



WELWYN THALIANS

RECORD OF AGM

Meeting Venue:	Thalian Hall	Date of Meeting:	28 th March, 2019
Time of Meeting:	8.00pm	Duration:	45 minutes
Chair:	Attendees:	Abbvs:	Apologies:
Mr Vincent Clemmens	Executive Committee Members		Brian King
			Distribution: Emailed to members

Point

No. Item

- 1. Welcome:**
Vinnie Clemmens welcomed everyone
- 2. Apologies:**
Brian King,
- 3. Last Year's Minutes:**
No matters arising. Proposed by Martin Lester, seconded by Peter Sayers
- 4. Matters arising:**
None
- 5. Chairman's Report:**
Vinnie stated that the society continues to do well. We have put on two shows in the last year and welcomed lots of new members: Adam, Rachael, Maryann, Clive, Alison Lilly, Mike, Melanie, Jenny, Justine, Mariama, Katherine and Richard.
New developments have included a stage extension. Huge thanks to Tim and Martin.
We have several new, permanent lights, and three new microphones.
In terms of repairs we have had ongoing problems with damp in the men's dressing room.
We have a new letting to Kim Southey and her youth group.
Sadly we lost our loyal Patron, Dr Goss, at the age of 95. We are looking for a new patron.
Vinnie thanked the committee for all their hard work during the year, not only directly with shows, but also running and maintaining the hall, doing admin, etc etc.
We are all looking forward to our next show-The Pirates of Penzance, in our hall.

Proposed: Mandy
Seconded: Ray
- 6. Treasurers Report:**
See attached sheet.

Proposed: Mandy
Seconded: Ray
- 7. Secretary's Report:**
Mandy reported on Made in Dagenham, which she directed for us in May, 2018. She stated that this show was chosen in line with our intention to put on more progressive, modern productions. We were lucky to recruit several talented members from other local societies. We bought the set, which proved to be a challenge to erect (thanks to Vinnie and Tim), Thank you also to Fiona for doing a sterling job with props, Cameron for lighting and the Nascar winning duo, Tammy and Louise, for costumes. Peter Sayers also received a Nascar award for his portrayal of Harold Wilson. This was a pleasure to direct, with a great production team of Tammy, Avril and Alison. Thanks also to Peter Farrell, MD, Nick Baker as assistant director and of course the back stage crew.

Proposed; Gill
Seconded: Richard

Alison then reported on "A Christmas Night at the Musicals". This was a new venture for us at this time of year, but proved to be a great success, with both great audience numbers and takings at the bar. The evening contained solos, duets, men's and ladies's numbers, notably the pantomime ladies, the dole queue divas and a great number from The Greatest Showman, as well as our usual choruses, but to a Christmas theme this time. This was a collaborative event from the production team consisting of Mandy, Tammy, Alison and Avril, but could not have been achieved without the superb talent on stage and all the front of house, bar staff and back stage crew.

Proposed: Angela
Seconded: Tam

8. Election of Chairman, Officers and members of the Executive Committee:

All committee members were re-elected en masse.
Tim was elected as Vice Chair.

9. Election of Life Members:

None

10. Election of Legal Advisor:

To be appointed by the Executive Committee as and when required..

11. Election of Auditor/scrutineer:

Peter Sayers re-elected

12. Resolution to amend rules/new rules:

Membership fees will rise from January 2020: £45 standard, £65 couples, £30 students, seniors and unwaged.

13. AOB:

The issue of our broken heating system was raised. We are trying to address this. If not fixable we will need to look into radiators.

Richard mentioned the Hatfield Youth Group at Brakes manor, who are keen to link up with other associations. He will give us a link for contacting them.

14. The meeting was closed at 20.45





**WELWYN THALIANS AMATEUR OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC
SOCIETY**

Registered Charity number 254707

Treasurers Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2018

The accounts have been drawn up on a Receipts and Payments basis which is consistent with previous years.

They have been independently reviewed by the nominated scrutineer.

In spring, the Society performed the musical Made in Dagenham at the Hawthorne Theatre in Welwyn Garden City. Escalating theatre hire charges means that performing shows at this venue is becoming even more financially challenging. If not for the generous donation from the Follett Trust, the loss on this production would have been more significant. Interestingly the night which sold most tickets was opening night when the tickets were a slightly reduced flat rate price. Despite an available discount via the theatres Zebra card on subsequent performances, ticket sales were down. Ticket pricing across the board warrants further investigation and has implications for setting future ticket prices.

The autumn show provided an opportunity to put on a Christmas variety show which was enjoyed by cast and audiences alike. As before, the society worked in partnership with local community groups and charities and the show proved financially valuable for all parties.

We have continued to use a ticketing agency which is working well. The small charge per ticket is offset by the advantage of independent ticket handling.

The ongoing steady increases in theatre hire charges means that achieving any profit for our bigger shows continues to have significant impact on decisions regarding which show to perform, fund raising and the use of reserves both now and in future planning.

WELWYN THAIANS AMATEUR OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Registered Charity number 284707

Treasurers Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2018

The accounts have been drawn up on a Receipts and Payments basis which is consistent with previous years.

They have been independently reviewed by the nominated scrutineers.

In spring, the Society performed the musical *Made in Dagenham* at the Hawthorne Theatre in Welwyn Garden City. Escalating theatre hire charges means that performing shows at this venue is becoming even more financially challenging. It is not for the generous donation from the Follett Trust, the loss on this production would have been more significant. Interestingly the night which sold most tickets was opening night when the tickets were a slightly reduced flat rate price. Despite an available discount via the theatres Zebra card on subsequent performances, ticket sales were down. Ticket pricing across the board warrants further investigation and has implications for setting future ticket prices.

The autumn show provided an opportunity to put on a Christmas variety show which was enjoyed by cast and audiences alike. As before, the society worked in partnership with local community groups and charities and the show proved financially valuable for all parties.

We have continued to use a ticketing agency which is working well. The small charge per ticket is offset by the advantage of independent ticket handling.

The ongoing steady increase in theatre hire charges means that achieving any profit for our bigger shows continues to have significant impact on decisions regarding which show to perform, fund raising and the use of reserves both now and in future planning.

The upkeep of the Thalian Hall remains a large part of the Society's expenditure.

The movement of monies between accounts tend to make the income and expenditure look greater than it actually is. This is done to ensure that there are always sufficient fund in our bank account for the payments by direct debit.

We remain indebted to supporters and friends of the Society who, through generous donations continue to support the functions of the Society.

Overall the Society's current financial situation is satisfactory but securing additional income streams remains a desirable goal and the Committee continues to seek ways to achieve this

Approved by the Committee on 28 March 2019

Signed

Angela Monaghan

Treasurer

The upkeep of the Thalian Hall remains a large part of the Society's expenditure.

The movement of monies between accounts tend to make the income and expenditure look greater than it actually is. This is done to ensure that there are always sufficient funds in our bank account for the payments by direct debit.

We remain indebted to supporters and friends of the Society who, through generous donations continue to support the functions of the Society.

Overall the Society's current financial situation is satisfactory but securing additional income streams remains a desirable goal and the Committee continues to seek ways to achieve this.

Approved by the Committee on 28 March 2019

Signed

Angela Monaghan

Treasurer