

Trustees of the Sinodun Players

Minutes of the 72nd meeting of the Trustees held on Monday 18 April 2016 at the Corn Exchange, Wallingford at 7.30pm.

Present: N Morley, K Spence (minutes), E Stevens (DC), G Wright, J Wright, L Van der Vord, J Grimshaw (Board)

		Action
1.	Apologies for absence	
	D Lisburne, J Utley (DC), J Jeskins	
2	Decisions/Discussions since last meeting not covered elsewhere	
	Agreement on the date for the EGM to discuss changes to the Society's Rules was agreed by email and the date was confirmed as 25 May.	
3.	Minutes of 71st meeting on 16 February 2016	
	These were approved and were signed by the Chairman, ready to be uploaded to website.	
4.	Matters arising from 71st meeting not covered elsewhere	
	The Board has agreed to raise cinema prices from 3 May to £7 and £5. A link to the Little Theatre Guild is not yet on our website. E Stevens to alert DC. One previously unhappy member of the box office staff has been reassured following a meeting with N Morley. It was noted that new volunteers are coming forward to help with the box office.	ES
5.	Items to and from the Board	
	The test evacuation went well. There is a compiled list of points to be discussed which will be tabled at the next Board meeting. Company name change. The Board is broadly in agreement with the idea and will discuss formally at their next meeting. Safety issues were identified during set-up and strike of a production. This will be discussed further by the Board. Repairs to the stage have been identified which will need mending at least; though it is possible it might even need to be replaced.	
6.	Items to and from DC:	
	Show budgets. The trustees are still not receiving these routinely. Trustees received budgets for Two and the Shakespeare evening at the end of March which is too late. Budgets for the festival play and Bazaar and Rummage are still outstanding. E Stevens is to raise this issue with the producer for Bazaar and Rummage. Pete Smithson is preparing the budget for the festival play. Anne Stammers is now up to date with gift aid. There is a considerable quantity of past DC treasurer paperwork that needs sorting through. The Trustees are keen to be involved with this and concerned that it is not disposed of.	ES
7.	Constitution Updates	
	N Morley has received a "recital" from Tessa Hennessy to be included in the constitution to confirm it supersedes all earlier versions.	

	<p>The latest version of the society Rules had been circulated. Changes were highlighted and discussed further. The Trustees agreed a number of amendments and minor additions to be included in the Rules. These will be returned to the DC for their final discussions. <i>(Post meeting note: N Morley attended the next meeting of the DC to discuss the reason for Trustee changes. These were accepted with one modification).</i></p>	
8.	Little Theatre Guild (LTG)	
	<p>J and G Wright had attended the LTG Conference and reported highlights of the event to the Trustees.</p> <p>It had been worthwhile attending and was an excellent event. G Wright has volunteered to be the rep.</p> <p>Things of interest included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the LTG produce papers on a number of H&S matters • they have a specific individual who looks after LTG child safeguarding and would be able to assist with DBS and other child safeguarding issues. • the Arts Council seems to be becoming less London-centric and more approachable. There is concern for equality of opportunity – e.g. deaf people and a desire to improve access for performers and audience. • Theatre's trust is a small grant giving trust. Any planning application for theatres must go before the Theatre's trust. They are happy to be consulted prior to planning applications. • The importance of theatre within society was discussed. • Hosts are being sought for the next regional meeting which will usually include a production. While Trustees are keen for the SPs to offer our services, it was thought prudent to attend such an event as onlookers before offering. • The theatre where the event was held has a full-time employed manager and 22 part-time employees. The manager has to generate revenue. He would be prepared to come and talk to our Board if asked. • A large number of drama societies appear to offer season tickets. 	
9.	Financial Report	
	<p>During the LTG event, J Wright attended a fundraising workshop. Many theatres get legacies from former members/supporters. On its website, the Crescent theatre has a legacy page.</p> <p>Trustees agreed that J Wright should investigate further exploring ways to encourage legacies.</p> <p>The Lloyd's bank account is nearly opened but was held up by K Spence's abbreviated name appearing on the Charity Commission website and not her full name as on the bank paperwork. It has now been amended.</p> <p>The NatWest signatories have been done.</p> <p>The question about whether we should register for VAT is ongoing.</p> <p>Interest is now accruing in the Nationwide account.</p>	
10.	Items brought by the Chair	
	<p>N Morley attended the Chairs' meeting. There was a discussion over storage for Sherman Brothers show which has now been resolved.</p> <p>It was agreed that it would be helpful once a year, to have a meeting of all three committees (Trustees, DC and Board).</p>	

	Pantomime get-in. It was agreed the the dates would be looked at and a get-in date agreed. It was noted that quite a lot of the time assigned in December 2015 for this was not efficiently used. OCVA membership renewal – Trustees should pay this fee and also the LTG membership.	JW
11.	Any other business	
	J Jeskins will attend the next Board meeting.	
12.	Date of next meeting	
	31 May at 7.30pm	

Meeting closed at 10.25 pm

N Mosley
31/5/16