

Minutes of Wrablers 4th AGM – 24 February 2015

Chair: Duncan

Attendees: JB, DC, DD, SE, JL, KM, MM, RM, LS, MS (by phone), WT

Meeting opened at 19:05. Sebastian chaired until Duncan arrived at 19:10.

	<i>Item</i>	<i>Minutes</i>
1	Wrablers Identity: What kind of group are we and what genres of music do we wish to perform? <i>Review and agree group identity</i>	None
2	Membership: Do we have the right number of members and the right balance of voices? <i>Identify vacancies in group and agree how to fill them.</i>	Noted that we need more singers – 2 sopranos, 1 tenor, 1 bass. Decided that members should explore recruiting through workshops and networking.
3	Recruitment Process: Is the current process right? How could we improve it? <i>Review and agree process</i>	Agreed to amend constitution in accordance with the amendments in sections 3 and 4 of the attached draft.
4	Ground Rules: Do we still want to sing close harmony songs? Do we want to do more, or less small group work? Do we want to allow for solo performances? Should we allow non-Wrablers to perform with us? <i>Review the ground rules and plan accordingly.</i>	Noted that the group should consider how to choose what songs become small-group songs.

5	Decision making: Are we happy with our 2/3 quorum plus one majority? How else might we make decisions? <i>Review and agree decision-making process.</i>	Noted that there is general satisfaction with this.
6	Web Site: Is the website as useful as it could be? Could others share tasks? Is there something missing from it that would be helpful? <i>Review the group's website for the year ahead.</i>	Noted that the website is useful, with thanks to Wendy. Decided that song leaders are to learn how to edit the website to maintain their song pages, and to have a workshop in the next 2 months to teach song leaders this. Tutorials have been added to the site.
7	Key Tasks: Is the list in the constitution correct and complete? Do other tasks need to be added? Can we ditch any? Would anyone like to volunteer or un-volunteer for anything? <i>Review key tasks list and re-allocate as appropriate.</i>	Decided on the task allocation described in the attached key task list.
8	Repertoire: Review the work of the Reprobates. Is this method working? Are there any suggestions for making it work better? Any views on how the process works generally? <i>Review and agree the repertoire process.</i>	Decided that Daniel and/or Duncan are to look at potential new songs to comment on their suitability for the group. Note that the group is to aim for a mix of easier songs, old favourites, and harder songs to extend the group's abilities. Decided to amend constitution to provide that Wrablers will aim to learn 10 songs per term, rather than per year.

9	Rehearsals: Are we meeting often enough? Too often? Are rehearsals too long/short? Is the structure we agreed in Rehearsal Elegance still working? Have we implemented it properly? <i>Review and agree rehearsal process</i>	Decided that the break halfway through rehearsals is to be 5 minutes long. Noted that rehearsals are the right length. Noted that members should try to arrive on time and that the group should try to finish rehearsals on time. Decided that there should be new points under section 7 Rehearsal Elegance of the constitution about singing in quartets and getting used to singing whilst not standing in our parts.
10	Summer Break: We agreed to rehearse through the summer but that no new songs are introduced between July and September. Is this working? <i>Review and agree summer break.</i>	Decided that the period of no new songs between July and September should be abolished.
11	Performances: Are we performing enough? Too much? Right/wrong kind of performance? Where shall we look to perform in future? <i>Review and agree Performance schedule.</i>	Decided that the group should seek to perform more frequently and that the group should look for opportunities to do so. Noted some members' suggestions for opportunities to perform at folk music clubs. Decided that Duncan, Janette, Louli, Kathleen and Juliana should go to the Folk Club in Hackney to assess it as a performance opportunity. Decided that rehearsal time should be committed to improving the group's starting note procedure.
12	Musical Director: Are we still happy to lead ourselves? Do we need outside help? What kind? What do we most need to learn? <i>Review and agree learning goals.</i>	Noted that Daniel will prepare a proposal for external tuition.

13	Feedback: Since we've agreed to offer and receive feedback, how should we do this? <i>Review and agree feedback process.</i>	Received Kathleen's comments about the existing feedback process and her experience. There was then a substantial discussion about how feedback is to be offered and received constructively. Decided that Wendy is to set up a register on the website where members can nominate how they would like to receive feedback from other members.
14	Costs: This year we are collecting £10. There are costs associated with obtaining repertoire, and with printing publicity etc. <i>Review and agree subscription.</i>	Decided that the subscription should remain £10 per member.
15	Constitution: <i>Agree any amendments to constitution arising from the AGM</i>	Noted that Wendy will circulate a revised draft amended constitution reflecting the decisions reached during the AGM and correcting previously obscured text in the Rehearsal Elegance section.

Meeting closed at approx. 21:40.