



Cambridge University Amateur Dramatic Club

Minutes, 01.05.22, 15.00, Larkum Studio

1. Apologies for Absence

Present: Jonathan Black, Thomas Shortland, Rishi Sharma, Christian Longstaff, Zac Green, Amy Meyer, Kate South, Rosie McLeish, Tungsten Tang

Absent with apologies: Lucas Holt, Izzie Sayer, Mercy Brewer, Stephanie Cho, Tom Chandler, Rory Clarke

Absent without apologies: Lily Blundell

2. Minutes and Matters Arising.

JB acknowledges that it's C Sunday.

No matters arising from last week's minutes, except RS suggests it is made clearer when a joke is being made, rather than a bizarre suggestion.

3. Action Points

4. Event Reports

a. Directing and Producing for Tech

Workshop resources have gone out to Producing mailing lists.

b. Discounts

JB has emailed Jamie about discounts, which are now active for all committee members.

c. Garden Party

KS updates committee on garden party progress: her contact from Trinity has not responded. She raises that we will need to delegate jobs among the committee (food is possibly being sourced by the TDs, tables, blankets, etc.).

JB suggests that KS compile a list of what needs to be done and all the committee can sign up for what they would like to do.

Action: KS creates job list.

KS asks committee for further party ideas.

JB says we may need a designated nondrinker. RS offers if necessary. JB notes Trinity may not ask for this.

KS confirms the date will be Thursday 23rd June. RS is co-directing Doll's House at Peterhouse at 2:30. The date is unlikely to change because conflicts are likely every day.

JB declares intention to ensure that only members enter, because it's free food.

5. Show Reports

TS reports on *The Pied Piper*:

Sales- currently we have sold a total of 24 tickets, with the overwhelming majority being on Wednesday night. We have ordered posters and are currently waiting on them being printed and will put them up around Cambridge ASAP. We created an instagram last week with a video from rehearsals and ticket sales increased following this so we intend on uploading more teasers in the week before the show.

Production- costumes and makeup have all been bought and the last few will be sourced from the costume store. We did have a slight problem when our costume designer mistook the costume budget as £200 instead of £100 and overspent but was not aware of the costume store so we have returned a few items that are available in the costume store instead to keep to our budget. We have decided on having one set item, that being a plain sheet of wood that we can source from the gash wood to create a well illusion on stage but otherwise there are no issues regarding set and props. The music has been composed and has nearly finished being put together.

Actors- our actors have been working very hard and attending lots of in person rehearsals and the show has been really coming together. We have enough actors to cover all of the roles and have a decent sized ensemble.

Tech- we have filled out all of our tech roles. Our stage manager has had their SM training and them and I have been keyholding and safety curtain trained. We have a lighting designer and a music producer who will operate the sound for the performances. Our stage manager will do the role of both the SM and DSM as there is no requirement for moving around props that the actors cannot move or flying in any set pieces.

Overall, all is going well, and the posters are on the way. They haven't sold many tickets, although most tickets are sold on Wednesday.

KS suggests going as a 'family trip', JB suggests going on the discount day. TS asks that we go on Friday.

JB comments that in general ticket sales this term are struggling.

CL reports on the potential of an Actor's Rep workshop. He and ZG have discussed and decided that it would be too close to the show now to offer a workshop to Pied Piper. He comments that because Arianna is in Enron, rehearsals for Vanity Fair are unlikely to be too intense yet, and so they may be interested. CL has already been in contact with Fiona the producer.

CL confirms they will offer welfare support on the actor's mailing list.

CL reports on *Vanity Fair*:

CL comments that he received a SPATE report dated 25/04 received 30/04, but given that it says the posters have been ordered it must be up to date. The prod team is assembled, and will only need PLXs and set painters. The intimacy workshop has been attended and applied; rehearsals for kissing and 'charged scenes' have been described as being 'closed set'. Training has been received, including Cat getting genie training.

TS questions the height of the budget, but given that there doesn't seem to be a particular area of concern, he is happy to approve.

JB updates on *Queer Street*:

JB has had the budget meeting, they want to do stickers. He asks if anyone has any books that they might lend, because it's set in a library. CL offers his Anthropology books after his exams are finished, KS offers Mallory Towers, JB recommends the Mallory Towers Musical.

JB updates on *Storytelling*:

They've asked for 70 pounds, which the committee has approved.

