

ILMINSTER ENTERTAINMENTS SOCIETY – Programme Committee

Minutes from meeting on Thursday 11th March 2021 @ 7pm via Zoom

1. Present:

Malcolm Young, Brian Perkins, Chris Williamson, Sally Carrington, Julie Fowler (joined from 7.25pm) and Paula Joslyn.

Apologies: Dave Goodall and Jo Neagle.

Jo is also stepping down from the committee, as she is moving away. We thank Jo and wish her all the best for the future.

2. Minutes from 18/1/21 and any matters arising:

- Minutes approved.
- The updates to the Terms of Reference are with Charlie to be put into the new format. CW will liaise with Charlie and aim to have them ready for this weekend and for the trustees to view and agree.

3. SFD Drama Festival – New June dates:

- Unfortunately, this is looking more unlikely.
- Valda, Mick & Irene are prepared to go ahead.
- Lyn is struggling to cast one of the parts and the new dates are difficult for both Lyn and Chris, so she is withdrawing.
- Chris will confirm with Phillip that there is only one production from the IES.
- CW and MY will keep us informed as and when they have updates.

4. 2021 – Autumn Productions:

- December slot – all present agreed unanimously for Tom's Midnight Garden to go ahead.
- Sally and Charlie hope to include as many Youth Theatre members as possible in the cast.
- The Neroche Arts Society money that has been very kindly gifted to the IES was discussed in relation to Tom's Midnight Garden. However, this money is specifically for sponsoring a Youth Theatre Production ONLY.
- Currently, there are no proposals for autumn productions. CW will raise this with the Trustees and send out another newsletter in April.
- CW suggested it may be easier to have only one autumn production this year – perhaps late Sep/early Oct.
- CW may also approach D&M Productions.
- Ideally, we would like a comedy for this slot.

5. Incoming shows for 2021:

- We have some dates for the Cinema in the autumn.
- 19th – 21st July: Kingsbury School booking.
- No news from the Thursday Club as yet.
- No booking from Greenfylde C of E First School as yet.
- We are not going to try and add any more bookings at the moment.
- Theatre hire: until things are more secure, we are taking no deposits, but hirers have to pay full price two weeks prior to the performance date.

6. 2022 Dates:

- 23 – 26 Feb: One Acts
- 20 – 23 April: IES Production
- 22 – 25 June: IES Production
- 7 – 10 Sep: IES Production
- 19 – 22 Oct: IES Production
- 6 – 10 Dec: Christmas Production

7. Any Other Business:

- We are not going to chase school bookings this year because of the pressure that schools are under whilst we are still in the pandemic.
- We are very grateful for the funds distributed to us from Neroche Arts Society.
- SC confirmed that the authors of Tom's Midnight Garden are David Wood and Philippa Pearce.
- PJ would like to donate a poster from 'The show must go on' theatre support fund; this could be displayed outside the theatre. CW will check with Trustees but does not think it will be a problem.
- MY and SC suggested that if we do go ahead with an event in Sally and Charlie's garden, it's probably best if we keep it as a social event at the moment, rather than trying to organise a performance.
- Lucy Driver is hoping to start the Youth Theatre up again as soon as possible, once she has had her vaccination and the theatre is ready etc. Meanwhile, the Zoom meetings with members are keeping them going.
- CW has spoken with a person new to the area and they hope to get involved with the theatre in the future.

8. Date of next meeting:

Thursday 29th April at 7pm.