

# Crystal Palace Band

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 18 April 2018

**Present:** Bob Barnes, Tom Whittaker, Peter Forbes, Richard Lovett, David Storey, David Gillman, John White, Ross Dunsmore, Roger Morton, Margaret Larkin, Heather Pearce, Adam Payn, Kim Golson, Rachel Bleech, Roger Bleech, Carol Maher, Chris Maher, Martin Garnett, Nikki Maher, Alan Murdoch, Graeme Cornish, Tara Robertson-Hall, Ben Ward, Catherine Tinker, Laura Channel, Maurice Gourd, Alex Patterson, Dianne Barker, Ben Dowsett, Phillip Aitken.

Tom Whittaker opened the meeting at 8.07pm and thanked everyone for attending. The aim is to review the year, elect a committee and talk about any issues.

**Apologies:** David Charlesworth, Mike Gray, Colin Robinson, Kenneth May, Luke Thompson, Alison Charlesworth, Anne Taylor, Mike Cook.

### Approval of Minutes of last AGM

- No comments from last year – minutes agreed

### Reports from Committee Members

All reports are on the band website for all to read

#### Secretary - Rachel Bleach

- No questions for Rachel on her report.
- Danny proposed thanks to Rachel for all the work she does for the band as secretary. Everyone agreed and thanked Rachel.

#### Treasurer – Tom Whittaker standing in for David Charlesworth

- Thank you to Luke for double-checking the finances this year.
- We made a £1800 surplus this year.
- We lost £590 on the Gala concert but this included the beer and pizza bought for the players
- There is a new data protection act coming in. As members of the band we keep personal details. Name, address, phone number, instrument you play, availability for jobs. This data is only used for the running of the band. If you leave the band we keep your data but you can request for us to remove it.
- Kim asked if we would have a formal policy written up. David has written one and this will be emailed to all members when the yearly request for subs is emailed out.
- David suggested that we keep the subs as they are. They are due after the AGM. This was unanimously agreed.
- Tom thanked David for all the work he has done as treasurer this year.

#### Librarian - Richard Lovett

- Richard thanked everyone for looking after the music.
- The progress band were asked to make copies of music if they want to practice at home rather than take pads home. This was agreed.
- The band has spent the same amount of money on music as was spent last year.
- Tom thanked Richard for all his hard work as the librarian.

#### Progress Band – Dave Howell / Bob Barnes

- There's a young boy who comes on his own and arrives before other band members arrive. Can Dianne let him into the building before other people arrive? It was agreed that she couldn't. Alison to be asked to have a word with his parents.
- Tom thanked Dave and Bob for their hard work with the Progress Band.

#### Property – Ben Ward

- There has been a lot of hard work done by David, Richard, Adam, Dianne and Ben to put together an asset register. We now know who has got what instruments / band equipment.

- The next steps are to put together an instrument repair list and which instruments we need to sell / keep.
- A maintenance plan for the instruments we have will also be put together. This will include instructions for band members on how to clean their instruments. Ben to send an email around about this.
- A big thank you to Chris and Carol for driving percussion and band equipment to and from band jobs.
- Thanks to everyone who helps set up and put away the percussion at rehearsals.
- It was requested that we don't wear band jackets to jobs. Please bring them in their band jacket cases. Jackets are expensive to maintain and replace so it's important to look after them well.
- We are looking at purchasing a set of stand banners for the Progress Band.
- Dave asked if the committee could consider purchasing a better PA system for gigs. This is to go on the agenda for the next committee meeting.
- Dave mentioned that we need to be careful of equipment we leave downstairs when we are rehearsing and the doors are open as people could come in and steal it.
- Tom thanked Ben for his work as property master.

### **Musical Director - Mike Gray**

- Big thanks to both bands for working so hard this year. Mike has really enjoyed being the musical director for the main band this year.
- Mike thanked Danny for stepping in and conducting rehearsals, taking the band at the competition and for running sectionals. He also thanked John Hargreaves for his help with conducting.
- Band need to work hard now that we are in the third section.
- Mike thanked Dave Howell for his conducting support.

### **Chairman's Report – Tom Whittaker**

- It's been a fantastic year and a privilege to be the Band's Chairman.
- Welcome to all new members. It's great to have you in the band.
- Thanks to both MD's and thanks to Danny for depping when needed.
- Thanks to Dianne for opening up for rehearsals and out of hours.
- Highlights were coming third at Butlins having just been promoted to the third section and the Gala concert celebrating Mike's 30<sup>th</sup> year with the band.
- Please can everyone have a read of the band child protection policy.
- Thanks to Alison, Margaret, Dave and Carol for being our child protection officers.

