

Minutes of EGTG Committee Meeting – 10 April 2022 via Zoom

Present: Angela Harkness Robertson  
Alma Forsyth  
Wendy Brindle  
Hannah Bradley Croall  
Martin Foreman  
James Scott  
Alastair Smith  
Claire Wood  
Beverley Wright

1. Apologies were received from Siobhan McGovern.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
3. **Membership year and update:** It had been proposed that annual membership might be on a rolling basis. Alma reminded the Committee of the Constitution which states that the membership year runs from 1 January to 31 December (as does our financial year). The discussion was not pursued. Wendy informed the Committee that she was to meet David Grimes the following day for the handover of the EGTG accounts. Since the introduction of our new Members and Friends scheme, we have 17 paid up Members but no Friends to date.
4. **Clarity on decision making:** Martin wondered why a Committee decision on show fees could be overturned a few weeks later at the AGM. It was pointed out that David provided us with extra financial information which had not been available at the Committee meeting. Alastair said that in future we need all the financial details before taking a decision on membership and show fees. Concurring with this, Anji suggested that such items be discussed fully at the two Committee meetings preceding the AGM at which they will be put before the general membership. The Committee agreed. It was also agreed that names of those abstaining from a vote at the AGM would be noted.
5. **Publicity schedule:** Anji wished to clarify the procedure for sending out publicity. Hannah confirmed that, as well as herself, Anji, Claire and Martin had access to EGTG's social media channels. The blackout period on publicity for future shows during the two weeks before curtain up on a new production was sacrosanct. Apart from that, social media posts were welcome but it was agreed that everyone should look to Hannah for guidance on timing.
6. **Directors' pack and rehearsal schedules:** Anji proposed putting together a guide for future directors in order to maintain the high standards expected of an EGTG production. After discussion it was agreed that she would follow this up.
7. **Hay Fever update:** Martin reported that the production was coming together with a strong cast and that tickets to the value of £172 had already been sold. This was confirmed by Anji who reported that flats required for *Hay Fever* had been refurbished by Richard Spiers at the favourable price of £159.61. As agreed at our last meeting, because the flats would be a permanent asset of EGTG, the cost would come from EGTG funds, not from the budget for *Hay Fever*.

8. **StagEHd update:** On the positive side, Hannah announced that the Public Entertainment Licence had been granted, tickets had been booked for all performances apart from one and posters would soon be appearing. On the negative side, one company had withdrawn from the festival but fortunately Hannah had been able to re-schedule the programme with five shows on Saturday 28 May and 4 on Sunday 29. A call for volunteers was out with the firm pledge of not exploiting anyone who came forward.
9. **Rock update:** Where possible rehearsals were being held in the garden at Buccleuch Place, in part to minimise Covid infection and in part to accustom the cast to performing outdoors. In spite of some unexpected cast absences, progress was being made.
10. **Fringe update:** Although attendance at the table read of our two productions (*The Merchant of Venice* and *Bloody Wimmin*) had been disappointing, interest in auditions was encouraging. Both plays containing roles specifically for actors of colour, we discussed how to attract such actors to audition (and to EGTG in general). We would not be offering BSL interpretation at the Fringe but Anji hoped to do so for *A Christmas Carol*. Lighting technician Gordon Hughes was on board; Anji and Hilary Spiers would do the sound for their respective plays. For TMoV, Anji informed us that the set would be minimal and costumes would come from the cast or the Home Street wardrobe. She added that some costumes had been lent to the Dunbar Battery for its 'fish festival'.
11. **AOB:**  
Home Street – Deeds: Alastair had already paid £36 to search for the deeds in order to confirm the ownership of the basement at 60/60a Home Street and would have to pay £25 for further research.  
Home Street – Water ingress: Martin, Anji and Michael Mulligan had all seen evidence of a leak without being certain from whence it came. Alastair agreed to consult Michael in tracing it.

The next meeting will be held **via Zoom on Sunday 8 May at 19h00**.