



Minutes of Shaddo Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 12 May 2021 (Via Zoom)

Present

Gareth Jones, Angela Jones, Hilary Tucker, Cheryl Milne, Neill Wilkinson, Pam Hudgell, Ashley Wright, Liz James, Simon Classey

In attendance

Charmaine Wood, Peter Crowther, Neil George

Apologies

Henry Loud, Pip Collings

Cheryl started by welcoming everyone to the meeting in her capacity as Chair.

1. Play Readings

Cheryl reported that she had spoken to a member of staff at the Baskerville about holding the play readings there, and that they were going to speak to Simon Cromack and get back to her. She would then advise Peter of the position and who to contact at the Baskerville, as well as telling everyone else on the committee what the Baskerville had said.

**Action: Cheryl and Peter**

Cheryl advised that the Baskerville would not be opening on Mondays so it was agreed that the June and July 2021 play readings would be held on Tuesdays instead. Peter was happy with this.

The agreed dates are Tuesday 8 June 2021 and Tuesday 6 July 2021.

It was agreed that it would be decided nearer the time, based on Covid regulations in force, whether there would be a strict limit on numbers and whether the play readings would be held inside or outside.

Gareth agreed to send Peter the php mailing list instructions so that Peter could send information out to members about the play readings, including the chosen plays.

**Action: Gareth and Peter**

2. Future events

Cheryl and Hilary reported that they had not received any written ideas or views from members following the AGM.

The following events were discussed:

(a) Pantomime in January 2022

It was recognised, and accepted, that it was currently very difficult to plan anything definite at the moment, but it was agreed that it would be a good idea to kick off with some preliminary planning on the basis that we would like to put on a pantomime in January 2022 if possible.

Gareth reported that there was no definite information as yet about constraints at the Memorial Hall. He had heard from Bob (Chair of the Memorial Hall Committee) who had advised that the possible constraints were not yet known (e.g. as to numbers or distancing/capacity requirements). The committee also recognised that there could be issues with numbers and distancing in the Green Room and on stage etc.

Bob had suggested that we put provisional bookings in place and more would be known by the end of the summer. It was therefore agreed that we would make provisional hall bookings for the same "timeframe" as per previous years. We would then review these at the end of the summer and decide what to do.

Cheryl agreed to make the bookings and Gareth agreed to send Cheryl the schedule of bookings we had used previously.

**Action: Gareth and Cheryl**

It was agreed that it might be best not to try to be too ambitious this time due to the likely constraints on time and rehearsal/performance conditions. It was felt that the "Snow Queen/Frozen" script was quite ambitious, so we would also try to identify another (simpler) script with a smaller cast for consideration and decide which to use (if any) around July time.

It was agreed that, if it proved impossible to stage a pantomime, we would aim for another type of show in the same sort of time slot. It was recognised that it might be more feasible to stage a variety type show where acts could be rehearsed more independently and there would be a reduced requirement for everyone to work out of a Green Room.

It was agreed, as a first step, that Gareth, Cheryl, Hilary and any others interested, would try to identify suitable alternative scripts for consideration by the committee. They would let the committee have any details and these would then be discussed at the next committee meeting in June (see below for date). Gareth would send out a copy of the Panto Script Evaluation Form.

**Action: Gareth, Cheryl, Hilary and anyone else who is interested in looking at possible scripts**

**(b) Summer event**

It was agreed that some form of variety show/social/drinks/picnic style event would be an aim for summer 2021.

Neil George mentioned that it might be possible to hold this in the marquee erected for the Binfield Heath show in August. It was felt that it would be easy to socially distance in this tent with groups of six on a table. It might be possible to have music, choral type singing, magic, other variety acts, drinks and food (people could perhaps bring their own food).

Neil suggested that the junior members could perhaps get involved by doing "George and the Dragon", a mummer's play, which was not difficult to learn and would last about 15 or 20 minutes.

It was agreed that it would be a very good idea to explore this Binfield Heath option and Cheryl agreed to speak with Charlie Foster (show chair) to see if this would be possible.

It was agreed that, if this was possible, a sub-group would be formed to take the organisation of the event forward.

**Action: Cheryl, Sub-committee (when formed)**

One other idea was that perhaps the marquee at Shiplake College could be used to hold an event. It was agreed to explore this idea if it was not possible to use the Binfield Heath tent.

(c) Gilbert and Sullivan event (similar to previous Trial by Jury event)

This was an idea arising from the AGM.

It was agreed that, if we were going to pursue the events above, it would be too much to also attempt to put on a G&S show.

It was however agreed that it might be possible to perform a G&S song as part of a variety show, either in the summer (or in January if there was no pantomime). This could perhaps be a well-known number from, say, the Pirates of Penzance, which could be performed in costume.

(d) Shaddo BBQ

This was another event arising from the AGM. Cheryl had very kindly agreed to host this in her garden.

It was agreed that this would take place on Saturday 4 September 2021 at about 5pm.

3. AOB

(a) New members

Liz reported that four new members had been added to the mailing list since the AGM, which was very good news.

(b) Communications

Gareth reported that there had been no further feedback from people wanting to be involved with comms.

(c) Play reading scripts

Peter advised that he had two boxes of scripts and it was agreed he would keep them for the time being pending the transfer of the play readings to Pam and Rosemary. It was agreed that this would be better than storing them at the Memorial Hall.

(d) Communication with members re summer and autumn events

It was agreed that it was a bit early to send out information about the BBQ at this stage and that it would be better to try and firm up the summer event and then send out a mailing to all members after the next meeting. It might also be possible to give some preliminary news about the panto at this stage too.

Hilary agreed to write a summer newsletter after the next meeting to go on the website. This would provide a more informal update to all members on events and other news.

**Action: Hilary (after next meeting)**

(e) 12 Days of Christmas event

It was agreed that it would be good to repeat this online event this year. It was also agreed that it would be best to organise the participating videos by mid-November. Cheryl said that she would be happy to co-ordinate this.

**Action: Cheryl (future action)**

**(f) Next committee meeting**

It was agreed that this would be held on **Wednesday 9 June 2021 at 7.30pm.**

This would be via Zoom (unless it was possible to hold it in person at the last minute) and Hilary would generate a zoom link and agenda prior to the meeting. Hilary would also let the committee have the minutes of this meeting, with actions, as soon as possible.

**Action: Hilary**

Cheryl closed the meeting with thanks to all for attending.