

PBT Youth Theatre

PB Theatricals Annual General Meeting

Saturday 11th January 2021 7:30pm – Zoom

Attendees: Michael Beale, Jamie Benson, James Sweetman, Alan Bamber, Annette Taylor, Georgina Moorewood, Sophie Cooke, Stephanie Hrywnak, Cate Taylor, Liddy Buswell

Agenda

1. Apologies.

. Apologies were received from Alan Bamber, Katie Beale and Paul Morin.

2. Minutes of previous AGM.

. The meeting agreed that the previous AGM minutes were correct. (Unanimous)

3. Treasurer's Report

- Annette provided a report on the state of the PB Theatricals finances. Our outgoings this year include NODA Membership (£72), NODA Insurance (£507.85) and bank charges (£72). Income has included money from Caroline at the Green Man Gallery from our 2018 performance (£18), money from the Rotunda from 2019 (£156), Derbyshire County Council grant (£256) plus an anonymous donation of £5000. When we put the accounts on the website, it is important that we note that the donation is for specific purposes. We have had £16.68 from Easy Fundraising and there is also some money in Paypal amounting to £35. Annette will transfer this over into the account. Paypal do take a percentage of any money that goes in. Michael suggested reviewing the set-up of the paypal account in order to avoid the charges. Currently in the bank account, there is £7,793.06. This does not include the outgoing bank charge or the money from Paypal.
- Annette will send all bank statements to Jamie, and Jamie will redact the donation of £5000 in order to keep it anonymous.

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4. Chair's Report

- Michael delivered a Report reflecting on the 2020 season (copies available by request).

Michael acknowledged that this year has been unusually difficult for PBT and people personally due to corona virus. PBT has been more inactive with a lower income, however overheads have also been reduced.

The pandemic has been an opportunity for PBT to adapt. Michael managed to edit and stream two of our productions over the past year, 2019's *The Gondoliers* and 2018's *The Mikado*. They were premiered on Facebook alongside some other shows from the back catalogue, in order to keep our online presence and remain active on social media. Facebook shows the amount of minutes watched of each production, which were as follows:

Princess Ida - 1500 minutes

Ruddigore - 1700 minutes

Patience - 1800 minutes

Yeoman of the Guard - 1300 minutes

The Gondoliers - 3600 minutes

The Mikado - 2100

We have worked to improve the distribution of communications, earlier this year we established a MailChimp account to help us communicate more directly to those on the mailing list, which currently stands at 125 people. We hope that as we begin performing again, that this will rise. PBT also ran an online G&S quiz this year, which was kept open to the public to help further our presence in the UK G&S community. It was also a chance to experiment with the donation button on the website, through which we received £35.

Looking ahead to 2021, we hope to be able to perform this year. We are looking to minimise risk by condensing the season into one show this year, auditioning 10 - 30 year olds. Once production dates are agreed by the committee and production team, we will begin marketing to new performers who are eager to do something after this year.

Naturally, we are going to have to comply with the Covid-19 restrictions so that we can ensure the safety of the cast, crew and audience. This will be developed in line with the government guidelines as they come out. Michael acknowledged that this is likely to be a difficult year, and thanked the Committee for their continued support throughout this year.

5. Producer's Update: 2020 Season Planning

Jamie informed the committee that with the current situation, it is unlikely that we will be able to have a traditional PBT Season, with a younger show and an older show. To make things simpler, the two shows will be rolled into one. He announced that the next production will be *Iolanthe* and will be open for auditions from ages 10-30. It is a show that hasn't been performed in a while and is best for engaging new performers and keeping older members in. We have done the big three shows quite recently, and this is a popular show that older members are not as familiar with.

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In terms of venues, the producers would like to stick with the Medway Centre, due to its flexible space for spacing out seating, and it is also well ventilated. The producers would like the help of the committee in finding another venue. Options could be the Hathersage Memorial Hall, Chapel Playhouse or the Pump Room in Buxton. The New Mills Arts Theatre is not ideal, as it is not flexible in terms of virus planning.

Proposed dates are Saturday 7th August to Sunday 15th August, which is later than usual, but the later that we do it, the more likely it is that we are able to go ahead.

The Committee agreed that Iolanthe is a good show to do, as it is fun for both the male and female chorus, and it is also a feel-good show.

The date may be a concern in terms of people going away on holiday. However, it is unknown whether this will be an issue with Covid-19. However, this date does avoid Y Not festival, which has previously affected performer numbers. The dates would also miss the Buxton Fringe Festival by a large margin. If the fringe accepts recorded sessions, we may be able to send in Cox & Box as a PBT submission. The G&S Festival is occurring at this time in Harrogate after 7th. It is unknown as to whether this will affect numbers in terms of audience. There have been conflicts in the past with performers, if they perform in Harrogate.

The Pump Room seats 80 people seated, however there is no backstage area. Annette advised that it has very poor acoustics. Everyone is happy with the Medway Centre, but the second venue still needs thought. It is unfeasible to do an outdoor venue due to cost and acoustics issues. It is also better to attach performances to a venue, instead of a field.

6. Committee Elections

- The following committee members were elected to the following positions:

- Chairman – Michael Beale (Jamie nominated; Sophie seconded)
- Secretary – Jamie Benson (Sophie nominated; Michael seconded)
- Treasurer – Annette Taylor (Michael nominated; Jamie seconded)
- Publicity – Sophie Cooke (Jamie nominated; Annette seconded)
- Membership Secretary – Georgina Morewood (Jamie nominated; Michael seconded)
- Costumes – Mel Chetwood (Michael nominated; Sophie seconded)
- ICT Officer - Alan Bamber (Michael nominated; Jamie seconded)
- Other members – James Sweetman (nominated; Jamie seconded)
- Stephanie Hrywnak (Jamie nominated; Michael seconded)
- Tony Samuels (Jamie nominated; Stephanie seconded)
- Cate Taylor (Michael nominated; Jamie seconded)
- Liddy Buswell (Michael nominated; Jamie seconded)

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- James Sweetman (Michael nominated; Sophie seconded)
- Katy Beale (Michael nominated; Annette seconded)
- Paul Morin (Michael nominated; Sophie seconded)

- The company would like to thank all departing committee members for their hard work and dedication to PBT over the years. We hope to see all of them at our future shows and events.

7.AOB First meeting of the new committee will be on **Friday 19th February** at **7.30pm** on Zoom.

Cate Taylor asked that the title 'Chairman' be changed to 'Chairperson', which was agreed upon.