



Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 14 July 2021 (via Zoom)

Present:

Hilary Tucker, Angela Jones, Gareth Jones, Cheryl Milne (Chair), Pam Hudgell, Henry Loud, Neill Wilkinson, Ashley Wright, Simon Classey

Apologies:

Liz James

Cheryl started by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

1. Matters arising from last meeting

There were no matters arising save for the ones discussed more specifically below.

2. Play readings

It was reported that two play readings had been held at the Baskerville – one in June 2021 and one in July 2021. Both had gone well.

These were Peter's final play readings as organiser as he was passing the baton to Pam and Rosemary (Appleby). A thank you present and card were presented to Peter at the July reading, by Pam, as a token of appreciation for all his work in inaugurating the play readings and running a number of successful seasons. Cheryl thanked Hilary for organising the gifts.

Pam reported that she and Rosemary were hoping to organise a play reading in August 2021 but that they would confirm this in due course.

Action: Pam and Rosemary

3. Summer variety show

Cheryl reported that she had heard from Charlie Calderbank and that Shaddo had been given permission by the Binfield Heath (BH) show committee and the landowner to hold an event in the BH show marquee on the Saturday of the show, subject to a donation of £500 towards the costs of the marquee.

Unfortunately, however, nobody had come forward to organise the event or take the lead on an organising committee. There had been offers of help but it was felt that an overall co-ordinator was crucial for an event of this nature. It was also felt that there were still covid-related issues which could impact on such an event in August 2021.

After a detailed consideration of the pros and cons, it was felt that there were too many obstacles and that it would be appropriate to focus on other events instead, which would be slightly later in the year. It was therefore decided that this event would not go ahead and that we would draw a line under it. Cheryl would advise Charlie that the logistics were too difficult in all the circumstances and that we would not be holding the event.

4. Pantomime 2022 (or other winter event)

Cheryl, Gareth and Hilary reported that the responses from members to the Panto questionnaire had, so far, been encouraging. It was pleasing, and appreciated by the committee, to receive so many thoughtful responses from members. Gareth had collated the responses received up to the time of the meeting and had provided a summary of responses for the committee to consider. It was felt that there was clearly sufficient interest in putting on a Pantomime or similar winter show. After detailed discussion it was agreed that the way forward would be as follows:

- We would make plans to proceed with a show, hopefully to be staged in January 2022, and keep the covid situation under review – hence, starting down the “production route” at this stage;
- We would keep an open mind at the moment about the exact type of show, in case it was not possible/sensible to proceed with plans for a Pantomime (e.g. a variety performance where acts could be rehearsed in small groups);
- We would hold a “Winter Production” launch meeting at the Memorial Hall in September 2021 (see below) so that all members interested in participating in a production (on-stage or off-stage) could come along, give their views and register an interest in being involved – this would help hugely with the planning and how to take this forward;
- Cheryl would put the questionnaire on the Shiplake Villages website and we would send this out again to members in case any further members would like to complete this;
- Cheryl and Hilary would write to all members advising about the above meeting which would be held on Wednesday 8 September. Cheryl would check the hall bookings and advise the committee if this date was an issue regarding the Memorial Hall booking.

The launch meeting would be discussed further at the next committee meeting (see date below).

Action: Cheryl and Hilary

5. Summer BBQ

Cheryl reported that she was still happy to host this in her garden on Saturday 4 September. She would heat the pool so people could swim if they wanted to and had garden games. She would sort out the food (sausages, burgers etc and firepit food) and provide soft drinks but members would be asked to bring their own drinks as well. It was decided that the charge would be £10.00 per head. It was also decided that:

- Cheryl and Hilary would put out a “save the date” letter to members at this stage as they might like to know at this point when it was taking place;
- Nearer the time, Hilary would put details in a summer newsletter and Cheryl and Hilary would also send out further details to members asking for definite numbers.

Action: Cheryl and Hilary

6. Publicity and comms roles

Gareth reported that he had met up with Neill and Henry to discuss the website. Neill and Henry were now able to make changes to the website and Neill would be able to run the site if necessary at any point.

Cheryl agreed to contact Becca to see whether she would be happy to maintain the Shaddo Instagram presence.

Cheryl would also ask Liz whether she would be happy to contact all those who indicated an interest in comms/publicity roles in the questionnaire.

Action: Cheryl

7. AOB

There was no other business.

It was agreed that the next meeting (principally to move forward with the winter production and launch meeting) would take place on:

Wednesday 25 August 2021 at 7.15pm