

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WAGNER SOCIETY

WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE 2017 18.30 – 21:00

15 Gibson Square, London N1 0RD

ATTENDEES: **Richard Miles (Chair)**
 Cormac Cawley (Secretary)
 Neil King (Treasurer)
 Katie Clay
 Harry Clarke
 Jan Rynkiewicz
 Jan Leigh
 Ray Godson
 Katie Clay
 Geoffrey Griffiths

APOLOGIES **Helen Beardsley**

The meeting opened at 18:30 and was declared quorate, there being present at least one officer and other committee members constituting at least one third of the total committee membership.

Item 1: Apologies for absence

As above.

Item 2: Minutes of Meeting on 03.05.2017.

The draft minutes of the meeting on 03.05.2017 were proposed and agreed by all, subject to a few points from NK.

RM reported that he has now had received a projector and some books but no papers from AB as she had none to hand over.

Item 3 Chairman's Report

The Chairman updated the meeting on the apology which had been sent to Dame Gwyneth and Adrian Muller and copied to members arising from a misunderstanding about their request for matters to be put on the Agenda for the AGM.

Item 4 Treasurer's Report

NK said there was not much to report other than that we were facing a colossal loss this year so far. The Masterclass is also expected to be a loss. We are solvent because of our reserves but our aim must be to break even on every event and we need to do more achieve that. If we had had St Botolph's for the MC it would have broken even, but Dame Gwyneth said we needed the ROSL. 22 tickets sold so far; we sold 31 last year. JL will be going but will be leaving before reception. NK will be there.

Item 5 - "Wagner 1900" Grant Application

NK reported that he had heard nothing from Herr Riesner (Treasurer of RWVI), but they had indicated they would make a small donation. We have not received the undertakings we wanted that the event would go ahead on the basis of the Tristan being done as proposed.

Item 6 – Bayreuth Ballot

So far €270 was still owing for one ticket.

It was suggested that an e-mail be sent to all winners asking them to write articles for WN about their experience.

RG wanted to publish names of winners in WN and CTC agreed to write winners and ask them for their consent.

GG mentioned that there is some really helpful information on the website of the Tourist Bureau in Bayreuth.

Item 7 - Bayreuth Bursaries/Mastersinger co-operation

RM has had an e-mail from M Rivers about this. When RM spoke to DAE recently, he found that she is passionate about Mastersingers and that she spent 6 months coaching Lee Bissett.

There is a case to be made for doing more with Mastersingers and RM will investigate this further and report back.

DAE had some views on the Bayreuth Bursary which she wanted to share with us and it was agreed that the Chairman would invite her to come and speak to the Committee after our next meeting.

Item 8 - Events Officers' Reports

JL mentioned that we need a new events manager now that HB had resigned. JL agreed to become Acting Events Manager.

It was agreed to co-opt HB back on to the committee as she would continue to be responsible for the Singing Competition.

Item 9 - Media, Advertising, Twitter & Facebook

RM agreed to invite members to come forward and help with this at the AGM.

Item 10 - Membership Report

NK reported that Membership was now 949.

Item 11 - Website Report

HC reported that we now have good security but that we had recently been attacked from outside. He wanted authority to incur costs on additional software and add-ons to protect the site.

RG mentioned that our constitution contained financial constraints which were far too onerous.

At RM's suggestion it was agreed that we would have a general review of the Constitution in September.

Item 12 - Wagner News

RG reported.

In response to a recent query he said that we he did not think we should pay for articles but that we might pay for photographs. The query had arisen from trying to get third parties to agree that we could publish their articles in WN.

KC reported that RG had collated all the material for handover and that KC will edit from now on.

RM will ask Stephanie Svakianos, Jacque Bouffier, his wife Juliette and an art-historian friend to write reviews.

KC said that the Longborough reviews need to go into the next edition of WN.

KC reported that Ben will be at the MC on Friday to take photographs and had agreed a fee of £200.

Item 13 - Return of Society's Records by former officers

RM reported that he had received a Projector and some books from AB recently, but no other papers.

Item 14 – AOB

- (i) Request from President to adopt the following resolution was voted upon and passed: -

“the committee or a sub-committee should examine the status of the archives and develop a concept of how to maintain the archives so that they reflect the history of our society.”

It was agreed that RG, CTC & GG would form a subcommittee for this purpose.

- (ii) Request from President to consider putting the making of a new Bye-law as follows onto the Agenda for the 2017 AGM: -

“In the event that the Secretary, at the request of a member, places an item on the Agenda for an Annual or a Special General Meeting, the Secretary shall not attribute such an item to that member without her or his prior

consent in writing to the text of the relevant item to be included on the Agenda.”

The meeting agreed that RM would write to Dame Gwyneth and tell her that we were intending to review the constitution before the next AGM.

(iii) Audio library.

Andrew Burton, the audio-librarian, has sent in £6 for borrowing fees received.

KC will approach Andrew about writing an article for WN.

RG reported that he had been informed by Jonathan Finney about a performance of the 2nd Act of Tristan at St Paul's, Waterloo on 11.11.2017. He was putting this into WN along with a link to the tickets' site.

The meeting closed at 21:11

NEXT MEETINGS

AGM 21 June 2017

Wednesday 26 July 2017

Wednesday 16 August

Wednesday 18 October

Wednesday 15 November

2018

Wednesday 17 January

Wednesday 21 February

Wednesday 21 March

Wednesday 18 April

AGM 16 May 2018 (proposed)