**Crystal Palace Band**

**Committee Meeting - Tuesday 1st October 2019**

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

**Apologies**: Laura Channel, Dave Howell.

**Actions arising from the meeting:**

**Tom Whittaker**

* To speak to the band about taking time off from the band and that David C will be interim chair.

**David Charlesworth**

* To take up role as interim chair

**Ben Ward**

* Start the refurbishment of current band instruments;
* Send the recording of the area test piece to the committee

**Bob Barnes**

* Investigate having acoustic-improving cabinet covers made - hopefully in the autumn.
* Purchase a noise monitor for the band room - £150 spend limit.
* Look into other ear protection alternatives other than stand barriers.

**Cath Tinker**

* Call chair supply company to request a sample chair.
* Check if Paul M is available for the Stroke Association job at London Bridge Station
* Book extra accommodation for additional Butlin’s players
* Ask Luke if he could do poster for the Christmas concert

**Heather**

**Rachel Bleach**

* Put new committee meeting date on Muzodo.
* Confirm Belmont with Roger Morton
* Speak to Graham about food/drink offering for the Christmas concert
* Register Ambrose, Dave Mansfield and John Holland for Butlins
* Speak to Graham about doing marching practice at his church one Wednesday.

**Richard Lovett**

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

**Roger Morton**

* Add link on the Librarian page to the music spreadsheet.

**MATTERS ARRISING:**

Forthcoming Jobs, Contests And Concerts

* Tuesday 29th October – Stroke Association. Using music out of the pad. Need to get traps, tuba and music there. Rachel to ask if there is parking for this job and if there are chairs. Cath to check if Paul can do this job. David C to drive the car if there is parking.
* Belmont – We are going to do this. Rachel to confirm with Roger Morton
* Venn Street Market have asked if we would play carols – Rachel to put a date on Muzodo.

**Christmas / pre-Christmas Concert**

* Committee in favour of doing a concert- date agreed - 14th December at St Michael’s Church.
* Ask Luke to do create poster again - Cath.
* Ask Graham if he is doing the food again. If not we need to look at this - Rachel
* David C to put poster on social media and get it around shops.
* Last year we split the money with the church. Are we doing this again – Rachel to confirm with Graham.

**PROGRESS BAND**

* Plans to start a 6 O’clock Band have unraveled as Harry can no longer make it due to his academic timetable. The band are looking for a brass teacher/conductor to fill this role before it can start.

**MEMBERSHIP**

* Rachel is going to register Ambrose Gibbons, David Mansfield and John Holland for Butlins.
* Danny is going to have a break from the band after Butlins.
* Ben D has a new job and works on Saturdays which means that getting to some rehearsals and jobs is going to be tricky.

**FINANCES**

* Well down on concert fees this year.
* We’re up on Progress band subs but down on Main band subs.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Dep booking**

* Cath suggested that maybe band members could start to fill their own seats when they can’t make a job.
* Ben suggested that each section leader could fill the places
* Tom suggested that it should be one person who fills the deps.
* Heather agreed to take on this role.

Richard suggested having formal section leaders who take responsibility for ensuring that all seats are filled for jobs. The committee agreed that this would work and would help Heather finding any necessary deps. These section leaders are to be Ben, Richard and Cath.

**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.

**Music Spreadsheet**

* Link to be added from the music spreadsheet to the librarian page.

**Butlin’s Contest, Skegness – January 2020**

* Do we have the time to get the piece up to scratch and contest ready?
* Are people prepared to put the effort in to home and tutti practice?
* Why are we doing the contest – are we doing it to have a good weekend away or it to win prizes.
* We have made a commitment of the £960 deposit.
* Could we do two rehearsals a week running up to Christmas and Butlins, with additional separate rehearsals in November on Monday and Friday?
* The committee agreed that they were keen to do Butlins with extra rehearsals.
* Committee agreed to pay for John Holland’s accommodation.
* Dave Mansfield to pay a comparable cost for accommodation as other band members.

**Marching Practice**

* Could we use St Michael’s Church to practice marching? Rachel to speak to Graham Lunn.

**Area Test Piece**

* It was agreed that it would be good to play a recording of the test piece at a rehearsal so that everyone could listen whilst reading their parts.

**Playing for fun – some suggestions**

* Could we hire a bus and play gigs at various locations around London?
* Could we play on the triangle at Crystal Palace
* Could we play at the London Marathon?

**New Chair for November**

* There will be a period of time from November where Tom will not be available to be chair for the Main band.
* Richard and David have both suggested that they could do the Chair’s job.
* Richard has been thinking about wanting a change in role on the committee and feels he has the time to commit to the role of chair.
* Tom said it would be difficult to find someone to fill the role of librarian. Richard has been doing the job for 30 years.
* David said that there are two things to consider. We need an interim solution for now until April. We then need a solution from April 2020.
* Ben felt that David should be the interim chair as he has more capacity from now until April. We can then consider a more sustainable solution closer to April. This was agreed by the committee.
* Tom to let the band know that he is stepping down in April and that he won’t be around and David C will be the interim chair from now until April.

**Date for the next meeting** – **Tuesday 19th November 2019.**

**Thank you to Heather for hosting the meeting.**