**Crystal Palace Band**

**Committee Meeting - Tuesday 16th July 2019**

**Present**: Tom Whittaker, Richard Lovett, Rachel Bleach, Catherine Tinker, Bob Barnes, Dave Howell, Ben Ward, Ben Dowsett, Heather Pearse, David Charlesworth.

**Apologies**: Mike Gray, Laura Channel

**Actions arising from the meeting:**

**Tom Whittaker**

* Speak to the band about stepping down from the committee and the requirement for a new chair.
* Speak to the band about who can attend rehearsals over the summer

**David Charlesworth**

* Let museum know names of keyholders
* Order new storage cabinets for the museum
* Order a Xylophone
* Speak to the museum about extending usage time on a Wednesday and the potential increase in donation.

**Ben Ward**

* Start the refurbishment of current band instruments.

**Cath Tinker**

* Call chair supply company to request a sample chair.

**Bob Barnes**

* Investigate having acoustic improving cabinet covers made - hopefully in the autumn.
* Purchase a noise monitor for the band room.
* Look into other ear protection alternatives other than stand barriers.

**Rachel Bleach**

* Speak to Regents Park about parking permits
* Check dates of 30th Nov and 14th December with Graham
* Need to renew Muzodo for the main band - $50

**Richard Lovett**

* Submit music expenses to David C
* Speak to Mike about getting the music suggestion spreadsheet up and running again

**MATTERS ARRISING:**

Forthcoming Jobs, Contests And Concerts

* Stroke association – do we have enough people for this job.

**Christmas / pre-Christmas Concert**

* Committee in favour of doing a concert
* Rachel to check dates of 1st and 14th December with Graham Lunn and availability of St Michael’s Church.

**PROGRESS BAND**

Not doing Copleston Christmas concert this year.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Susie Emmett has recently joined the band on front row. She can’t always commit to rehearsals / jobs because of her job (she is an actor).

**FINANCES**

* All subs have been collected.
* Gig fees are going to look quite light this year due to lack of jobs
* 5% subs being set aside as chairman’s discretionary fund. Currently standing at £175.
* £250 outstanding music costs - Richard to submit expenses

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Progress Band Half hour coaching session**

PB trying to address the issue of getting bigger and better which means it is difficult to accept people who are only grade 2. Suggestion made that we should considered starting a 3rd band. It was felt better to start 30 mins early for people who are grade 2 standard before they move into the progress band. Richard Harber, trombone, would lead this with the support of Harry Weir, bass. Mim’s mum has offered to do child protection.

**Potential Issues**

* Extending use of the museum - could we propose an increase in our donation to the museum so that they allow this.
* Who would open up the museum?
* Music – could use easy items from the Progress Band music pad.
* Parking not free at that time.
* How do we get people to come along - suck it and see?
* Opportunity for people to try different instruments, try different positions (i.e. front row rather than back row).
* How do we manage instrument usage and keep track of who has which instrument.
* Launch date in mid-September.

Bob asked the committee how they felt about this - all the committee were behind this idea.

David C to talk to the museum about increasing the hours used on Wednesday and an increased donation for this extra time.

**Band Room Chairs**

The Postura chairs won’t stack close enough together to be able to fit them into the chair storeroom. Origin-Pop chairs have been suggested. These are a bit more expensive but stack better. They are also lighter than Postura Chairs. Cath to call to see if we can have a sample. <https://www.costcuttersuk.com/origin-pop-heavy-duty-polypropylene-chair-bulk-deal?search=origin>

**Music selection for rehearsal and bandstand**

It is felt that the music being played in rehearsal / on the band stand can sometimes be a little dry. There were a number of suggestions made:

* Collate feedback from the band about programme music
* With new music suggestions get people to listen to them then decide which ones we should do.
* Certain pieces come in for a few rehearsals and then sit in the pad – should we just take them out.
* Restart the music spreadsheet and use it to decide music for the summer concert programme and rehearsals.

Dave to speak to Mike about how the repertoire can be changed up a bit.

Dave, Ben, Richard and Mike to speak about potential changes to the music played on the bandstand and in rehearsal.

**Committee succession planning for 2020**

Tom informed the committee that he will not be carrying on as chair from November so we need to decide a new chair.

Ben also said he would not be standing as property master at the next AGM but is happy to continue on the committee.

Rachel and Cath both said they were considering stepping down as well, so there may be some big changes next year. [Rachel later decided against doing this as she felt as losing both the band chair and band secretary at the same time would not be a good idea.]

How do we ensure we have continuity? We need to prime people within the band and ensure we have continuity going forwards. Ben said he would be happy to take on the role of chair in the interim.

Tom to speak to the band about this on Wednesday.

**Butlins Contest, January 2020**

We are currently short of a few players: a flugel and bass players.

Ben Dowsett has agreed to play bass trombone and Kim to play 2nd or 3rd cornet.

**Noise Monitor**

Bob and Dave looking at purchasing one for the bandroom to see what the noise levels currently are at rehearsal. We can then use it to determine how effective our noise barrier methods are. The committee authorized funds of £150 for this.

**Rehearsals over the summer**

We have the following conductors over the summer

17th July – Mike

24th July - Alan

31st July - Danny

7th August - Danny

14th August – rehearsal to be cancelled

21st August - Mike

Tom to speak to the band to get a show of hands to see who can attend rehearsals. It was also later agreed that these rehearsals were put on Muzodo so that both Alan and Danny knew who would be attending.

**Date for the next meeting** – **Tuesday 1st October 2019.**

**Thank you to David Charlesworth for hosting the meeting.**