



## Committee Meeting 20 January 2020

Present: Colin Cameron (Chair), Mark Evans, Bill Noblett, Sheena McLean, Annette Rogers, Amy Anderson, John McDonald, Carol Omand.

**1. Welcome and Apologies:** Colin welcomed everyone, including Carol to her first meeting as Soprano rep.

**2. Minutes of the meeting** on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 were accepted as correct.

### **3. Matters arising from the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

a) **Come & Sing.** The possibility of doing another Come and Sing event was discussed. It was noted that the worth of this was as much as a community event as a recruitment tool: we recruited two new members following the last one. It was commented that this might work best every other year. Colin will explore further with Balfron Community Choir and the High School.

CC

b) **Accompanist** Marianna is working with us for the moment. José is keen to continue but transport poses a problem. Mark will talk to José about this and also look out for other options.

ME

c) **Aran Browning collaboration.** Colin is in contact with Aran and will continue to see if there are ways we might work together in future.

CC

### **4. Financial Report**

Bill reported on the current finances. There were outstanding questions on photocopying charges from Dunblane cathedral so the cost for music printing/hiring is not yet clear. Otherwise, due mainly to a slight increase in advertising revenue and a large reduction in cost of musicians, income from the two Christmas concerts is expected to be higher than in 2018.

BN

### **5 Friends of Strathendrick Singers**

The committee thanked Alison Brown for running the Friends so competently for so long. It was agreed that following Alison's retirement from choir, another volunteer should be found. Colin agreed to approach Anne Parker. [Subsequently Anne agreed to take this on in partnership with Lock, for which we are very grateful].

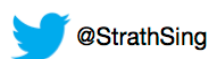
CC

### **6. Christmas 2019 review**

a) **Carol Singing at the Smiddy.** It was felt that the location at the Smiddy was difficult with a small and relatively unresponsive audience, and that it might be more attractive to choir members to sing for a charity. A choir member had gone to the Camphill Christmas Fair at Blair Drummond and there had been lots of people there. Colin will investigate options.

CC

b) **Gartmore concert.** It was felt that Gartmore had not gone as well as Killearn, and can act as a dress rehearsal, which is a shame. The bad weather certainly had a negative impact on the audience size. There had been, however, some nice comments and some of the smaller material had gone well, such as Away in a Manger. Mark commented that a *capella* material can work well as long as we choose the pieces carefully.



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c) **Killearn concert.** It was agreed that this had gone much better than Gartmore. Mark commented that the Douglas Academy students had once again enjoyed performing with us. There was some discussion as to numbers of concert attendees generally, whether Gartmore poached from Killearn and whether Friday or Sunday nights worked better. We agreed to continue with Sundays, and to concentrate on Killearn only for 2020. It was noted that when Killearn primary school had featured a few years ago, this had boosted audience numbers. There followed discussion around whether the choir could work with primary schools in a joint concert, although concerns were raised that this would change the mood and feel of the concert. Strathendrick Singers also would not want to encroach on work Balfron Community Choir might do with local primary schools. Colin agreed to make enquiries as to whether limited involvement of one or two primary schools might work in the future. Sheena will supply him with contact details.

CC/SM

There was some discussion around seating arrangements in the concerts compared with rehearsals and it was agreed to try and replicate concert seating arrangement in rehearsals more closely.

ME

## 7. Diary Matters

a) **Coffee morning.** To be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Amy needs to ask Helen if she can accompany the choir, to ask the choir about pieces, to ask Pat re raffle, and Joyce, Cathy and Sheena about the cake stall, Ewing about the bottle stall and Colin about books. Amy also will arrange key collection by another choir member.

AA

b) **Spring concert and extra rehearsal.** There will be an additional rehearsal on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2pm to 5pm in Balfron Church. On 29<sup>th</sup> March there will be a rehearsal at 2pm before the concert at 7pm. Amy to check that staging can be collected at an appropriate time. The name of the concert was agreed as "Northern Lights". Mark will approach McOpera for musicians. Sheena will provide Mark with the orchestral score. There was some discussion around whether we buy or hire orchestral scores and Sheena will investigate comparative costs.

AA

ME; SM

c) **Dates for 20/21.** Start of term will be Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Killearn Christmas concert will be on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2020. There was a proposal for the spring concert to be on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021 as John and Carol will be away at the end of March.

d) **AGM.** This will be at the first rehearsal, Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. There was some discussion around a summer meet-up. A decision on this will be made once we know who is taking over the Friends work.

## 8. AOB

The committee discussed providing rehearsal help in advance of Monday night practices and Mark agreed to provide this.

Colin asked for volunteers to attend the Growing Your Membership workshop in Stirling on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March.

Sheena raised the question of what we do with old music copies. It was agreed to hold onto those that had sufficient numbers of copies for the choir.

ME

Date of next meeting tbc.