

Present: Milly, Rachel, Mike, Jan

1 Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed as a true record

2 Matters arising – none

3 Treasurer's report

Mike said that he had £18.09 in petty cash and that there was £1345.84 in the bank. The money for the hire of Malling church up to the end of July had been paid and also there had been the cost of the presentation of a copy of the 'Brewers Toast' to Miles Jenner. A £50 donation from Waldron and £35 subscription from Ann Wilkinson had been paid in. Rachel was owed £6.50 for a card and wrapping paper for Miles' presentation. Rachel said that she might need more paper for copying need in connection with the Moody and Sankey sing. She would let Mike know her expenses at the end of Sunday evening. We now owed Malling church the hire costs for the current term.

4 Past events

Friday 6 September – Eileen Dee's funeral. Rachel had managed to get a core of singers and instrumentalists together at very short notice for this very unusual, but moving, funeral at St Margaret's, Rottingdean. The only music had been a piece from Sussex Harmony and one from three members of the Copper family.

Sunday 22 September – short concert at Waldron church. The interval had turned out to be about the same length as the second half. There had been many historians in the audience and it was hoped that there might be a repeat booking.

Saturday 5 October – Old Ale Day. Many people had said afterwards that it was the best service there that we had ever done. Rene Dee had been present but had been, understandably, rather upset. It had been a very enjoyable day.

5 Forthcoming events

Sunday 13 October – 6pm, Moody and Sankey sing at St Anne's church. Rachel would print off some more copies of the songs in order to make up both sets of books so that they would all contain the same pieces. Once she had finished there should be 75 copies available for use. The Salvation Army Songsters were not able to come so Sussex Harmony would sing to give the band two breaks. Rachel had several American pieces in mind.

Sunday 27 October and Sunday 8 December – 10am, morning service at St Anne's church. We had been asked to provide music and support as they were currently without an organist.

Sunday 15 December – 6.30pm, Malling carol service.

Thursday 19 December – 7 for 7.30pm, Carol concert at St Peter's, Preston Park, Brighton.

Friday 27 December – lunchtime post Christmas sing at the Woolpack Inn, Burgess Hill. Milly would do the publicity for this and Jan would send it out to local morris sides once Milly had put something together.

2014

Rachel said that she and Nick would be away from 17 March till 8 April. Easter would be 20 April so we could possibly do a concert for St John's in Burgess Hill late April/beginning of May.

Our Sacred Harp sing could be either 31 May or 5 July.

Sunday 21 September – Harvest themed workshop and evensong for Springfield Road Methodist Church, Bexhill.

Saturday 4 October – Old Ale Day

Sunday 12 October – possible Moody and Sankey sing for Lewes Folk Festival.

Saturday 1 November – Concert at Punnetts Town. Carols, Advent, Christmas and Wassail will be covered.

Cecily Payne from Greyfriars Court had emailed Jan regarding a short concert there in December. It was agreed that we were fully booked for this year so Jan would reply with a offer of next December – possibly 4th – or some other time of the year. If they chose 4 December we could combine it with Lewes late night shopping and possibly sing in the Brewery shop afterwards.

Paula was trying to organise an event at Warbleton to help raise money towards their bells.

Dave had asked again that the committee consider events at Tarring and St Dunstan's. Rachel said that, for other events, it would be up to the person wanting them to make contact and come up with possible times, dates and possible formats for consideration. It might be possible to do a workshop and evensong or concert for St Andrew's in Tarring late June/July and use songs from their book if they would like that.

It would be nice to do some events locally in Lewes, Kingston, Offham or Isfield.

6 Any other business

Milly suggested that we could hold the post Christmas sing at the Rights of Man in Lewes High Street instead of the Woolpack Inn at Burgess Hill. She said that the back bar would be suitable and they did food. After some discussion, it was agreed that this would be a better venue than Burgess Hill as it was local to more people, including lots of the Lewes folkies, so less travelling was involved, which should make it a more attractive proposition for potential attendees. Milly would check this out with Natasha – the manager – tomorrow.

Rachel asked Milly if she could get to practices earlier as she had the key and people were waiting in the cold and dark. Also, her tardiness meant that practices did not start on time and therefore were late finishing. Milly agreed to try.

7 Date of next meeting – Monday 4 November, 8pm, at the Brewers Arms, Lewes