

Minutes of Cowton Arts & Theatre Society Meeting held in the Church Annexe at 7:30pm on Wednesday 25th October 2023.

Committee Members Present: Nick Smith (Chairman), John Shields (Secretary), Elaine Simpson, Pat Watson, Geoff Green, Jane Green, Bridget Stewart, Margaret Walton

Apologies: Susan Shields, Cristina Peacock

Community Members Present: Tracey Crammond, Apologies from Lisa and Dave Croft

Agenda Items:

1. Dickensian Christmas Event JG explained the format of the upcoming performance which would consist of the following (with **actions**):

- A. Music (school brass band) – **Geoff Green** to speak to the school teacher and confirm,
- B. Readings from 'A Christmas Carol' by **Nick Smith** (Marley's Ghost), **Margaret Walton** (Christmas Past), **Amanda Smith** (Christmas Present), **Tracey Crammond** (Christmas Future), **Geoff Green** (Scrooge),
- C. Several music acts between readings (**Geoff** to speak to Cristina and Paul Bramley),
- D. Magic act – Nigel Peacock – **Jane** to decide and approach Nigel if needed
- E. Christmas Carols – words displayed with projector (see item I),
- F. Christmas table quiz - £1 per sheet - (**John** to provide quiz/box of Christmas biscuits for prize)
- G. Raffle - £X per strip - (**Tracey** kindly offered to put a hamper together as main prize. Two other items from CATS last performance also to be added - **John**).
- H. Mulled wine, soft drink (juice), **XX** Tea/Coffee **XX** with mince pie (or biscuit) included in the ticket price.
- I. **Jane** to meet with **John** to arrange music for acts (as required) and carols.
- J. Publicity to begin in early November on CATS website/FB page/Posters – **John**.
- K. Tables to be used but curtains will not be put up.
- L. Jane confirmed that if Lisa and David wished to be involved, parts would be allocated (**John** to email Lisa/David),
- M. Tickets available from: John Shields, Beeswing (TBC), Village Shop (TBC) – **other volunteers please**

XX Decision required because article for the parish magazine has been submitted and includes tea/coffee, it's now too late to amend **XX**

2. 2024 Performance – NS confirmed that the script for scene 3 was underway and would be complete in the coming week or so. It was agreed that a date for the script and preliminary production meeting (including Fiona as director) would be decided at the next CATS meeting but this would be sometime in early December by which time the script would be ready to distribute.

3. Next Meeting – The next meeting will take place at 7:30pm on Thursday 16th November in the Church Annexe. This would be solely to plan/prepare for the Christmas event and would include a run through the readings. **Susan to book**

4. No other business was raised and the meeting closed at 8.25pm.