**St. Ives Community Choir AGM 8th January 2019 Minutes**

List of those present:

Alison Ashby Angela Charleston Barbara Warner

Don Stevens Tricia Thomas Roy Brookes

Judith Tremelling Lesley Thomas Alan Thomas

Lynda Thomas Lynne Brereton John Lander

Trevor Hoskins Maureen Stevens Sandra Oliver

David Polkinghorne Lillian Polkinghorne Anne Bassett

Vicky Taylor William Thomas Sophie Wilkinson

Elaine Reid Susan Perrott Margaret Bailey Marguerite Butcher Rhiannon Williams Norma Churchward

Mike Laramy Hannah Retallick Chris Pearson

Steve Bassett Gill Titchener Anne Shepherd

Apologies for absence

Stuart Greaves Heather Greaves Susan Pearson

Michael Taylor Joan Symons Maggie Marr

Lynda read the 2018 AGM minutes, which were then approved.

**Secretary’s Report**

Lynda thanked William and Alison for all of the time they have given and their commitment to the choir. Tricia for sourcing the music and Alan for the considerable amount of work involved in maintaining the website.

We have had a really busy year with 20 events plus the Golf Club Dinner and a weekend away to Exmouth.

Thank you to Don & Maureen for again arranging our trip and now looking into one for this year. If anyone has any suggestions please see Don & Maureen.

We have had a few enquiries for events this year, two of which we have confirmed.

They are a concert with Lanner Band and Towednack Garden Party.

At the moment we have 45 choir members and the average attendance each week is 78%

There are sheets, as usual, to tick off whether you are able to attend future events or not. Often we have found that events have been ticked and a few weeks later the names have been crossed off. William doesn’t agree to do any events unless he knows that he has got a good balance of voices. We just ask that if you confirm your attendance at the various concerts, that you do make every effort to attend. We understand that illness can’t be helped.

Also if you decide later that you will be able to attend, then let us know as William sorts out the seating and if people turn up that haven’t ticked the list it throws this out.

**Treasurer’s Report**

* We started 2018 with £3,761.51.
* We paid out £132.52 for Public Liability and equipment insurances etc.
* Rent for the Chapel was £665.
* £1,288.20 was paid in subscriptions.
* As we agreed at last year’s AGM any weeks that you miss need to be paid for on your first week back. Sickness is accepted, but holidays **must** be paid for.
* Monies raised this year are £400 for St. Julia’s Hospice & Macmillan Nurses.
* £600 for the Samaritans.
* £43 was raised for the Fishermen's’ Lodges, which we made up to £50.
* Overall £1,000 was raised at the Towednack Flower Festival, which was split between the church and St. Julia’s Hospice.
* £722 was raised at the Emmaus concert.
* The Golf Club Dinner raffle, together with a donation from Malcolm, raised £320 which will be donated to The St. Ives Community Bus. We will be arranging a presentation for this.
* Carbis Bay Tree Lighting Concert raised £260 for the Cornwall Air Ambulance..
* £336 for FOSS, and £267 at UNA for the Salvation Army.
* £607 at the combined concert at Fore Street Methodist Chapel for the Parkinson’s Association.
* The total amount we have raised throughout the year for charities is £4172 plus unknown amounts from St. Erth Chapel’s “Action for Children”, World Peace Day, Royal Naval Association and Exmouth trip away.
* We had a generous donation of £645 from Charles Reynolds as part payment for the chapel rent. £30 was received from The St. Ives Food & Drink Festival and £50 from the Royal Naval Association.
* A grant of £1,500 was received from The St. Ives Operatic Society for the purchase of a new keyboard, which Alison is now making use of.
* Can you please make sure that you mark your attendance on the sheet each week. Some members prefer to pay subs in advance. If anybody else would prefer to do it this way, please see me. For those of you who have paid in advance I have a list of when you need to start paying again.
* The final total in the bank to start 2019 is £4,774.87, which is a surplus of £1,333.36 on the year.

