

## Queens Park Singers

Minutes of committee meeting held on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2007  
at 22 Tiverton Road, NW6 at 8.00 p.m.

### Present:

Monica Healy, Chair  
David Till, Musical Director  
Glyn Jones, Publicity Officer  
Liz Till, Librarian  
Marion Paul, Minutes Secretary

### Apologies:

Simon Judge, Treasurer  
Maggie Turp, Membership Secretary

### Minutes of last committee meeting

The minutes of the last committee meeting, held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007 were read and agreed

### Matters arising

Queens Park Day: The QPS stand at the QP Day had been successful, with sufficient people to “man” the stall, and it had elicited interest in the choir, as hoped; some men had come forward. Thanks were expressed to Liz for all her work in organising the stand. Thanks were expressed to Maggie Turp (in her absence) for compiling the rota for the day.

CRB checks for Musical Director and Director of the Junior Singers: These had not been completed and required following up. Monica agreed to contact Rachel regarding that.

Register and rota for Messiah rehearsals: The register was in place and a rota for refreshments had been prepared but not filled. Liz would take it to the next rehearsal – everyone needs to sign up for two duties: setting up, bringing food, washing up.

### Review of May concert

The concert had been very successful and the theme had worked well.

### A.G.M and Gospel Workshop

There was discussion of the election process of the A.G.M. and agreement that, in future, members should be invited ahead of the meeting to make nominations for the committee.

Thanks were expressed to Glyn for the publicity for the Gospel Workshop, which had attracted a good response. All present agreed that the workshop had been very enjoyable and that Andrea Encinas had led the workshop very well. The context of the gospel songs, which she gave, had been valuable without being heavy. David had received an email from Andrea expressing interest in running a further workshop at some time. Learning by ear had been a useful experience for the choir. David had made a recording of the session. It was thought that the workshop had encouraged people to come forward for Messiah.

## Plans for Messiah

The first preliminary rehearsal had been held, with many new people; some signed up at the last minute. There was a wide range of experience and level of confidence. Five experienced sopranos would be joining rehearsals after the preliminaries. Parts would need to be balanced.

David had circulated an email emphasising the need to work on the music between rehearsals and had made recommendations of CDs to support this. Midi files had been put on the QPS website.

The Juniors would join in "For unto us a child is born." Possibly, less experienced singers could omit the runs. It was suggested that trickier choruses could be sung by a smaller group.

## Administration for the concert

Publicity: The design prepared by Glyn was very positively received.

Fliers and posters would be produced.

David would check over the details of the text.

Liz suggested larger print for date and time and this was agreed.

Possibly 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church should be added to the poster.

Glyn agreed to send the design to David in PDF format.

It was agreed that, with a large choir and the orchestra, seats for the audience would be limited. A strategy of selling tickets to choir members first was recommended. There would need to be a finite number of tickets, which had not previously been the case. Possibly only around 80 non-performers could be accommodated. It was felt that some tickets should be available for church members as the concert would be celebrating 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the new church.

Allocation of tickets: A5 envelopes would be given to members at rehearsal. Members would then place their cheques for tickets required in the envelopes and hand them in at the final rehearsal. Members to be informed that cheques should be made payable to "Queens Park Singers." Programmes would be placed in the envelopes, and given to guests as they arrived for the concert. Volunteers would be needed to deal with envelopes and programmes.

Ticket prices agreed: Single: £10  
Concessions: £8  
Family: £15

David had sent an email to committee members with the anticipated costs for Messiah. This would be around £1100. It was expected that subscriptions and ticket sales would meet this.

It was suggested that, in the future concerts, second performances might be offered for other churches, etc. David explained that there would be difficulties in booking soloists and band members. (The trumpeter for Messiah had been booked in February.) The trumpeter had not requested payment and the possibility of making a donation to a charity in lieu of the fee was proposed.

David and Liz confirmed that all singers had copies of the correct score.

Glyn would arrange the fliers and posters and Liz would put a large poster in the church.

## Carol singing

It was agreed that the annual carol-singing sessions could be seen as QPS events.

The dates, 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December, would be placed in the QP Residents Association newsletter; the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church would also be mentioned there.

## Next phase of the choir- Succession Planning

At the A.G.M David had announced his wish to reduce the time / tasks he undertook for the choir and at some time in the future to relinquish the position of Musical Director.

The person taking over would need to have a clear vision for the choir, plenty of time available and might wish to be paid.

Initially David would like all aspects of the choir to be undertaken by others, apart from the musical side, with which he would continue.

Glyn put forward that some choirs are run by the committee, which undertakes all the work of organisation and also then appoints a conductor and accompanist.

It was suggested that David should consider and write down tasks he wished to pass on; finding sources for music and booking space were the first two items.

Subscriptions might need to be increased and the possibility of a larger venue to accommodate larger audiences was suggested. Additional fund-raising would probably be needed and this would require considerable time writing proposals, etc. "Making Music" might be able to advise on this.

## Logo

The first preliminary sketch for the logo had not been positively received. Glyn was awaiting two further sketches from the designer. It would be within the approved budget of £150.

## Any Other Business

Glyn suggested recording a concert or one movement to put on the website. This would need further consideration regarding cost of sound engineer.

## Circulation of Minutes

It was agreed that committee minutes would be circulated to members of the choir.

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.