**Spring Grove Fringe**

**Minutes**

**10 October 2022**

**17.30**

**53 Mill Street, Kingston upon Thames**

**Present:** Sandy Gavshon (Chair) Jayne Britten (Treasurer) Amanda Shaw (Secretary) Helen Dawson; Nigel Duffin; Daisy Jones; Scott Milligan; Jenny Robson; Tony Tresigne.

The Minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

**Matters Arising**: Sandy and Nigel are preparing a press release for local newspapers.
Jayne has bought plastic covers for the bar and food tables
Framing of posters and storage thereof is being undertaken by Sandy. Nigel explained that electronic versions of the latest posters are on the website.
Nigel and Amanda reported on their confrontation with the Hall Committee the day before. Discussion on this subject took place and it was agreed that Sandy would write to the Parish Hall Committee concerning our general concerns about financial and other matters.

**Financial Report**:

The accounts for the financial year 2021/22 were reviewed. The activity for the year had been reduced due to COVID, however there had been two successful productions and a quiz night. The net contribution from these including bar profits was £3,478. Other income from memberships subscriptions and gift aid receipts was £1273 and the fixed costs including hall hire, props & costume storage facility, insurance & sundry equipment were £3650. The overall surplus for the year allowed £1200 to be donated to local charities.

Independent review of accounts to be carried out by Jonathan Rollason. Treasurer’s report to be prepared for the AGM.

The draft budget and cash flow forecast for 2022/23 was reviewed along with the underlying assumptions. Key points are the significant increase in hall hire costs this year alongside increasing food & drink costs. Ticket and bar prices have had to be increased to reflect this. It was noted that if there continue to be 4 productions each needs to contribute at least £750 to cover fixed costs over the year before determining the amount to be donated to charity.

A scenario with only three shows has also been created along with cash flow forecast to assess the potential impact. The group remains solvent with this scenario however careful cash management would be needed to maintain cash in the bank at certain crucial points, particularly April and approaching the year end.

The budget to be revised to reflect committee input particularly reducing assumed show input below maximum numbers . It was also agreed that JB would contact Tony Hardy to agree movement to monthly payment of the hall hire for Wednesday nights to help cash flow.

Membership subscriptions are due October, Direct debit collections of £570 have been received, remainder to be chased over next few weeks.

The first show, Best of the Musicals, was well attended this weekend, the accounts for this are still being prepared. An initial draft indicates a likely contribution of about £1350, which would enable a potential donation of £500, provided there are 4 productions this year.

It was agreed donations will be distributed later in the year when there is more certainty about the finances from future shows.

**Forthcoming Productions**:
Sandy thanked Daisy, Amanda, Helen, Jenny, Nigel, Adrian and Edwin for their success putting on the Musicals show.

Sandy raised how exhausted everyone was after Musicals, and the general lack of enthusiasm for a November show, and we discussed whether SGF has the stamina and support to continue to produce 4 shows each year. The Committee is considering that one slot should be something like a quiz night

**November**: Bethany has offered to direct Death at the Deanery. She will be “supported” by Sandy. As this is a one act play, the second half of the evening will be a murder-based quiz with questions by Nigel and Roger. David Hamilton will be asked to compere. Tickets will be £20.

**February:** Nigel and Amanda are working on ***Camelot the Panto***.

**May**: Sandy has proposed directing ***Present Laughter***. Helen asked it to be noted that she was not available to stage manage this.

**Annual General Meeting**: the date has been set for 16 November at 1900. Diana Robertson has agreed to let us have the Hall early so that the meeting can take place before the rehearsal. She will ask Frances Hazelgrove to invoice us accordingly.

**Christmas Party**: Hoping for the agreement of Management, Scott offered to host on 9 December.

**Any Other Business**:

Discussion took place about the effectiveness of leafleting local streets to recruit new members. Scott felt it better to approach the PSAs of local schools to try to get parents involved. Nigel has produced a draft leaflet. It was suggested that we try and be more active on social media.

Jenny said that she would stay on the Committee but would step back from productions for the coming year as she had childcare commitments and wanted to travel.

Nigel said he would like to produce another issue of OTF – he needed copy including a review of the Musicals.

**Date of the Next Meeting** : Monday 12 December.

The Meeting ended at 1955.