Huntingdon Drama Club

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 22nd August 2007, 8.00 pm 30 West End, Brampton

PRESENT: Michael Black, Caroline Harbord, John Morgan, Kat Sexton, Carol Wadey, Peter Welsh, Ann Monk

- 1. APOLOGIES: Ronald Stevenson, Mark Lamberth.
- 2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Agreed
- **3. MATTERS ARISING:** (items not elsewhere on agenda)
 A small group attended the BAWDS production of 'A Murder is Announced' in Cambridge.
- **4. FINANCIAL REPORT: RS** sent a note that we have £2,874 in the club bank account. No accounts have yet been prepared for the last two productions. It was agreed to pay £20 to the Youth Centre and £50 to Brampton Church for the free rehearsal space they gave us for the summer production. **RS** to prepare the cheques.
- 5. SUMMER PRODUCTION: We gave two performances of A Murder is Announced and received very positive feedback from both audiences. As an experiment it was considered successful, and the appetite is there to do it again next year. The key learnings were to ensure there is enough backstage support available (and therefore not to clash with the dates for Shakespeare at the George); and to start work early on securing venues and support.
- **6. AUTUMN PRODUCTION:** *Jane Eyre* has been cast and rehearsals start in September. **AM** is producer and **JM** is technical supervisor. The mayor has accepted the proposed civic night on Thursday 15th November and will pay us a flat fee of £300 for the performance. Ticket prices were agreed at £8 (£6) for both Friday and Saturday.

7. OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- 7.1 CH's video evening (Much Ado about Nothing) was well attended.
- 7.2 **CW** attended a civic service on 24th June.
- 7.3 **MB**, **CW**, **JM** and Darren Agius attended the Diversity Event on 14th July. It was a useful networking opportunity.
- 7.4 The play reading at **CH's** house on 25th July was well attended in spite of the weather driving us indoors. Parts of both *The Admirable Crichton* and *You Can't Take it With You* were read.

8. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- 8.1 **CW** will arrange another play reading for Wednesday 5th December.
- 8.2 By popular demand, **MB** will host a DVD evening of *Jane Eyre*. The date will be decided at the first rehearsal.
- 8.3 **RS** is hosting a garden party on 22nd September. The club will provide food.
- 8.4 Firework display at Kimbolton: as this coincides with a rehearsal, it was agreed not to promote a Club outing to it.
- 8.5 The Mayor has invited us to submit a sketch for a Victorian themed evening on 15th December.

 JM and AM to find out more about the organisation of the event before we commit ourselves.
- 8.6 There is a trip planned to see *The Woman in Black* on 24th September. This will include a backstage tour. **MB** is organising.

- **9. LIGHTING**: **JM** proposed that we buy six lights for £1,000 (see separate attachment). This was agreed. **MB** to talk to trustees about sourcing the commemorative plaque.
- **10. DISPLAY BOARDS: CW** will try to source these from London House Signs. **PW** offered to make feet for them.
- **11. CLUB ASSETS**: The Hall basement has been cleared and the remaining props are being stored temporarily in **CW**'s garage. We have had a donation of 1930s and 1940s clothes from James Godwin's mother. **CW** and **AM** to complete an inventory.
- **12. CHARGE FOR PERFORMING MUSIC:** MB reported that the Commemoration Hall has been reclassified as a live music venue and has to declare all music played. Our responsibilities remain unclear and **MB** is seeking clarification from the Performing Rights Society, NODA, the Trustees and the Town Council.
- **13. NODA:** As we are members, Michael Williamson of NODA wants to review *Jane Eyre* for the NODA newsletter. We can now also use this newsletter to publicise the production.
- **14. NEWSLETTER:** Articles to be submitted:

CW: forthcoming play reading

CH: video evening

CH: Club assets request

CH: request for submissions for spring and summer 2008

RS: Garden Party

MB: basement clearing

15. WEBSITE: **JM** reported that we have paid for another year's hosting.

16. CORRESPONDENCE: None

17. AOB: CH to write to thank David Groves-Hunt who helped with props at A Murder is Announced.

18. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING. Tuesday 18th September at Michael's. 8pm.

CH 23rd August 2007