



Minutes of the Meeting of the Trustees of Sussex Brass

Held on : Friday 7th December 2018 at 19:30hrs
At : The Harrow

Present : Steve Hollamby, Jon Manning, Karl Grover,
Clare Proudlove Mandy Nash, Kerry Holsgrove, John Gilbert

1. Apologies –None

2. Minutes of last meeting

- The minutes of the last meeting were read, and their accuracy was agreed.

3. Matters Arising from last meeting's minutes

- There were no matters arising.

4) Booking & Correspondance

New Bookings

- Blacklands Church- Mandy informed the committee that she had not yet contacted Blacklands Church and passed on Steve's number with a view to putting on a concert there.
- **Action- Mandy (ongoing)**

Steve reported that:

- **Seirra Leonne concert-** is on Friday 24th May 19 at St Matthews but time is to be confirmed
- **New Inn-** This had been attended by a few players and there was a good turnout in Sidley for the event.
- **Action- Completed**
- Speakers Day in Winchelsea- Steve informed the committee that he had been approached by someone who had seen us play at the Speakers Day in Hastings and they would like us to do the same in Winchelsea next year in October. Date to be confirmed.
- **Action- Steve**
- **Lifeboat Service in Hastings- 27th April at 11am-** This job is a high profile job and will be attended by the BBC as there is a lot of interest. It is the official naming of the Lifeboat and in addition to our usual job at the Lifeboat Station. Steve to follow up with further information at the time.
- **Action- Steve**
- **Eastbourne Bandstand- 18th September at 8pm(1812)**

- Steve informed the committee that he would be doing a job list for next year to give to players in due course.
- **Action- Steve**

John Gilbert asked if there was any possibility of playing at Hever Castle again and Steve and Jon said no. Players did not want to travel that far and this would not be viable.

5) Treasurers Report

- Karl gave the following figures to the committee and said up to date all band jobs had been paid.

Main Account = **£15237.26**
 income year to date £2856.96
 Expenditure year to date £4524.55
 Loss of £1667.59(bulk of expenditure due to Powdermills

Karl completed a comprehensive projection and shared this with the committee. Karl estimated that projection would be £14805 to end of March. Jon asked committee members to look at these projections and to raise any questions with Karl at next meeting. Karl said there had been a big drop off, due to the Powdermills but there were also savings e.g. church hire for practice.

Action- All committee members

SCABA- Karl informed the committee that the form to re-join SCABA was not available yet but it was agreed that he would complete this when it becomes available.

Action- Karl

Insurance- Jon to look into this, as to whether we can get a better deal(due 15th June). Jon to look into this after Christmas.

Action- Jon(ongoing)

6) Musical Directors Report

- Steve reported that the 50th Anniversary concert had been well attended and received and it was a good concert. Steve said the band rose to the occasion and played well and that it was an enjoyable evening. Steve informed the committee that the Church had also received £243 in donations for the evening.

- Steve expressed thanks to the band, for his awards, for his committed service and said he was completely surprised, Steve thanked Kerry and Jon for their input in delivering gifts and for their contribution before and on the evening.
- **Remembrance-** This was well supported this year due to it being the 100th Anniversary and this was very good, if not a long haul in the evening. Steve said the turnout in Hawkhurst had been the best ever and was well supported.
- **Christmas events-** Some jobs had already been attended by players and had been well received. Steve said that he had spoken to band members with regard to the two next jobs at Beaufort Court and St Michael's Hospice and that the band was on the home stretch to the end of the year.
- Steve said there would be a cull in the New Year of music, as had been done last year. Steve said that this would have to be done at practice , rather than the committee doing this again due to complaints from players last year that band practice was cancelled to do this

Action- all band members.

- **Flyer-** Jon thanked Karl for designing the flyers and getting this done so efficiently.

7) Contest Secretary's Report

- **SCABA-**As previously stated in Treasurer's report, Karl informed the committee that the form is unavailable to complete at present. It was agreed that Karl would do this when it was available.

Action- Karl to complete form (Jan 19)

- Steve said that he is considering the possibility of the band working towards a contest next year.

8) Band Management

Jon reported that the video of Speakers Day has now been circulated. However, with regards to the photos being available for the band to see, it was discussed that we do not have a comprehensive list of e mail addresses for all players and this prevented us circulating information quicker. It was agreed that Kerry would collect the e mail addresses of players and make this available to Jon.

Action- Kerry

a) Instruments

- Steve reported that Graham had had his instrument repaired and serviced by Dean
- Andy Lamb has ordered two soprano mutes but not yet got them.
- Music stand lights- Kerry mentioned that there had been many players asking for stand lights and that some venues lighting had been difficult for players to see music. It was agreed that these could be purchased for each player and kept with their instruments as part of their band kit. Steve said that the lights

with two antennae are the best and it was agreed that Karl and Kerry would look up this to get best value for money and report back to the next meeting.

