**London Sacred Harp AGM - Minutes**

Thursday 11 January 2018

13 attended

Chair thanked attendees for a good year & brilliant All-Day.

**Finances**

* London Sacred Harp is currently in credit (amount disclosed at meeting but not published on our website for security reasons). This is after purchase of the Shenandoah loaners. Please note, Brockley venue might be owed money (to check with vicar).
* It was agreed that going forward two people should count and record the amount in a receipt book.
* Teresa will contact the bank to update signatories on the account.

**All-Day**

Finances of the All-Day: collected £499, cost us £532. Small loss of £33 but about £100 of the expenses are for things we can reuse, so in reality a small profit.

2018 All-Day

Chair proposed following the same structure and team, with change for next year. Agreed.

* 2018 venue: Highgate URC booked (£220). Attendees asked to look out for bigger venue for the 2019 all-day as feedback showed sound in Highgate URC is less good with more singers. Options include the School at the Round Chapel in Hackney. More costly, but we have some extra money.
* Attendees to look out for ideas and bargains for 2018 all-day, e.g. coffee.
* 2018 team: same as 2017. Chair - Andrew, but i.e. compere on the day, with organisational help from vice-chairs, Teresa and Joss. Arranging committee - Jacoba. Kitchen - Teresa. Refreshments - Joss. Secretary - Amy. Treasurer - tbc. Accomodation - Diane and tbc. Welcoming committee - Jan. Regular singers should shadow team at All-day to help in 2019.

2018:

* Friday singing school on Shenandoah Harmony
* Saturday at Highgate URC
* Saturday social at St Mary’s, Primrose Hill (bring your instrument)
* Sunday singing at St Mary’s, Primrose Hill

**Review of monthly mini-meetings**

* It was agreed that the monthly mini-meetings should continue and include regular statements on finances for transparency. Brief minutes could be added to the singing minutes for that week to keep regular singers up to date.
* It was agreed that any singer could chair an extra meeting to address an issue

**Review of venues**

* All current venues have been booked for 2018
* Diane will recce the King’s Cross Baptist chapel as an alternative to St George’s Bloomsbury
* Ongoing issues with Brockley venue include having to re-arrange the room for every singing and a number of other activities ongoing at the same time. ACTION: check what we should pay for the space & whether we could use the side chapel.
* Singers to look out for other South London venues
* Joe to recce meeting house. Try-out there to be scheduled w/c 5 February.

**Extra singings**

* Shenandoah singings on spare weeks: to be hosted at St Mary’s, Primrose Hill. Agreed for 8 February. Additional singing possible 8 March, 27 March, end of May. To be confirmed.
* Extra weekend singings, especially in winter
* Possible dates: 4th Saturday January, 3rd Saturday February, 3rd & 4th Saturday March (depending on Easter). These are to be small scale singings which might attract local singings from areas just outside London. It was discussed that in the past Sundays have been more successful and that this could be a good way to try-out different venues.
* Anthems workshop afternoon: agreed to host another workshop in 2018, Sheila has offered to teach (ps Date agreed for this Feb, Sunday 18th at St Mary’s, 2-5pm)

**Singing school**

* It was discusses how we could host and retain new singers. It was agreed to hold a 5’ break after the singing school to chat to new singers.
* Alternative to St George’s to be recced as access is problematic and no opportunity for a tea break.
* Handouts for new singers were discussed: bookmarks, background info, upcoming singings. Also, printing more flyers for outreach singings.
* Teachers: Rachel is happy to continue teaching the singing school. Andrew offered to teach the singing school and will check with Rachel to agree on dates.

**Minuting**

* Agreed on minuting the following info: first name + song number + song name.
* Minutes will be collated in a shared Google doc spreadsheet.
* Jacoba, George, Amy & Joss to share minuting between them.

**Publicity and outreach**

* Joss has been in touch with a podcast, they will come in to record & interview personal stories in 2018
* Twitter successful in reaching new singers
* Bloomsbury singing school has been listed on various sites. It was agreed to list the singing school on Meetup (paid subscription) for six months.
* Southbank Centre: we should try to join the annual choirs day again. ACTION: Joss to get in touch (via Erin/Megan).
* Cath & Phil performing at Slaughtered Lamb on 10 Feb, possibility for outreach singing there? (note that a few regular singers are away)

**Election of new officers**

* Ask on Facebook and mailing list will go out for people who would like to put themselves forward as chair. They will be vice-chairing till 2019 AGM. Election of chair in three months at meeting in April.
* Jacoba elected as secretary.
* Diane elected as treasurer (Teresa is also acting treasurer)