Stanmore Choral Society

Committee meeting minutes, Wednesday 8th October 2014

Present: Gillian, Maureen, Rose, Gill, Bob, Pamela, Frances, Aidan

1. Apologies were received from Bridie, Valerie and Lesley
2. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted with no matters arising.
3. The treasurer’s report. Gillian reported that she would be meeting Brian next week to do the budget for next year. At a future date they would meet to complete the society’s Gift Aid claim, which has not been done for the last two years. She may need to ask some members and former members to complete a Gift Aid form as she did not inherit a complete set. She presented a spreadsheet with the projected budget for 2015 and explained that it was still provisional, but that it would lead to a deficit this year, which would not be sustainable in the longer term.
4. Fund raising ideas were discussed. Nick had suggested a “Come and Sing Faure Requiem” to be held annually at the start of September, to encourage recruitment.
5. Website: Aidan reported on the progress with updating the SCS website. Background improvements had been made to Wordpress and plugins, and the next issue to consider was e-ticketing. He would ask Alice to suggest a suitable system, and to give us details of the costings . There was a discussion of the practicalities of any system, such as whether purchasers should print out an e-ticket or have a ticket posted to them. It was suggested that a small trial of any system be carried out this year.

Mo was asked to prove copy for the Chair’s blog, and Frances to post minutes in the members’ area. Aidan was asked to provide committee members with a reminder of their logins.

1. Autumn Concert: The poster was completed and Mo would order some printed copies. It had been costing up to £40 to have the banner altered for each concert, and there was some discussion of whether the expense was justified.

Brian was willing to steward, and Rose to help with the box office. Frances would do on-the-day organising.

1. Christmas Concert. It was agreed that Gill should hire 10 copies of “100 Carols for Choirs” as some members have their own copies or may wish to get one. Tickets would stay the same as last year - £5 for adults, free for children. Gill would organise a raffle, and would need help with ticket sales.
2. Publicity: Bob would prepare a publicity article to be sent to local papers, and circulate it to the committee. He would take some extra photos and send them with the article. Mo would continue to advertise concerts in Gumtree.
3. Membership: There are currently 41 members, with interest expressed by 3 more who may join next term.
4. Social Events

* Frances would book Trattoria Sorrentina for 26th November for a meal costing £18.50 per person. Members and their friends would be invited to book a place and come.
* A musical soiree would be organised for Sunday 22nd February 2015 – Rose would investigate the possibility of using our usual rehearsal hall. Harrow Opera would be invited to participate.

1. Trustees – clarification was requested about whether all committee members are trustees. Mo confirmed that they were, and asked Frances to let her know when all the “Fit for Purpose” forms were completed, so that the Charity Commission could have details of the trustees.
2. Next meeting: this would be on Wednesday 10th December at Rose’s house.