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| Minutes | Action |
| 1. **Committee members present were**:

Chris Clarke, Briony Hancock, Geoff Whitehouse, Kate Attridge, Brendan O’Dwyer, Mark (Mak) Dunham.  |  |
| 1. **Apologies**:

BenThomas, Janet Thomson, Lucy Zirins, Eileen Griffiths. |  |
| 1. **Last meeting meetings – comments & matters arising:**

A vote of thanks passed to Lucy for uploading recent videos. All thought that the new seating arrangements appear to satisfy covid requirements and present a better singing environment. With the recent increase in “middles” it was suggested that the basses could move over a bit to the right.Further to the opportunity to sing at Dapdune Wharf in July Chris confirmed that Anna was not available so we would not be able to do this.The last meeting minutes were passed.  | Brendan/Mark |
| 1. **Chairperson’s report**:

We have a pleasing number of enthusiastic new members attending regularly. They are mainly female voices. KA referred to feedback she had received about the male group being predominately of the older age range. It was hoped that some of the newer members would encourage further attendees from both sexes and a broader age range. Activities to increase membership to continue with focus on social media along with the traditional activities of posters and taster sessions. It was noted that there has been a request for “more lively” songs to be added to the repertoire.Feedback from the end of term concert was very positive. People felt that we were well rehearsed and gave a polished performance. The total profit was £334.18, while the raffle raised £337.19. Ticket sales came to £205. The profit from refreshments (after subtracting the purchase costs and the TENA licence) was £72.99, compared with £219.30 at Xmas. It was agreed that we could make a donation to the charity Burpham Association for Supporting Assisted Living (BASIL). An amount of £300 was agreed leaving an overall profit of £34.18 for the event. The May 1st dawn singing also went well. Thanks to BH for booking the Snooty Fox for breakfast. Request for any photos to be send to MD to put on website. CC to contact Mark Honeywill to renew our IT support contract.Our July schedule is full so no more events will be planned. It was noted that we have an action packed term ahead (see later).  | Brendan/Anyone elseChris |
| 1. **Treasurer’s report**:

Geoff reported an overall loss of £350 for the term. This is balanced against a surplus of £680 for the previous term. These figures are inclusive of the proposed donation of £300 to BASIL. Overall the choir accounts are in a healthy position.   |  |
| 1. **Plans for upcoming events**:

**Choirblast**. The organiser, Pheobe is very active and emails frequently. It is a not for profit organisation and there has been a request for us to make a donation. It was felt that this was not necessary as our participation is part of the overall event to make it work. However, we will suggest that individual choir members make a donation on entry. There are up to fifty choirs planned to attend. Parking onsite will be an issue so we should encourage members to car share wherever possible. The weather is likely to be warm so reminders about taking plenty of water and using sunscreen should be given. People should also bring something to sit on. We are singing twice for 20 mins sets. 12.00 at the Wilfred Noyce Centre and 1.30 at The Duck. Rehearsal will start at 11.00 at the WNC. BH to update Muzodo with new start time of 10.45. “Big Blue Home” to be added to the set list. There will also be a flash mob singing “Shake It Off”. Lucy Zirins to bring her guitar to the next session to run through this. The idea is that we go around and listen to other choirs during any down time (or go shopping in the High St!). Further information about the event is available on their website. **Guilfest**: We are singing with Horsell. We are on at an early 12.00. We should try to learn words by heart. We are requested by the organiser to enter the venue *en bloc* to make it easier to process our tickets (which are valid for the whole weekend). **Dylan concert:** No further detailed information is available at present. We are singing on the Sunday as part of a group of five choirs. We need further information on the rehearsal set up. Parking will also have to be discussed. **Guildford Pride:** This takes place on the 21st September. Ben has been leading on this but has had some difficulties contacting the organisers. It is not clear if this one is going ahead. BT to update. **Other opportunities:** There is an **Oakleaf** concert on the 29th November. Chris to contact Jane Felton. We are planning to sing with **Alder Valley** on the 15th December (pm). Anna is available but the venue is to be arranged. Suggestions were made – County School, United Reform Church, Ripley Hall (KA to contact). **Carols at the Weyside**. This is scheduled for the 22nd December. Last year the start time was 5.00. Our last **choir session** is the **16th December**. It was suggested that we make this a “fun” event with mince pies, etc.   | BrionyLucyBenChrisKate |
| 1. **Future activities for 2025**: Anna has a contact in **Hay-on-Wye** who organises choir events. Could this be an opportunity for a Guildford Vox away event? We would need to confirm details (e.g. Anna’s availability). Possible date for spring time. *Note: Anna’s availability subsequently confirmed.*

**Guildford Vox is 20 years old** in November next year. We should mark this with a special event. **Both these events should be on the next meeting agenda for further discussion.**   | Eileen |
| 1. **Any other business:** Kate handed out copies of the **flyer** that has been developed. Hopefully this can be circulated around place in Guildford to encourage new members. It was agreed that our **Instagram** activities should be maintained and increased. All of this directs people to our website. A **Google** search showed this to be low down in the search returns for local choir opportunities. It was agreed that we need some **search engine optimisation** to improve the position if possible. No-one knew how to do this but Chris thought one of her sons might be able to offer some ideas. She will be in contact.

As previously noted, a request for more **upbeat songs** has been made. Do we need a **committee WhatsApp** group to ease communication. All present agreed. Chris to check with others. Felt badges. KA had looked into this but prices were high (£7-£13). Other options like bamboo or tin were not what we are looking for. Briony agreed to look into possibly re-making the type of felt badge that we had previously. The **tote bags** have been successful with 32 sold. With a selling price of £3.50 and a cost of £3.00 these were a good and relatively inexpensive item. A final vote of thanks to Geoff for hosting the meeting.   | ChrisChrisBriony |
| 1. **Date of next meeting: Thursday 10th October.**
 | All |