



Committee Meeting Monday 26th August 2019

Present: Colin Cameron (Chair), Mark Evans, Bill Noblett, Judith Neil, Sheena McLean, Ewing Wallace, Amy Anderson and Cairi Edwards (Balfron High School).

1. Welcome and Apologies: Colin welcomed everyone and introduced Cairi Edwards, music teacher from Balfron High School. Apologies had been received from Christine Hunter, John MacDonald, Philip Gaskell, Annette Rogers and Julia Cross.

2. Minutes of the meeting on 11th March 2019 were accepted as correct (proposed by Mark and seconded by Judith).

3. Matters arising from the meeting on 11th March 2019

a) There were no further developments on the Aran Browning collaboration. We will wait until he contacts us.

b) Mark felt that the Spring Concert had been a musical success, with the choir performing well. The whole event was very much enhanced by the collaboration with McOpera and the soloists (especially Phil Gault, the baritone).

c) It had been suggested previously that choir members could look out copies of sheet music that they have accumulated personally. Sheena said she could collate these and make a list. They could then be used for events such as coffee mornings and other entertainments. Colin will mention this at the AGM.

S McL

CC

4. Come and Sing on September 21st 2019

a) Publicity

Colin has printed fliers and a banner designed by Alan Cameron. Some were given to the committee and the rest will be distributed to choir members next week, along with A3 posters which Ewing will print. Cairi will have the banner put up at the High School. The publicity information has also been emailed to choir members and put on Facebook.

EW

Judith has made contact with representatives of several small local choirs to ask them to spread the word among their members. An advert, a small article, and notifications have been placed in Parklife and other local newsletters. Colin will contact the Stirling Observer to enquire about placing an article, and Judith will put notifications in the Stirling Observer and the Milngavie and Bearsden Herald. Balfron High School is publicising the event to their parents and pupils through social media.

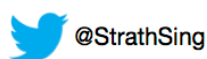
CC

JN

b) Numbers

At the moment the number of people who have contacted us with an expression of interest is quite low, but it is hoped that this number will increase now that the new term has begun and choirs will be restarting after the summer break. Cairi will supply provisional numbers from the school choir. Colin will send an information pack to those who have signed up.

CC



@StrathSing



facebook.com/StrathSing

c) Draft Programme for the day

09.45-10.15	Registration and coffee
10.15-13.00	Rehearsals and sectionals (with a break around 11.30)
13.00-14.00	Lunch break
14.00-16.15	Rehearsal
16.15-17.00	Break and refreshments
17.00-18.00	Performance for parents, public etc.

d) Music and Printing

Mark has put together an attractive selection of music for the day which he feels will be varied, with some familiar and some not so, and not too challenging. Amanda McLeod will take a warm-up session at the beginning of the rehearsal. Mark will run one of the sectionals but tutors for the others have still to be identified. Cairi will practise some of the music at a forthcoming choir residential. The Strathendrick Singers will run through some of the music before the event.

ME
CE

The concert should last no more than one hour. Balfron High School Choir may perform a piece by themselves, and Mark has engaged a cellist from Douglas Academy to play with us for the Jenkins Benedictus and to play a solo piece. Penny Watson will accompany both the main concert and the performance by the High School Choir.

Bill will speak to the High School about printing the music and making booklets for participants, using the poster as the front cover.

BN

e) Catering

Bill will speak to Hilary McDougall, in charge of the canteen at BHS, to finalise arrangements for providing tea and coffee. The catering committee will be asked to provide some refreshments for the afternoon break.

BN
Catering
Committee

It was agreed that, as it is 'Get Loud' week (an awareness raising event for the Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy Charity), a banner and information leaflets about Music Therapy could be displayed.

JN

5 AGM/First rehearsal on Monday September 2nd

a) Arrangements

Choir will start as normal at 7.30pm with a short rehearsal of around 45 minutes. This will be followed by the AGM and refreshments (provided by Bill and Colin in the absence of any catering committee members).

CC and BN

Mark would like to start rehearsing Benjamin Britten's 'A Ceremony of Carols' for Christmas and Ewing said that copies will be brought.

EW

b) Committee Membership

The positions of Chair, Secretary and Librarian are up for re-election.

6. Future Dates

Monday October 14 th	No rehearsal (half term holiday)
Saturday December 7 th	Carol Singing at The Smiddy
Sunday December 8 th	Christmas Concert Gartmore
Sunday December 15 th	Christmas Concert Killearn
Saturday February 22 nd	Coffee Morning
Sunday March 29 th	Spring Concert

7.AOB

There was some discussion about audience size and the selling of tickets, as our audience for The Creation in March was rather disappointing. A suggestion was made that audience members could be asked if they were willing to give us their email addresses so that they could be informed of future events. Ticket distribution and the use of social media were also discussed. Bill commented that he felt that audiences for classical music, in general, were declining, and both Sheena and Amy felt that this was not necessarily the type of music that younger people would be willing to travel some distance to hear. Colin will give some thought to this.

CC

Colin mentioned that there has been a problem with the password on the members' section of the website, which is proving rather intractable. He suggested that the password should be removed completely as there is nothing confidential in that section. Bill, however, noted that the choir bank details do appear there, so these details will be removed. Judith will then inform the choir.

JN

Colin also told everyone that John Moreland, who has been a member for many years will not be returning this year, due to ill health.

JN

Mark brought up the idea of another choir 'tour' next year. Suggestions of Kirkcudbright and Stornoway were made by Colin and Mark, who have connections in these areas. It was recognised that time was short to arrange something, but soundings will be carried out.

ME and CC

It was decided to leave subscriptions at £90 for the coming year.

8. Date of next meeting.

This will be determined following the AGM on 2nd September.