



**Established 2012**

Chairman: Richard Mitchley

Musical Director: Lewis Hutton

Accompanist: David Carr

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Registered Charity No. 1172588

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**Committee meeting  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
held at The Club**

**Minutes**

**Present**

*Stuart Baber, Dave Richards, Clive Weatherby, Rhys Pritchard,  
Iain McIntyre, Shaun Martin, Tim Warmington- Gardner, Pete Watts,  
Dan Hennessey, John Cowley.  
Also present Allan Waters.*

**Apologies**

Richard Mitchley.

**Minutes**

Agreed.

**Matters arising**

Printed music – Pete Watts and Wayne Weston to check all printed music re copyright issues and report on any updates necessary.

**Music Matters**

Allan Waters and Rhys Pritchard gave an update on the **Scholarship proposals** (a detailed outline of the scheme had already been presented to the committee). Main aspects: it will be a unique scheme supporting young singers in Monmouthshire; applications (submitted online between September-December) from male & females aged 15-18; approaches to be made via local schools plus Welsh school in Pontypool; candidates to be filtered using set criteria; a showcase concert to be held in January with 3-5 judges making final selection. Winner will receive sponsorship worth £1000 to cover two terms of singing lessons, opportunity to sing at 3 public events including Choir gala concert, plus a small cash prize and ongoing support and promotion from MMVC throughout the year. A local charity has already expressed interest in sponsoring the scheme.

**Kingfisher:** Monmouth Choral Society have agreed to perform this original piece (with the composers permission) and any member of MMVC interested is welcome to join them for rehearsals and the actual performance (probably next Spring) – please approach Pete Watts if you require further information.

## Finances

Dan Hennessy gave a detailed report on **Fundraising** progress. The Fundraising sub-group have looked into many aspects of fundraising from member subscriptions, donations and ‘hundred club’ raffles to grants, sponsorship schemes and high profile patron donations. Four key considerations were identified: (1) the need to enlist a number of high profile patrons to raise the profile of the choir and help attract sponsorship (2) determine the size of the annual budget based on proposed events, this will form the basis for the fundraising target (3) close co-operation with other sub groups to determine main needs and avoid duplication of approaches (4) establish an action plan involving formulating wording for approaches to potential patrons/sponsors, seeking out regulations linked to large-scale raffles/hundred club, continuing close links with existing supporter groups. **Music Team remunerations.** Consideration of an improved remuneration package took place. Income and expenditure for the remainder of the year was taken into account and, aware of the amazing contribution of Lewis, David and Allan, it was **agreed** to increase remuneration to the whole team. The increase will be implemented immediately and will run until April 2024.

## Events

The Spring charity concert was a huge success and it was agreed to hold a similar event next March with support going to the Stroke Association and Crohn’s and Colitis UK.

## Logistics

Details for the Business Awards Evening in Abergavenny are required, Iain McIntyre to contact Grapevine Events Management for an update.

## Safeguarding

The policy has been reviewed, approved and updated and will be placed on our web page, an addition needs to be made to include Events and a ‘sign off’ is needed to indicate new members have read the policy and the Choir Constitution. It was agreed that the updated version should be checked by a solicitor. The committee expressed thanks to John Cowley, Rhys Pritchard and Chris Rhodes for their work.

## AOB

Extons have been approached for help and design tips for a new summer uniform. It was agreed to purchase some electric fans for use at gigs. It was also agreed to purchase more blue/gold bow ties.

Next meeting: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June.