

FUNTINGTON PLAYERS

Draft minutes of the Management Committee held in Bosham on 25th April 2022.

Present:

Barbara MacWhirter (chair) Scilla Jutton-Holland Tony Clark Jan Copsey
Steve Pearce Margaret Edwards Richard Sanderson Aaron Baker.

Action Points in bold italics. Newsletter items marked N.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes were accepted as accurate when the date was put right.

MATTERS ARISING

- Scripts and rights have been obtained for the next production.
- The new member who was intending to go to the AWD meeting declined as not everyone would take a test beforehand as Margaret had requested.
- Collaboration with the college has not been possible yet.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tony reported that the profits for *OCG* were comparable to other dramas. He showed the table supporting this going back 13 previous productions. When the current climate is taken into account, it is a pleasing result. He produced a graph showing the rate of ticket sales for several plays as a comparison and it matched those for *Macbeth* quite closely, noting that for *Macbeth* there was a reduced rate for students as this is a set text.. The pattern tends to be that dramas sell at about 80% and comedies sell out at mostly 100%. Other local groups have fared worse and have had to cancel some early performances due to low sales. The bar sales report was circulated before the meeting and reflected the 80% attendance.

OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD

Tony reported many flattering comments about this production. It was noted that those who read the programme in advance were at an advantage when it came to following the plot, especially as it involved much doubling. The cast found the lines difficult to learn as they could be rather repetitious. Language in the play within the play was also challenging, they felt.

More back stage help would have helped. Wardrobe was a big job that might have been shared from the start.

MEDIA REPORT

The media report had been circulated prior to the meeting regarding each aspect of our publicity. The website is showing increased traffic now. Pat continues to send Aaron a lot of useful material that he can post for us.

Photo boards that are displayed in the bar were updated for the recent production by Jan and she and Scilla hold them now. It was agreed that the boards need replacing and committee will look into options.

HEALTH & SAFETY, TECHNICAL MATTERS

- Bollards protecting local residents' parking spaces were put up by the person concerned. It

seems that they would cost about £30 each and we would need 3 if we got some so a decision on that was postponed.

- It was agreed that a fire safety drill needs to be done at each technical rehearsal, usually by the Stage Manager.
- There is a meeting of the Village Hall Committee next week. They are concerned about energy price rises and this might be reflected in the hire charges going up. We used to get reduced rates for the 10 days covering our productions but this does not happen now.
- Rehearsal start times are changed slightly due to other hirers' finish times.

AUTUMN 2022 PRODUCTION:

The Titfield Thunderbolt audition will be held this week. Barbara said that it will be an ensemble production with members of the cast taking on back stage roles too.

AWD

The AWD planning meeting went well Margaret reported. It was agreed that the previous format will be maintained. The theme for writers will be announced at a later date. When the play selection is made it will be considered if one or two performances are recommended, and when a 2nd performance might take place. Quality of the writing is key. Possible dates for this are Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th October. Scilla will run the bar as for a major production. A surplus of wine from the last one will be sold.

CFT DIGITAL STAGES

Hilary produced the outdoor event from *Dream* and the video recording was of good quality but microphones would have captured the sound more effectively as it was windy. It was good fun and well received.

AGM 2022

It will be held on Thursday 14th July. Barbara said that she is willing to serve another year after all the disruption that we have had, unless another person is voted in her place.

BLUE SKY THINKING

More street theatre was suggested. Perhaps some scripts from the next AWD could be used as they need to be short. If we were involved in the Festival of Chichester 2023 we would have a specific venue and maybe could offer something a little longer.

FUTURE EVENTS/CAFE EVENINGS/PLAY READS/STUDIOS

- Playread of *Romantic Comedy* by Bernard Slade Friday 29th April
- Workshop of the *The Madwoman of Chailot* by Jean Giraudoux Saturday 7th May 10-12
- Playread of *The Noble Spaniard* by Somerset Maugham Friday 27th May

MEMBERS UPDATE

There are 2 new members this month who have been encouraged to attend the audition tomorrow. New members' details will be sent out on a new members list.

SOCIAL EVENTS AND NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Newsletter items as above.

AOB

- The duck race is on 25th June
- A gift will be given to June and Eric at the time of her birthday which is 17th May. It is in recognition of their major contribution to FPs through managing the bar for so long.

- It was stressed that the bar Scilla has been running for audiences at productions is completely separate from the small bar for society use that Jan and Alan run.
- A member who has moved away has made contact relating to a request to perform something in the open air to fund a donation to Ukraine. She was directed to the website to formalise it.

NEXT MEETING DATES: Thursday 19th May and Thursday 23rd June 2022.