

ILMINSTER ENTERTAINMENTS SOCIETY – Programme Committee

Minutes from meeting on Tuesday 3rd March 2020 @ 7pm

1. Present:

Julie Fowler, Malcolm Young, Brian Perkins and Paula Joslyn.

Plus Lucy Driver and Valda Dagnell - Directors from One Acts. (Sally Carrington unable to attend due to injury.)

Apologies:

Chris Williamson, Sally Carrington, Jo Neagle and Dave Goodall.

2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting 20.1.20 & Matters Arising:

Minutes approved by all members and no matters arising. Signed by MY.

3. Review of One Acts:

- VD reported that she couldn't have asked for a better cast & crew.
- LD reported that she was really happy with the collaboration between the adults and the children.
- There were some issues with absences in the week leading up due to the production being the week after half-term, but all was ok in the end.
- MY added that the author of LD's play came on the first night and was thrilled with the production, it was also the first time it had been performed.
- BP felt that one Producer across the board would be better, as there was sometimes lack of co-ordination across the three plays.
- JF fed back useful notes from her perspective as an audience member.
- Ticket sales were as good as for the last couple of years where the theme was comedy.

4. Current productions:

- a.) *SFD County Drama Festival*: All entry fees, licences & programme bits submitted to festival. Rehearsals will continue. All set.
- b.) *Youth Theatre Show inc. Fantastic Mr Fox*: Licence arranged. Everything coming along well.

- c.) *Living Together*: One cast member had to leave production for personal reasons. Director approaching other actors. (Since the meeting, the role has been recast.) Licence arranged, also entered for Phoebe Rees.
- d.) *Jane Eyre*: Adults almost completely cast. (Short of 2 smaller characters.) Auditioning children's parts Mon 2nd and Thurs 5th March.

5. **Future Productions:**

a.) *84. Charing Cross Road (Sep):*

Everything is on schedule and coming along well. Celia Crookes has agreed to be Producer.

b.) *The Hollow (Oct):*

Everything is on schedule and coming along well.

c.) *December production:*

- Michael Wills doesn't want to direct but put forward 'It's a Wonderful Life'. MY investigated – there are two versions, the one MY looked at was very expensive, a very large cast, he didn't really enjoy that version.
- We discussed who else we could approach to direct, ideas included Bryan Hallett for a possible panto, or Phil Wells. JF suggested Jane Leakey who is directing TT in DeathTrap this coming next week.
- We still have SC's suggestion of Tom's Midnight Garden. BP thinks something light would be a good fit.

6. **Incoming Shows:**

- MY handed out updated 2020 Programme List. One new booking on 17th May – MAKE Sleeping Beauty.
- Cottage Flowers have provisional dates of 1.4.20 and 18.11.20 – these will be confirmed on the calendar once invoices are paid.
- Fairtrade Film Show: MY reported it hasn't been plain sailing. Before contracts signed, all that was requested was a Duty Manager which MY agreed to be. Once contracts signed, bar and SEATY tickets required as well as a change of time. We want to help and be a part of Ilminster being a fair trade town, hence offering a favourable rate. MY will discuss with them about being more transparent from the offset for future bookings.

7. Producers Call:

- Jacq has written a fantastic piece for the newsletter; we have the social eve on the 19th where she and Chris will also be present to chat to any prospective producers. (MY will also open up The Old Bakery for this evening to help entice interest.)
- Scott Waldie wishes it to be minuted that he is still keen to act as producer for any future shows. He has been added back to the list of possible producers.

8. Play Reading:

MY reported that we have had interest for this evening, taking place on 16.4.20. He will try to find 2x One Acts and 1x Full Length; we will choose on evening depending on the attendees. Following, we will discuss how to run the evening going forward. It is hoped that this will happen on a carousal basis of one person taking charge each time.

9. AOB:

Directors Meeting @ 7.30pm on Wednesday 29th April 2020.

BP: Are the theatre arranging any celebrations for VE Day? Nothing has been arranged and the feeling was that there is already plenty going on in town. People would prefer to be outside at street parties etc.

VD: There is a possibility of interest in taking Tone Clusters to London. Cast & crew would need to be onboard, so she will keep us informed of any developments.

MY: Midsummer Experience; Heidi Morgan normally arranges stall etc in Greenfylde, but cannot do it this year. We need someone to come forward. A plea will go in the newsletter.

A suggestion of Jane Eyre cast perhaps publicising by handing out leaflets in costumes. Youth Theatre members will be getting new t-shirts and will be going around town handing out leaflets.

10. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 6th May at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.07pm.