

## Trustees of the Sinodun Players

Minutes of the 84th meeting of the Trustees held on Tuesday 12 December 2017 at the Corn Exchange, Wallingford at 7.30pm.

Present: N Morley, J Wright, J Utley, R Dewell, J Jeskins, K Spence (minutes), G Wright (DC), J Herring (Board).

		Action
<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b>	
	D Lisburne	
<b>2</b>	<b>Decisions/Discussions since last meeting not covered elsewhere</b>	
	<p>Planning objections. All agreed with the wording proposed by O Hemming in connection with the proposed development at 4 Wood Street.</p> <p>Since the last meeting, the Board have sought quotes for the new lighting desk, which has now been ordered. If it does not arrive in time for pantomime, the company will loan us one.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Minutes of 83rd meeting on 24 October 2017</b>	
	These were approved and were signed by the Chairman, ready to be uploaded to the website.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Matters arising from 83rd meeting not covered elsewhere</b>	
	The Masonic Hall could not help us for pantomime performances.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Items to and from the Board</b>	
	No items from the Board were specific for Trustees.	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Items to and from DC</b>	
	<p>The bank balance is just under £10,000, which takes into account the last gift aid claim (we are only 2 years behind). The treasurer has started to use online banking and made 2 payments. The document outlining the recommended process for the treasurer has been accepted and she has made some helpful suggestions for revision.</p> <p>John Evans has submitted many dates for studio cinema. DC propose using a café style layout, but it depends on directors wanting to use the club room. Dates have been agreed through to the end of March so films can be booked in – only want Friday and Saturday nights are currently planned.</p> <p>NODA awards have been investigated by the DC. They are particularly interested in the possibility of “Long Service” awards and have some people in mind. There are also awards for people we want to make a special case for.</p> <p>Ongoing.</p>	DC

7.	<b>Financial matters</b>	
	<p>J Wright provided the current bank accounts figures. We are hoping for the next £50,000 from SODC before Christmas. The charge on the building has now been agreed. The third and final payment will be made on completion of the project.</p> <p>CEW Ltd initially said they did not want rent from Sinodun Players, but the Financial Trustee feels that it would be financially beneficial for both organisations to continue paying rent at the current rate. CEW Ltd are unlikely to have to pay tax on modest profits and would be able to invest in improvements to the building.</p> <p>The roof fund has virtually stopped. We have now had nearly £500,000 with gift aid and SODC first payment from a mixture of grants, loans, donations etc.</p> <p>Selling seats. We now have a process. Reservations will be able to be put on through the box office. The proposal is to sell seats for 5 years ending August 2023 (August chosen as it is shutdown and changes/amendments could be made).</p> <p>NatWest has just announced it will be closing its Wallingford branch in June. Trustees expressed concerns over this. There are also concerns that payments can be made online by only one signatory. It was agreed we would check out Unity Trust and Cooperative Bank.</p>	JW/KS
8.	<b>Roof Project</b>	
	<p>Update from last week. Stair nose lighting has been delayed because the wrong bits were ordered. Carpet installation was consequently delayed and the carpet company cannot finish the auditorium because they have other work. The seats have now been returned. Somewhere clean is needed to store the seats. There is a problem with a truss. On 3rd January, the seats can go back in; with help it could take only two days. The stage is not affected.</p> <p>There will be a 3 chairs meeting to see how additional support can be provided to the Board.</p> <p>We are still investigating £5000 councillor grants. The cost of cordless communications unit would be particularly suitable to suggest.</p> <p>There is a dehumidifier operating in the Curtis room as water got in when the roof was removed. It will take about a year to dry out so we will not redecorate before then. It does serve as a useful reminder that the work is not fully finished and we need to continue raising funds.</p> <p><b>Reopening.</b> Tentatively set for 23rd February. Edward Hall is key, but might be filming then and doesn't currently know. G Wright will contact him in January. This is a ceremonial event rather than the actual opening.</p> <p>We wish to send out invitations on 8 January for a celebration and thanks to major donors.</p> <p>The projector is not currently working. It cannot be looked into by a technician until after Christmas. Only the projector itself is affected, possibly due to damp conditions.</p> <p>The JustGiving fees have been put up. We are currently paying £48 per month and not raising anything, so J Wright is looking to close it. Trustees</p>	<p>NM</p> <p>GW</p>

	<p>agreed this account could be closed.</p> <p>It was discussed whether to open something with a different group (we can't reuse this one because it is based on our charity number). J Herring would like to have the information as soon as possible for his next fundraising brochure.</p>	
<b>9.</b>	<b>Anniversary events</b>	
	<p>Next year is the Sinodun Players' 70th anniversary year and the 40th anniversary of the opening of CX.</p> <p>This is why we have an Agatha Christie production in the autumn which will go "on tour" to Brightwell.</p> <p>The DC is to discuss events and then decide whether to ask for ideas from the membership.</p>	DC
<b>10.</b>	<b>Any other business</b>	
	<p>Fundraising is ongoing. Roger Dewell is to give a hand to John Evans with major funds and there will be a meeting on 20th January to progress. Phase 2 fundraising. An interesting name for the initiative is needed. Another brochure is in production. There are events planned for the upcoming year.</p> <p>R Dewell attended OCVA training for trustees. There were 7 attendees and there was a mixture in terms of experience and the charities attendees were from. R Dewell found it interesting and useful and will circulate the slides from the event to Trustees.</p> <p>John Herring. The H&amp;S document and training are nearing completion.</p>	RD
<b>11.</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>	
	Wednesday 31st January.	

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

*N Mork*  
31/01/18