

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting of Funtington Players held in Emsworth on Monday 11th March 2024

Present: Richard Sanderson, Tony Clark, Scilla Jutton-Holland, Sue Wilkins, Barbara MacWhirter and Clare Burt

Present on Zoom: Margaret Edwards and Helen Harries-Rees

Apologies: Jan Copsey and Aaron Baker

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were accepted as accurate.

Matters Arising

Richard reported that he had been in touch with Paul regarding the website. Paul will give us a written brief as soon as he can.

Treasurer's Report

Tony said that there had been expenditure on rights and scripts for the next production and on items related to this one, all as expected. Ticket sales are going well.

Media Report Update

Barbara reported that a number of local magazines have articles/adverts about the production though one had missed us out and had been very apologetic. It will go in next month. Pat is well on with the programmes. Tony has the sign boards but will wait until the weather improves before putting them out.

Health and Safety/Technical Matters

Tony reported that there is a leak from the roof in the boiler store area. The main doors have been replaced with a temporary set which open easily. It is still cold as the night storage heaters are not being used.

Members Update

Margaret is waiting to get a form from one person who will help with FoH. Tony made contact with another potential member several times but she has not managed to attend any further events yet. One member of the current cast is yet to pay her dues.

Major Productions:

Shadow Factory

Tony said that the cast are working splendidly though lines are a challenge still for some. The programme has gone to proof. Louise Kenny's firm will sponsor them. This is much appreciated. Costume is being managed and Pat T is researching FP stores and other sources. Props are making progress too. FoH is a problem as we do not have one person who can manage the job overall,

though we can cover each night. The notification to WAVH of the sale of alcohol is being checked as there has been a change of management of the bar during the 75th Anniversary.

Tony said that Get In will be on the Friday and painting can be done that afternoon. He will hold a first technical on the Saturday afternoon and a second one on the Sunday afternoon.

Autumn Production

Sisterly Feelings

Helen said that she would like the scripts as soon as possible as she wishes to hand them out to people who are interested. *Scilla* will try to hasten the delivery with Concord. Helen would like to attend one of Tony's rehearsals to address his cast regarding the audition for this play. A summary of the plot is on the website to attract interest and the *Newsletter* will inform members that they can contact Helen for further details if they wish to. Helen expressed concern regarding cover for back stage support as she does not wish to have to take on anything else other than directing. Committee reassured her that she would get full support. A discussion followed on requirements for the set and on the props that would be needed at rehearsals.

Spring Production 2025

There have been no offers to do this so far.

75th Anniversary

Barbara has been very busy with the preparations for this. She has had a meeting for prospective writers and 4-5 turned up. She has also got two other writers from outside the membership. These people have begun work and a mask piece is also in the early stages. Rona will be Stage Manager and representatives of the Village Hall will do the bar.

Discussion followed regarding dates as Tony needs to make the booking for our exclusive use. It was decided to have performances on Friday 26th and Saturday 27th July so he will book us in from the Wednesday evening until the Sunday morning. Raked seating will be used. The set and lights will be kept as simple as possible.

Future Events

Playread: Friday 15th March *The Constant Wife* by W. Somerset Maugham

Social Events: Skittles on Friday 17th May at the Barley Mow

AOB

- Card payment option was discussed but the signal does not reach the appropriate room in sufficient strength.
- Tony holds the playread record and Gill will be asked by **Barbara** to make comments for it regarding *The Last Tango in Whitby*.