**Musical Director’s Report**

William thanked Alison for her commitment, Alan for the website, the committee for all the work done and Bill for all the photos. He also thanked Don & Maureen for arranging the Trip to Exmouth. Also thanks to Tricia for all her hard work sourcing music, designing and distributing posters for the events and keeping his music folder up to date and in order. Anne for distributing copies of music and Lynda for all of her work emailing details of practices, events etc. He then said that we had been privileged to be asked to sing at Liz Laramy’s funeral. He then listed all of the events we had attended this year and said that we had sung 24 songs plus 11 Christmas songs. William said the fact that we had been invited to so many concerts must mean that the choir are doing things right. At the Samaritan's concert the accompanist for Hannah Pascoe congratulated the choir on their performance, with a special mention for the men. He said that there was a good balance and a good choice of music. William said that the choir must get a sense of pride and achievement when they see the smiles on the audience’s faces. He said that he would like to keep the repertoire fresh but this year would like to go back to the songs we do well. It was muted that we enter a music festival, which was agreed. William was asked if he thought we were good enough and he replied that if he didn’t think so he wouldn’t consider it. He suggested the Wall music festival which is in May. William asked everyone to have a think about it and let him know next week. Also asked if we would like to do a summer proms at Treloyhan Manor, which he will look into. There will be somebody at the register table to mark off attendance and payment each week. The events list needs to be marked if you will be attending or not. William asked if we would like another weekend away, which was agreed, and Maureen said 2 dates had been put forward, which are the 28th September & 4th October, which she will look into.

**Webmaster’s Report**

Alan thanked Bill for the numerous photographs he takes in order to find ones where members are looking at the camera and don’t have their eyes closed etc. His only complaint was that he wasn’t in many of them. Bill will try to rectify that. We get correspondence through the website asking us to perform and have also recruited some new members after they have looked at the website. Also an offer from Dr. Peter Luck to play for us when Alison is not available. This is still ongoing. Alan explained the different tabs on the website: events, gallery etc. He also confirmed that he has renewed the website domain for another 5 years. If anyone would like to do a write-up to accompany events he would appreciate their input.

**Election of Officers**

Chairman................ Vicky Taylor

Secretary................. Lynda Thomas

Treasurer................. Lynda Thomas

Librarian................. Anne Bassett

Musical Director.... William Thomas

Accompanist........... Alison Ashby

with possible back up from Peter Luck

Social Secretaries... Donald and Maureen Stevens

Committee.............. Patricia Thomas

Webmaster………...Alan Thomas

**Engagements For The Ensuing Year**

William said that there is not a lot booked yet for the coming year.

In April we have a concert at the Guildhall with Lanner band and in July Towednack Garden Party.

Lynne is going to look into a concert at Chacewater which we weren't able to do last year.

**Any Other Business**

Lynda read out thank-you cards from St. Erth Chapel & Marguerite Butcher

A request received was that members are issued with contact details of all choir members so that lifts can be arranged to events. Lynda pointed that due to the Data Protection Act, legally she is not allowed to give out contact details. Members confirmed that earlier in the year they individually agreed that Lynda could hold a list of contact details for the sole purpose of informing members of upcoming practices and events etc. A list will be on the table next week for anyone to put their contact details down if they are happy to share their details and give lifts to events.

Anne asked if everyone was happy to have another dinner at the golf club, which was agreed. A date of Saturday 23 November has provisionally been booked.

William added that there were 2 concerts which were particularly outstanding because of good advertising. William thanked everyone who helped putting out and away chairs and equipment etc. It has now been agreed to put the subs up to £2 per week to include provision of copies of music, which last year totalled £240.28. Lesley asked why subs are going up when we have a good bank balance. The decision was that once we get to £5,000 we will discuss donating the excess to charity. There was a possibility that the rent would be increased and incidentals need to be bought. Maureen pointed out that we were very fortunate that we don’t have to pay our accompanist or musical director. There may come a time when we will have to do this and our funds would quickly diminish. William put forward that we have days out to Porthleven, Looe etc. and this would probably entail hiring a coach which would eat into funds. William pointed out that if we had 3 coach trips that would be about £1,000 to come out of our reserves.

**Date of Next AGM: 14th January 2020**