

Committee Meeting of Bracknell and Wokingham Community Band

Wednesday 19 July 2017 at 7:00pm in OLC, Bracknell.

Present: Marc Edwards, Elin Davis, Kevin Ransom, Paul Foster, Kate Tunstall, Jacquie Champion, Ruth Wise, Vicky Mathers, Karen Dower, Gill Leather, Kim Foster, Karen Lintell-Smith.

Apologies: Steve Harrison, Lorraine Vaughan.

Matters Arising

Conductors Stand – Elin to source one with flaps and possibly lights. Elin will then e-mail Kate and Paul.

Maestros Contract Renewal

This is being chased by Kate. Clarity is required about conductor's hours and the price and number of times percussion may be used in concerts.

Website

A refresh of the BWCB website was discussed. Harry Tunstall has done some research with costings. Prices are £6.84 per month, or £62 per year, or £114 for 2 years. The committee agreed the best option was £114 for 2 years. Harry is to do a "mock up" of the new website using information from Kevin, Elin and Marc. This will be discussed at an additional website only committee meeting on 30 August 2017.

Please note that the domain name needs to be renewed in April 2018.

PRS

There was a discussion as to whether BWCB requires a PRS licence when performing. Kevin is to research this and let the committee know his findings.

Term Dates: The committee agreed that the term dates should be longer than teaching terms.

Dates are as follows for the 2017/2018 academic year:

Autumn Term – 6 September to 13 December

Spring Term – 10 January to 28 March

Autumn Term – 18 April to 11 July.

Each term will have a one week half term holiday.

Meeting Dates

After a lengthy discussion, the committee meeting dates for the next academic year were agreed as follows:

3 January 2018

18 July 2018

AGM

This will be on 27 September 2017. There will be separate meetings for Beaufort Band at 6:30pm and Second Wind and Concert Band together at 8:15pm.

Membership

Current numbers are: Concert Band 54, Second Wind 39 and Beaufort 31. There are also 9 who play in both Concert Band and Beaufort.

New joiners will be allowed 3 taster sessions and will then be liable for fees for a half term, or full term from when they first started.

Any relevant comments from the new members form will be collated by Ruth and brought to the next committee meeting.

Finances

Total bank account balances at 19/7/17 are £15,182. There are additional payments to be made of £2,890 for the current academic year. Of this £12,292, a total of £774.52 is ring fenced to Second Wind, Breakaway Brass and Big Band. This leaves £11,517.48 available funds. The committee felt that we should keep at least £5,000 as a lower limit in savings.

As term lengths are to increase by 10%, then fees for all bands and associate membership are to increase by 10%. An e-mail detailing these changes will be sent out before the end of July.

The committee discussed whether Elin should stay for an additional 45 minutes with Concert Band. The committee agreed that this should be financed solely by Concert Band. This would mean an additional raise in subscriptions over and above the 10% already stated. Marc is to send an e-mail to Concert Band detailing this proposal and stating the benefits to the band. Concert Band members will be asked to complete an online questionnaire as to whether they agree or disagree with this proposal. A "none response" will be taken as a positive reply.

Additional Spends

- Cor Anglais – discontinue hire as it does not offer value for money and Concert Band now has a player with a cor anglais.
- Masterclass – there was a discussion as to whether to run masterclasses. The committee agreed that this should be financed by those participating rather than from band funds. This will be discussed further in the future.

- Percussion – there are the following missing percussion items: a triangle, one maraca and a tambourine. Kate is follow this up.
- Stand replacement –Kate will look at the existing stands and make new bags as required over the summer.

Alto Clarinet

BWCB have been approached by another band to use this. The committee have suggested a hire charge of £40 per term.

Payment of deps

There was a long discussion as to how much deps should be paid. It was agreed that the payment needs to be consistent, reasonable and notifiable in advance. The committee agreed an offer should be made of payment for expenses up to £10 or a bottle of wine.

Lost music

There is an anticipated cost for missing music of £69. It was reiterated that the band librarians must check all music before distribution to ensure it agrees to the Maestros lists. Maestros must be told of any discrepancies.

Problems for Concert Band

There are ongoing parking problems for players in Concert Band arriving at 8:15pm. There are concerns from some members of the band about damage to their cars in the OLC car parks. There are the following possibilities (which are not an exhaustive list):

Using the facilities at Brackenhale School next door, although we are not sure if this is an option.

One or more bands move their rehearsal night or venue, but this would mean that the 3 bands would not rehearse on the same night in the same venue. This is not ideal.

The choir could be approached to see if they could change rehearsal night.

Car sharing across all 3 bands. We will trial this as an interim measure next term.

AOB

Purchasing of music

The budget for the purchase of music was agreed to be increased to £450 per band per year.

There will now be a procedure in place whereby the conductor completes an online purchase requisition form, before any music is bought. Paul will also keep the conductors up to date as to how much of their annual budget remains throughout the year. This will allow planning for future purchases. If the conductors are approaching their limit and would like to purchase more music, then they will need to e-mail the committee, or discuss the matter at the next committee meeting.

Meeting closed at 10pm.

Next meeting

30 August 2017 – Discussion of website

DRAFT