

. Faringdon Singers
COMMITTEE MEETING – MINUTES - Weds. 10th Jan 2024 7.30pm
Thank you to our Hosts: Janet, Mike & Dylan Sheil, Wyastone Cottage, Buckland SN7 8QR

Present: Sjoerd Vogt, Phil Singleton, Terence Carter, Jonathan Mapley, Carol Griffin and Janet Sheil

1. **Apologies** were received from Karen Vogt

2. **Matters arising** from the autumn meeting and AGM

Picnic as our summer social - came up at meeting & also at AGM

Issues arose about the concerts and will be dealt with under heading 5: Dates 2024

3. Feedback from the Christmas Concert

Feedback recd by email from Debra: *I would like to formally thank the choir for what I felt was a really wonderful Christmas concert. I enjoyed the challenge of conducting and my confidence in the role grew with each rehearsal, mostly as a result of everyone's encouragement and support, for which I am very grateful. The collaboration with the Windrush Saxophonic made for a very successful programme. I know the audience had a most enjoyable afternoon and have received several messages to that effect. I wish Phil every success with his role over the next two terms and feel quite relieved to be back in the Alto section!*

The saxophone group was a great addition and their leader (Tim Payne) said that his musicians would like to play with us again. £900 was raised: a very pleasing sum.

4. Finance

The choir is on a firm financial footing, helped by an increased subscription level and a larger membership. Carol said that it would be hard to get a better rate of interest on the deposit account (businesses get less than individuals) - but she'll look into it. Jonathan concurred, as the amount is too small to generate a significantly higher return. 5K deposit is the probable trigger.

5. Dates 2024

a) Spring Concert - 16th March

The Marlborough Orchestra librarian has paid for copies of Mozart's Requiem and will present an invoice to Carol for payment. The orchestra is looking forward to playing with the Singers and will play additional pieces to complement the Requiem. Phil will write the programme text and Sjoerd will put him in touch with Briony, who continues to design the choir's programmes. Some orchestral players may join the singers, as they will not be required as instrumentalists for the Requiem itself, but will still be there for other pieces. The Corn Exchange will cost approximately £90 and has been hired from 3.30pm onwards. Deborah will provide a high quality portable keyboard, which can be used for the organ accompaniment. Tickets will be sold: a family ticket will be £22; an adult ticket will cost £12 and a child's ticket £2. The concert will raise funds for MS and Phil will give a short talk about the charity.

Faringdon Singers will provide food for 30 members of the orchestra. Sjoerd will check that the kitchen has been booked. Volunteers will be required to make the refreshments.

Phil suggested that we try to get a feature article in the Advertiser. Job for Karen?

B) Summer Concert

The concert will be held on July 7th - 7pm . Sjoerd will see if the Barbour Rooms are available - as our first choice. Would make a very pleasant venue for a summer concert!

The theme will be built around local composers. Suggested works were Vaughan Williams 'Serenade to Music' and A Wedding Bouquet by Berners.

Janet will find out whether these pieces are available from Oxford Music Library.

John Ridgway will be approached by Sjoerd, regarding a possible composition for the choir.

Money raised could go to the Folly Tower Appeal. Local composers, local icon.

C) The arrangements for the proposed summer picnic on July 11th, will be made at the next committee meeting.

AOB: Can we change Committee Meeting Evening to Tuesdays? No – doesn't work. So – next Committee Meeting will stay at Weds 24th April.

The meeting ended at 8.25pm.