

Key decisions included:

- 'Bolton Twill' will be on Sunday 23 June
- 60 'unreserved' seats will be offered for each night through Ticketsource, with scope to increase the numbers if demand justifies it. The aim is to minimise the need for 'tiered' seating, by making greater use of the upper stage.
- Tickets to go on sale on 5 July at £10 each

Issues still to be resolved include:

- Lighting and sound operation
- Bar location and operation by a local team. (Tony will provide Barbara with contact details of the Hall Committee chairman.)

After the meeting Barbara proposed that we produce a 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary souvenir programme; Richard and Tony, as chairman and treasurer, agreed in principle, while acknowledging that significant practical details needed to be resolved.

### **FUTURE EVENTS**

**Playreads:** *Summer End* by Eric Chappell on 24<sup>th</sup> May in FCR. *The Long Christmas Dinner* and *Tons of Money* to be read in the autumn (dtbd)

### **Social Events**

- Skittles on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May at the Barley Mow. 6pm start, buffet will be served at 7.15.
- Visit to Hursley House for Shadow Factory participants on Friday 24 May at 1000. (Tricia Dack is coordinating)

**AOB** Barbara's proposal to run an Acting Workshop in the autumn was approved by the Committee. Date tbd.

The AGM will be on 13<sup>th</sup> August.

Dates of further committee meetings are 10<sup>th</sup> June, 15<sup>th</sup> July and 19<sup>th</sup> August.