

Kingsley Players Committee Meeting 22nd May 2018

Present: Colin, Jo (1st ½), Sue C, Jake, Malcolm, Sue E, Arnold
Apologies: Audrey, Kelly, Lynn

Minutes of last meeting

Approved, no matters arising

Treasurers Report

Adjusted balance in current account £4764.58.

For next meeting, will split out youth accounts, need to show ring-fenced amount of grant from council.

Don't have savings account details yet.

Figures not available yet for A Bunch of Amateurs.

Malcolm questioned whether all expenses have been paid for last 'Allo 'Allo – need to check with Arnold when he arrives later.

Colin asked whether a donation has been made to Smile Train yet – this was in lieu of his fee as the author of the last production. It doesn't look like it's been paid so Jo is paying it now - £150.

Last Production

Malcolm reported that audience numbers were better than expected. Many people booked late and there were also lots of walk-ins. It looked like an average of 70 per night, 50 on Saturday. We don't have the actual numbers yet. It was probably affected by the good weather and that many people were on holiday. Had good fun doing it. The cast were all experienced – would have liked more 'home talent' but not enough came forward.

Colin mentioned that several times the cast came on in darkness and there was a long delay before the lights came up. Malcolm explained that the lighting gallery couldn't see the stage to see the actors were there. Maybe it would be helpful to have radios for the backstage staff to communicate with the lighting gallery. The scene changes were good.

Next Production

Kelly had 21 people to the audition. More people expressed an interest but couldn't make it. She also commented about the low numbers of Kingsley based people. Kelly will invite those who couldn't attend to another audition. She has permission from Harlequins for permission to use their regency costumes. Joan will look at these. The first rehearsal will be a fitting session to establish the size of the task for the costume team.

Malcolm mentioned that to have this costume production followed by Dr Doolittle is putting a lot of pressure on the small costume team having these so close together. KP should give this some consideration when scheduling future performances.

Kelly is setting up meetings with Vic and Ann Crawford, Colin advised to also speak to Kenton. She would like the floor of Bennett's house to be dark wooden floorboards, Colin suggested lino, although this could be expensive. It would be a lot of effort to paint over the black floor, as would need painting black straight after ready for next production. Another option is to use the hall floor. They could also look at painting on the reverse side of the stage floor. There were flyers distributed at last weeks play.

January Production

Dr Doolittle, directed by Lynn.

Youth Theatre

James and the Giant Peach has been proposed by Jake for the YT in May 2019. Malcolm doesn't think it's a good idea to cut the adult May play because that only gives 1 play in the year for our members. We don't have anyone volunteering to direct a May play, Malcolm suggested advertising for a director on emails and social media – maybe someone new would like to come forward.

Jake is concerned that a March production is too close to Dr Doolittle and it makes it a struggle, especially if there's a crossover with the cast. The committee agreed to revisit the discussion at the next meeting with there are more people here to discuss it.

Three workshops are booked – Colin is doing 1, Lynn will do 1 then 1 professional singing and drama workshop led by Chloe Hart (West End star) on 8th July. Jake is also investigating going to see Swallows & Amazons.

October 2019

How the Other Half Loves, directed by Malcolm. Performing rights have now been released for performances outside London so we Malcolm has booked it. There are 3 couples, ages vary from 20s to 60s and anywhere inbetween.

'Allo 'Allo

November is fully booked (Frodsham, Ormskirk, Norley, Helsby). Neil & Lesley are dropping out, also Ian Baines. Malcolm is not making firm bookings for March until these parts have been re-cast.

Remembrance Day Play

We were asked to do a short play for the village Remembrance Day event on 11th November. Jake found a suitable play, Colin has since tried to have a meeting with various parish councilors but not had any success. Jake has since heard on the grapevine that there's been a misunderstanding and they're expecting us to organise and lead the whole event! Jake has since attended a meeting about it on Sunday, which all community groups were

invited to attend. They are planning a number of events across the village which groups can be part of, including a display, a meal, our play, a sing-a-long. Arnold offered a script we could have a look at. Colin wants to make it clear to the Parish Council that we are happy to help and to contribute, but KP is not organising the whole event. It needs a co-ordinator. Colin will go to their next meeting on Sunday 17th June (Red Bull 7pm).

Capital Expenditure Suggestions

Malcolm proposed to buy a projector. It could be used for presentations, film nights, our productions. KCA are interested in investing in it along with us. Expected amount is £3-4k which would be split between KP & KCA. Arnold has seen projection being used for sets recently and it was done very well. Colin said we have plenty of money in our savings, we should invest it in our kit. We need to sort our proscenium and our lighting, the projector could be bought too.

Arnold has issues with the lead from his keyboard to the sound system. This has happened on a few productions. Colin said we need to ensure that we investigate and fix these technical issues. Lol has mentioned there's also been an issue with one of the speakers.

Any Other Business

We've been invited by Cheshire Theatre Guild to do a 10 min extract from Goodnight Mr Tom at their annual awards evening in Macclesfield. We need to return our awards.

So far nobody has come forward to take over from Neil running the box office. We need to find someone to take over in good time so they can shadow Neil during Pride & Prejudice. We need to advertise on website and social media.

We should do 1 more reminder about joining our mailing list, before P&P.

Arnold suggested that any profit from the raffle at the panto is donated to a charity. Colin reminded that we are also a charity, Malcolm agreed. Sue C mentioned that 'Allo 'Allo already raises lots of money for external charities. We will revisit this at a future meeting.

Date of next meeting

The meetings were changed from 2nd to 4th Tuesday of the month but actually several members are not able to make this. It was decided to continue for now, with the next meeting on 26th June.