

FUNTINGTON PLAYERS

Minutes of the Management Committee (MC) held on Monday 6th February 2024 at 42 Gobey Drive, Chichester.

Present:

Richard Sanderson(chair) Tony Clark. Margaret Edwards Barbara MacWhirter Sue Wilkins

Action Points in bold italics. Newsletter items marked N.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Aaron Baker, Clare Burt, Jan Copsey and Scilla Jutton-Holland

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (Monday 8 January 2024)

Although undated, the minutes were accepted as accurate.

MATTERS ARISING

None

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tony said that the 'Twelfth Night' dinner cost/payment was all square, and welcomed the College restaurant's willingness to excuse the cost of withdrawals after prompt notification by Sue. Tony raised the financial aspects of domain name ownership and website hosting, currently somewhat unwillingly administered by Paul Pridmore and Pat Grindey respectively. There was a consensus that this should fall within the direct purview of the Management Committee and that we should aim to have 2 people registered in each case. Paul will be asked to produce a written brief to aid the MC to take on this task. (*Action – Chairman*)

MEDIA REPORT

Hits to the website have run at their usual low level for this time of year. Barbara explained that an 'Emsworth' edition of the Bosham-produced Village Magazine was distributed for the first time this month; it was noted that this is a purely commercial venture, unlike the various parish magazines, and secured its income from paid advertising. It was agreed that we would look at offering them 'general interest' articles, but not pay 'advertising rates'.

Barbara's current priority is to get an article into the Spring edition of the 'EMS', for distribution in early April, as a late ticketing prompt for the Shadow Factory performances. **Tony** will supply Alan Copsey with an input on Shadow Factory for the next Bosham parish magazine. **Barbara** will send input separately to Alan re the 75th Anniversary Revue.

HEALTH & SAFETY, TECHNICAL MATTERS

After energetic comment on how cold the WAV Hall had been, and the ineffectiveness of the new night storage heaters (currently switched off on cost grounds-) Tony summarised the 2 primary options being considered for replacing the Hall, neither of which were attractive from a FP viewpoint. Both lacked sufficient car parking for performance audiences. Other sites are being investigated.

MEMBERS UPDATE

Margaret reported contact from one prospective member who will be invited to the next play read.

MAJOR PRODUCTIONS

Shadow Factory

Rehearsals are underway and Tony was happy with progress. He does not have designated Costume or Props Managers but feels that, for the latter, with a few exceptions (e.g. rifles, 3 gilt chairs) most can be sourced from the cast and managed as 'carry-ons'. Lists for both are being circulated amongst the cast. He does not yet have a volunteer for Front-of-House. The set and painting requirements were discussed in outline. Bolton Twill is scheduled for Saturday 24 Feb.

Autumn 2024

Barbara reported that Helen Harries-Rees would be delighted to direct Ayckbourn's *Sisterly Feelings*, although she has yet to decide which of the Act 2/3 options to choose. She is, however, concerned about the level of backstage and props support likely to be available to her, and would like early auditions, preferably as soon as possible after the Shadow Factory run in April, to ensure that she can cast it.

75th ANNIVERSARY REVUE

Barbara has met with Geoffrey Boys, the Funtington parish local historian, and has assembled a large amount of interesting background material which has been circulated to Margaret and to potential writers amongst our members. Greg Mosse and John Gleadall have been invited to contribute sketch and musical numbers respectively. A 'kick-off' meeting has been scheduled for all potential writers on Friday 23 Feb at the Church Rooms. **Tony** will provide a staging diagram before this meeting so that writers know what they can expect.

The Village Hall Committee will be invited to run the bar and take the proceeds (**Tony**)

FUTURE EVENTS/CAFE EVENINGS/PLAY READS/STUDIOS

- Saturday 10th February – Mask Workshop 1415 – 1630 - WAVH
- Friday 16th February - Play Read "Last Tango in Whitby" (Mike Harding) - FCR
- Friday 15th March – Play Read..."The Constant Wife" (W. Somerset Maugham)..FCR

SOCIAL EVENTS AND NEWSLETTER ITEMS

A Skittles evening will be booked at the Barley Mow pub, Walderton, on Friday 17 May, with a £50 non-refundable fee. Two buffet supper menu options were discussed, with some scope for variation to meet individual dietary needs. It was agreed that we would charge £20 for the Skittles evening rounding up to include a small contribution to the hall hire. (**Sue**)

AOB

None

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- Mon 11 March (38 Horndean Rd, Emsworth)
- Mon 15 April (Shirley Lodge, Bosham)
- Mon 20 May (tbc)