**Crystal Palace Band**

**Committee Meeting - Tuesday 21st May 2019**

**Present**: Tom Whittaker, Richard Lovett, Rachel Bleach, Catherine Tinker, Bob Barnes, Dave Howell, Ben Ward, Ben Dowsett

**Apologies**: Mike Gray, David Charlesworth, Heather Pearse, Laura Channel

**Actions arising from the meeting:**

Tom Whittaker

* Speak to Main Band about:
  + the back door padlock key being kept in the drawer in the kitchen.
  + the band clear out day on Saturday 3rd August 2019
  + entering the SCABA Autumn Contest – Sunday 29th September 2019
* To check height of storage area and space available before order of new band chairs.
* Provide Bob with the acoustic plans developed by the acoustic consultants from a few years ago.

David Charlesworth

* Write the roles and responsibilities of the key holders.

Ben Ward

* Organise Saturday afternoon, date of 3rd August to be confirmed, to clear out the undercroft (all band members).
* Start the refurbishment of current band instruments.

Cath Tinker

* Think about a plan for getting percussion to summer bandstand gigs.
* Speak with Heather about helping organise the trip to Butlin’s in January.

Bob Barnes

* Speak to PB about
  + the back door padlock key being kept in the drawer in the kitchen.
  + the band clear out day on Saturday 3rd August.
* Investigate having acoustic improving cabinet covers made - hopefully in the autumn.
* Investigate the purchase of a noise monitor for the band room.
* Look into other ear protection alternatives other than stand barriers.

Rachel Bleach

* Send in entry form for Butlin’s in January 2020.
* Also depending on decision of band – enter the SCABA Autumn Contest, 29 September 2019.

**MATTERS ARRISING:**

FORTHCOMING JOBS, CONTESTS AND CONCERTS

* More people voted for Butlins in January than for the Wychavon contest in November. Committee therefore agreed that the band would go to Skegness in January. Cath to speak to Heather to see if she could help organise the trip.
* The SCABA Autumn Contest is on Sunday 29th September. Tom to check with Mike re his availability and then ask the band whether they would still like to enter.
* It was discussed as to whether we would want to do either the Oxford contest or the SCABA Spring in February or maybe something else in order to get feedback on the area test piece before the contest in March.
* Rachel mentioned that she is concerned about the lack of summer gigs so far.
* Bob questioned the commitment of some band members to band jobs and felt that band members needed to be encouraged to make as many jobs as they possibly can.

**Getting percussion to the gigs**

* Cath to put together a spreadsheet of how we get percussion to each job.
* We will probably need to hire a van for both Phoenix Gardens and Regents Park.
* Richard needs help to take a Bb bass to Folkestone.

**Christmas / pre-Christmas Concert**

Do we want to do a joint Christmas concert / entertainment concert again this year?

It’s a good opportunity to get both bands together and for each band to hear the other and most people enjoy Christmas concerts.

* Venue – would Graham’s church be happy to host again?
* Date suggested – Saturday 7th December.
* We would need volunteers to help organise and advertise it.

**PROGRESS BAND**

* PB are looking at creating an unregistered competition for local bands, using the connection with Brass Band England and Making Music.
* Bob spoke about the ever expanding size of the PB and what could be done about this. Some suggestions were:
  + create another band – needing another conductor. Harry has suggested he might be able to help with this.
  + a band share with Croydon Brass - we could encourage extra members to play there and share band members. We could even share band space. A number of the committee were not keen on this idea.

Solutions to the size of the PB need to be considered further over the next few months.

**MEMBERSHIP**

* A cornet player, Ray Mott, is hoping to come along for a blow this week.
* Following Laura’s recent advert for players a bass player, Ben Miller, has been in touch and hopes to come along soon.
* We still need another percussionist. Bob suggested contacting players that had previously been and may have been put off. Rachel said this had been done and they had unfortunately moved on.
* Bob suggested that we could try and put a percussion advert in places that non-brass banding percussionists might see.
* Dave to speak to Sian about whether she would like to play in the main band to help with summer gigs.

**FINANCES**

* Collection of subs is going well

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Starting the band on time**

Dave H suggested that he could start the main band at 8pm to do the hymns, giving Mike time to get sorted with music and ready to take over after the warm up is done.

**Working Day at the museum**

Saturday 3rd August was suggested as the day for clearing out the museum - to be put to both bands. Things to be completed on this day:

* Provide a list of all percussion equipment needed with prices to the committee – Richard / Mike / Adam / Ben
* Picture of band bass drum to be taken to be sent Potters for price of refurbishment. Amo also to be contacted for a quote – Ben/Mike.
* Clear out and tidy up of the undercroft and storage area.

**Meeting with the museum**

* Tom, Rachel and David C met Ken Kiss and Alexander Pearce, Museum Chair. It was a good meeting and they seem very amenable to working with us.
* They are happy for us to have a third & fourth person named as keyholders who can look after the keys if the primary key holders aren’t available. Mike Cook has volunteered from the PB and Ben Dowsett volunteered for the main band.
* David C has agreed to write the roles and responsibilities of the key holders.
* The band does not officially rent the museum. Under the terms of their lease from LB Bromley the museum are not permitted to sub-let the building. So the band are using the museum to rehearse and paying the museum donation for this privilege. This is why the band is unable to do structural work to the building (i.e. changing the roof tiles to help with acoustics).
* The museum’s current lease runs for another 10 years, to 2029.
* If we want to have band information/history in a cabinet we need to put a proposal together and send it to them for approval.
* The museum agreed to move the two of the large cabinets back to give the band more space but will also be putting in two new, small, display cases in the future.
* 15th – 23rd June is the Crystal Palace Festival so we will not be able to hold our work day between these dates. Other than this they are happy for us to spend a day clearing out the undercroft / sorting out our storeroom.
* They are happy for us to purchase new chairs and store them downstairs as long as it doesn’t block access to the meter cupboard.
* We said we would be happy to provide music for a suitable future event.
* The museum is unable to provide us with more space for storage.

**Acoustics in the museum**

* Bob suggested having four purpose-built cabinet covers made (potentially using the curtains we already use) with Velcro to make putting them over the cabinets easier.
* Dave H said acoustic proofing the ceiling will make the most difference. Unfortunately this is not currently an option.
* Bob requested access to the acoustic plans that were developed by the acoustic consultants who visited a few years ago. Tom to dig them out.
* Bob suggested getting a noise monitor to monitor who loud the band is. Dave said he had looked at this previously and they could be quite expensive. Bob to look into this and come back with costs.

**Band Jackets**

Ben W feels we may need to purchase a couple more band jackets, mainly for deps and is looking into prices from Your Logo Here.

The meeting finished at 10.00pm.

Date for the next meeting – **Tuesday 16th July 2019.**

**Thank you to Rachel for hosting.**