### **Election of New Band Committee**

#### **No new nominations were received and all current committee members happy to stand again.**

- Roger proposed Tom as Chairman, Graham seconded. Tom Whittaker unanimously voted in.
- Property Master – Dianne proposed Ben Ward, Graham seconded. Ben Ward unanimously voted in.
- Librarian – Roger M proposed Richard Lovett, Rachel Bleech seconded. Richard Lovett unanimously voted in.
- Publicity - Ben proposed Nicci Maher, Carol Maher seconded. Nicci Maher unanimously voted in.
- Treasurer – Tom proposed David Charlesworth, Rachel Bleech seconded. David Charlesworth unanimously voted in.
- Secretary – Ben proposed Rachel Bleech, Carol Maher seconded. Rachel Bleech unanimously voted in.
- Assistant Secretary – Tom proposed Cath Tinker, Peter Forbes seconded. Cath Tinker unanimously voted in.
- Progress band chair – Tom Whittaker proposed Bob Barnes, Kim Golson seconded. Bob Barnes unanimously voted in.
- Webmaster – Ex officio role – Tom Whittaker proposed Roger Morton, Rachel Bleech seconded. Roger Morton unanimously voted in.
- Ex officio - Danny proposed Laura, Alan seconded, Laura unanimously voted in.
- Ex officio - Adam proposed Dianne, Ben seconded, Dianne unanimously voted in.

## **Any Other Business**

### **Band Waterproof jackets – walking out jackets**

- The committee has discussed getting waterproof soft shell jackets. Heather, Rachel and David Charlesworth are currently looking into this.
- Members might want to pay for their own jackets, which they can then keep. The band would also have spares that they could loan out to people.
- The band would go for a black jacket with a band logo.
- A vote was taken on whether people would be interested in doing this. Most people were keen on this idea.
- Tom asked the Progress Band to discuss in their committee.

### **Are we contesting too much?**

- This year we did Butlins, Scaba and then the areas. We were going to do the entertainment one in May but have decided not to. We are considering an entertainment one in the autumn.
- Roger Morton thinks four contests in four months is too many. Three works better.
- Carol said that Butlins was good as it got the band away for a weekend. If we could do the entertainment one in Autumn then we could use some of our summer pieces in the competition
- Ben Ward agreed with Roger Morton that four contests in four months was too much.
- Ben Dowsett asked what the goal of contesting for the band was. Are we aiming to improve? It was agreed that we were aiming to improve and therefore should keep the focus on contesting.
- Dave Howell said that if we wish to get better as a band in contesting then we would need to do two rehearsals a week near the contest times.
- Graham Cornish mentioned that because of the way the numbers work we have to be consistent in the areas to go into 2<sup>nd</sup> section.
- Danny said we need to be more strategic with our players if we want to progress to the second section.

### **Music Repertoire – Roger Bleech**

- Roger Bleech asked if the original spreadsheet to make music suggestions could be launched again.
- Richard Lovett stated that there is a document on the band website that allows people to put music suggestions on. Richard said he would email the link round.
- Roger Bleech asked if the English dances 1-4 could be removed from the music pad, as we never play them. Richard said that over the years we have been trying to play those pieces but new pieces have taken preference. This should hopefully change this year.

### **Percussion – Adam Payne**

- Adam thanked everyone for helping him put up/away load/unload all the percussion and asked if people could continue to help out. This was agreed by members.

### **Dianne – Van**

- We are no longer going to have the van as Chris and Carol have moved away.
- Mike currently takes a lot of percussion and doesn't like to ask for help. Mike does a lot and he shouldn't have to do this
- Is anyone else willing to drive a van?
- Finding a solution for taking the percussion to jobs is to be added to the next committee meeting agenda.

### **Tom – A new Rehearsal Room**

- The acoustics in the museum are not great for rehearsing so the committee have been discussing finding a new rehearsal room.
- Graham Lunn is a vicar in a local church. The main band currently rehearse there before contests. There is a thought to move all rehearsals there. The acoustic is better in this church.
- This isn't something that would happen this calendar year but is a possibility for 2019

### **Roger Morton – Trips abroad**

- Roger Morton said he missed the band trips abroad.
- Ben Ward is looking into the logistics of the band competing in the French open in June. You play on the Saturday and then you have to take part in the marching contest on the Sunday.

**Meeting closed at 9.08 pm**