

Minutes of the Semitones Annual General Meeting. 8 January 2017, 3pm.

Present: Katharine, Matthew, Annette, Jen, James, Susan, Michael, Peter, Neil, Jennifer, Tony, Rachel, Sylvia, Carol, Clive, Annika, Sophie, Helen, Ewa.

1. The list of Semitones players was circulated for updating.
2. The meeting reviewed the summary of last year's activities, written by Diana. If anyone would like to add anything to this, please let Ewa know. Annette pointed out that the magazine Making Music had published an article on Semitones last year and that this could be reported in the annual overview.
3. It was agreed that the annual overview, together with the minutes of the AGM and the annual financial report, should be stored electronically and be available to members. These could either be put onto the Semitones website or stored on a separate Google drive. These possibilities will be explored further.
4. Annette reported on last year's financial activity. We had a total income of £2,525 (£2,050 of which came from a number of successful grant applications) and a total expenditure of £1355.87. At present, we have £2,156.25 in the bank. Members expressed their thanks to Annette for all her hard work in applying for funding. The current application for the Making Music "Epic Award" needs to be submitted by next Thursday.
5. Annette announced that we have £300 to spend on sheet music and invited members to submit suggestions. Some possibilities are: Beatles songs; Scarborough' Fair; Choir of the Hebrew Slaves, a Johann Strauss medley, songs from My Fair Lady and band music by Herb Alpert. Ewa asked members to check if sheet music was available for their chosen pieces and email the details to her.
6. Members aired their concerns that the words for the Geordie songs were difficult to read for many of the care home residents and it was agreed that we should use song sheets with a large font (and only include three verses). Clive offered to prepare new laminated song sheets for four songs.
7. The following roles were discussed and agreed:
  - i) Ewa will continue as Chair, unless anyone else is interested.
  - ii) Annette will continue as Treasurer.
  - iii) Jen will continue to organise the care home concerts.
  - iv) Sylvia will continue to organise the other concerts, and if anyone has any suggestions for additional concerts, they should contact Sylvia.
  - v) Jennifer and Katherine will continue to provide the music folders, and Jennifer will continue sending out the pre-concert emails. However, it was agreed that the conductor should be asked to organise the concert programmes. Ewa will contact Alex about this.
  - vi) Peter will continue to look after the key.

- vii) Michael is willing to continue as webmaster.
- viii) Tony will continue looking after the keyboard and rattles, and will arrange a substitute when necessary.
- ix) Carol will telephone the care homes prior to each concert to confirm that arrangements are in place.
- x) Susan expressed an interest in looking after the Google drive but pointed out that she could not start on this straight away. If anyone else is interested in this role, please contact Ewa.

Ewa expressed her appreciation to those members who were willing to continue in their roles.

8. The meeting closed at 4pm and the members thanked Ewa for all her hard work. It was followed by a rhythm workshop funded from our successful grant application to the Skipton Building Society.

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