KS is telling a story.

6. Freshers' Plays:

JB reiterates from the Freshers' Play meeting that he has had an email from the new president of BREAD who asked how the Freshers' plays worked and wondered if they could do a BME freshers' play. JB says we'd be up for supporting but wanted to know if this would be an addition, or an adaptation of one of the existing plays, as this may affect the decision.

ZG explains the progress from the meeting. They went through 40 ish plays, and were brutal if there were any issues, and have ended up with a smaller list. The subcommittee will have 2 weeks to read any plays from the list, after which they will pitch to each other and end up with the 3 plays. He explains that the late show may

be one to go away and come back to, and notes that the decision of one play will affect the decision of another.

JB says that CUMTS would like to do their musical again, and that if it gets a slot then they might do their show in Week 6 and we may do our show in Week 5. KS is enthusiastic for this idea given how little time was given to *The Man Who Wouldn't Be Murdered* rehearsals.

CL raises concerns of he and ZG casting a BME show. JB reassures this would be BREAD-run, co-produced with CUADC in the roles that make sense.

JB questions how the audition process would work, and whether BREAD would want separate auditions. JB raises concern that the non-BREAD shows may suffer from having fewer BME actors cast.

ZG says that we want to make the week the event that it usually is, with the environment that encourages friends to come along because it is simply the Freshers' show.

JB suggests that we might keep the process as it is, but have more BREAD involvement.

TS suggests that we have a BREAD show in a different term.

TT suggests having BREAD involvement in show selection, as we want to demonstrate and set the tone of having plays about relatively unconventional subjects, reflecting the changes in Camdram more widely.

TS says that they should make the decision and CUADC will support them

Action: JB gets in touch with BREAD to discuss these options.

7. Panto performance updates

JB has spoken with Jamie about the proposal form from last week, and he approved of it.

JB has investigated the Week 8/9 discussion in the 2019 Panto google form. There is no clear opinion, as there are concerns about accommodation and clashes with ETG. JB notes you can never do both ETG and Panto, and Week 9 would also clash with Art Show rehearsals.

JB has recreated the form with some changes and has sent it to the 2019 panto team. The responses have already confirmed the need to reduce the number of shows, but is still undecided on the weeks 7/8/9 query.

This will be discussed at the meeting on 09/05/2022.

8. AOB

a.

JB gives a kitchen upgrade update. Luke Dell has said that the theatre has no money to go into the kitchen, so any funding would have to be from the ADC.

KS reiterates it is unclear what can be done, although KS and AM agree that it needs a good clean. KS regrets making tea in the cursed Christ's mug.

JB says that Luke does want a new dishwasher, but the timeframe is unclear. KS suggests a fundraiser for the dishwasher. JB clarifies that management would pay for a new dishwasher.

b.

JB raises the CUADC survey, but given that TC is not present, discussion will be postponed.

c.

Amy raises concern about show reimbursements, saying that the way it is currently run is an accessibility issue and may be affecting the number of designers who are willing to be involved.

TS raises that with online banking CUADC will be able to reimburse quicker, but this is not a solution.

JB mentions that the meeting with Metrobank will be the 30th June. CUADC are hoping to get Club debit cards. There would be a spending limit on the cards of e.g. 100 pounds, at which a production would have to contact TS for permission. JB clarifies that this will add extra workload to JB and TS but will be worth it. This will not be in effect until Michaelmas.

JB also raises if show cards would be possible.

JB has said to everyone in shows this term that if anyone is worried that they can get in contact and they will be reimbursed earlier.

AM raises that in SITR people asked for advance payment and it did not happen.

TS suggests that we make a policy rather than a one off, so that CUADC offers another option to the reimbursement system.

TT mentions that producers make decisions about how reimbursements work, and asks if we could have a policy that involves having checkpoints earlier than the show, with receipts sent earlier. JB agrees that most of it can be done before the show.

d.

TT has made a new Slack channel called 'possible workshops'. Others in the meeting cannot see it, but this may be the wifi.

Action: Committee members to check slack for discussion next week.

ZG mentions that someone at a social gathering involved with CAST requested help from CUADC, because it may not be able to continue.

JB agrees that it is the same with ETG that these Camdram traditions are being lost after covid, and that it would potentially be beneficial for CUADC to reach out to help keep it alive.

Meeting adjourned at 15:55