- **Action- Karl and Kerry**

9) Child Protection

- Kerry raised concern that the Child Protection Policy appears to still not be on the website. Clare said that there had been difficulty getting access to the website and she has now received this from Nick. Clare said that she hopes to get time to look at the website over Christmas and work her way around it and add this then.

Action- Clare

10) Social Events

- Kerry reported that the murder mystery evening at the Powdermills had gone very well and appeared to have been enjoyed by all. Kerry also reported that it was good that we won, over other attendees and also thanked the band for making the evening enjoyable.
- Post Xmas meal- Kerry reported, as previously agreed that there would be no post xmas meal this year, as such, due to the large cost to the band for the murder/mystery evening. However, there would be a band curry at the end of Jan/ Feb at the Indian Lounge and this is likely to be a buffet, where you can go up for more and that members would be paying for themselves. It will be on a band evening and the venue would be available to the band exclusively. There would be band games as usual! Kerry to arrange a date and inform players in the New Year.
- **Action- Kerry**
- Kerry reported that Betty had written a letter of thanks for the gift she had received at the Powdermills and in it she expressed how band kept her going and was something she looked forward to.

11) Website

- Jon asked Clare where she was with the website and Clare said she hopes to navigate her way around the website over Christmas. Clare said that Facebook is growing in popularity although there are limited photos and information being posted
- Clare said that she had spoken to Karl with regard to the yearly payment for the website and this was \$59 and this had been agreed.
- Jon said that there needed to be a members area ,on the website where things can be placed and with supported links for the band to access such things as photos and Youtube links for videos.
- Kerry raised concern that the band calendar has little information apart from basic dates and times and was uninviting. Kerry asked if it would be possible to add a little narrative to the information to entice more interest and this was agreed.
- Kerry to collect band members e mail addresses so that they can have information posted quickly
- **Action- Kerry**

- **Action- Clare**

12) Any other business

- Jon informed the committee that he had compiled a list of contacts re the letter to be drafted and sent out to different venues, to see if we can advance our job commitments. The contact list is for all Parishes to begin with and committee members were asked to send suggestions of other suitable venues such as Jerwood Gallery. Jon will draft the letter and bring to the next meeting to share with committee.
- **Action- Jon**
- **Action- all committee members**
- Steve asked Jon if he would compile a letter to Hawkhurst to say that the band would no longer be fulfilling our role at Remembrance. This was felt to be the right time after the 100th Anniversary and due to the increasing demand this put on players e.g. a long day and little time. Steve had been approached by Jon Bartholomew with regard to the band playing for Hasting Council's next Remembrance (to walk from the Town Hall to the War Memorial and back). At present, they have a lorry with music on it and it was agreed by the band that we should be supporting Hastings Borough Council. Steve will inform the band at next practice and Jon agreed to draft a letter and bring back to next meeting.
- **Action- Steve**
- **Action- Jon**

Jon stated that he had asked the band to feedback any issues to him for the meeting and he had received an e mail from John Renshaw with several points, some of which had been relayed to John previously and resolved .Issues raised:

Jackets- had payment been received by Carol and Graham for their jackets? This had been dealt with several months ago by Kerry.

Music- John had submitted a list of pieces to Steve to play/buy for the band. Some of these had been out recently and others were expensive. Steve to discuss this with John and if suitable will buy for the band and also get out pieces that John would like to play.

Action- Steve

Minutes- John said he was unable to access minutes on the website and various other things such as photos. Kerry to collect e mail addresses for Jon to send information to the band and Clare has just taken over the website and is getting used to it. Minutes are written regularly and sent to committee and a folder needs to be created on the website for these, as had not been done previously. Clare will look at this over Christmas.

- **Action- Kerry**
- **Action- Clare**

Folders for band to use at concerts- John had previously compiled a list of suitable folders for the band, when he was Chairman and submitted this information to Jon, when he became Chairman .At that time the band voted no to this but it was agreed to be looked at again. The cost for these folders would be around £1000(with added spares) and the band agreed to vote and again this was declined. It was felt that it wasn't an item that band members were requesting at present and it was a large

cost. It was agreed that a more suitable requirement for band members was to have stand lights, as several requests have been made by players and Karl and Kerry were looking into this.

- **Action- Kerry**

Mandy asked if it would be possible to make some changes to the back row cornets and asked Steve to do this. Mandy would like Mark to sit on the front but Steve informed Mandy that Mark did not want to do this. However, Steve said as Principal Cornet Mandy could make these changes and said he was happy for her to do this.

Action- Mandy

Meeting concluded at 20:28pm.

Date of next meeting: 1st February 2019

Venue: Harrow Pub

Time: 19:30pm.

Chairman

Secretary

