

**BROS Theatre Company AGM minutes**

**Tuesday 16 November 2021**

**St Michael & All Angels Church**

**39 Elm Bank Gardens, London SW13 0NX**

**Formal Business for Annual General Meeting**
**1. Welcome from the President and apologies for absence**

Helen (HL) welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.

Andy (AY) also welcomed everyone and spoke about how the BROS spirit has kept us going in the last year and has helped when looking forward to the next year.

Apologies were sent to HL from:

Cath Bryant, Jacob Botha, Wes Henderson-Roe, Clare Henderson-Roe, Eric Williams, Mat Madeley, Paul Dyke, Emma Knight, Deb McDowell and Carol Smith.

 **2. Approval of Minutes of 2020 Annual General Meeting**

Proposed by Jonathan Warriss-Simmons (JW-S).

Seconded by Sian Bowles-Bevan (SB-B)

Minutes approved.

**3. Report from the Treasurer for financial year ended 31st July 2021**

Note from AY that Niv has (NK) been an excellent support in the last year and thanked her for all her support and hard work.

NK thanked committee for their support over the last 2 years.

NK recognised that it’s been a different year with no shows as we have had to cancel and postponed several productions.

BROS TC made a small profit of just over £1000.

Key items: Incoming expenses on ISBY.

Slight increase in general expenses

Zoom subscription

Updates to the website.

Increase in insurance costs due to covid.

Storage rental has also gone out this year.

Decrease in membership.

£1000 refund bank charges from HSBC.

NK stated that the costs for upcoming productions will fall in the year they take place.

HL explained that the theatre hire for ISBY will roll over to the next HHT show.

Small profit owed to committee and the production teams of productions in the last few years.

AY mentioned it could have been a lot worse and we’ve done a great job.

AY also mentioned the reserves that BROS has. We have a reserve of at least £55k for the Richmond show. Using a lot of this as formal reserve for Addam’s Family.

We can’t claim on insurance again so reserve is more important.

Some things that we won’t get back e.g. rehearsal for Kipps – this will go into the shows as they are in the next year.

Not expecting huge losses but might have small ones due to expenditure.

Susi Pink (SP) asked about the final page of the financial report – does it show the whole company?

NK – yes it’s the full company. Individual shows can be found on separate pages.

Kipps, Addams Family & Merrily aren’t included this year.

SP - can’t see ticket incomes on previous years.

JW-S explained that they fall under surplus and deficit of productions.

Full statement can be sent on request.

 **4. To consider and approve said Report and Financial Statements**

Proposed by Lizzie Brignall

Seconded by Louise Turnbull

Report and financial statements approved.

**5.** **Independent examiner**

AY – BROS is grateful that we have someone who does this for us. AY put to the group that we reappoint the independent examiner.

Proposed by Darren Moss.

Second by Jen Moorhead.

Motion approved.

**6. Report from Chair**

HL – We are very pleased to be back in the room and not on zoom. Thanked everyone again for coming

Before reviewing the year HL congratulated a number of members:

Louise Vinter on the birth of Zoe

Bex Wood and JP on the birth of their second baby

Chris Nash and Georgina Skinner on their engagement in Cornwall

Faye Brann for winning the CWIP award and having her first book published.

We also sadly lost some beloved BROS members and HL paid respect to them.

Susy Deal – performer and costumes. Amazing contribution to the society.

Simon Willis – performed in a number of shows, also served on committee.

Wendy Edwards – joined in 1970 and gave many years to BROS.

HL said that it had been another difficult year for BROS, with the whole theatre industry struggling. However, we have remained hopeful.

HL gave a run-down of shows/projects in the last year:

Kipps – we cast the show, but it soon became clear that a large scale show was not possible.

Little Shop – tried to cast smaller show, double cast. Reconsidered casting, then lockdown cancelled it as Minack also cancelled our slot.

Kipps will return in 2023 – with the original production team.

Online activities. HL thanked those that led dancing workshops.

Paul Dyke and SB-B for their scene workshop.

Katy Jackson for their acting through song workshop.

Reminder of BROS’s ‘Day of Dance’ on 5 December 2021.

Thanks to everyone who helped Lizzie put together the online Christmas party.

Ordinary days - Social distancing was in place for most of the rehearsal period but removed in time for the show.

Committee are grateful to Wes and Nic and pass on their congratulations to all involved.

Trip to Minack was a highlight of the year. Thanks to the Minack team – 120 people connected to BROS joined us on stage for a private get together. Thanks to Janet and the flash mob singers for bringing some joy.

HL thanked the committee for their massive efforts. This year has asked the committee to go above and beyond, and requirements have been bigger than in previous years – above and beyond.

HL thanked Tom Nunan for his hard work on the website as he will be stepping down. We wish him well in his masters course. Thanks for stepping in at the last minute last year.

NODA has acknowledged how difficult it has been – they sent us a certificate to congratulate everyone for pushing through.

Going forward:

Addams Family postponed to October 2022 – HL thanked the production team and cast for their patience and understanding.

Cabaret – February 2022. Thanks to FB and LB for putting this together.

Merrily – June 2022. Looking forward to getting going on this. Look out for the details!

Kipps – Minack in May 2023

Calendar Girls – HHT in November 2023

Outside of shows:

Changes are being made to structure, relieving committee roles for those that are too heavy a workload.

We will be changing the membership and how we encourage new and retain members.

IDEA group – group with other SWAMDRAM groups to help and support each other.

Seeking a diversity consultant to help with this.

Diversity and membership role will be split.

BROS Academy – Faye will lead on this. New role on the committee. The role will have a focus on BROS Academy and help to encourage more new members.

Marketing and publicity of shows is going back onto production teams to manage.

The sub-committee didn’t work and was difficult to maintain.

How to guides available and will be on hand. Starts from Merrily.

Emma Hartnett will join with a focus on website and social media. We know she’ll bring expertise and make the digital experience better.

Jonny Buckley – website archive. In collaboration with Wes, Jonny has done a huge job and HL thanked him for all his work. Everything will sit on google drive going forward. If you would like to help with this, please get in touch.

HL did a call out for member supports – we need you!!!! Collective responsibility to make BROS everything it can be. Please buy tickets to see shows. Run BROS academy sessions, help with marketing etc.

Social - Carols/Dinner on 10 December.

Full report from the chair can be sent on request.

AY added to this – thanked HL for all the hard work and commitment she has shown in the last year and it is greatly appreciated.

Thanked Tom for all his work on the website.

Suzanne Yeates wanted to thank the committee – agreed by all in attendance.

**7. Election of Officers**
**President:**

**Andy Yeates**

Proposed by: Faye Brann

Seconded by: Helen Lowe

Unanimously agreed.

**Chairperson:**

**Helen Lowe**

Proposed by: Rachel Williams

Seconded by: Susi Pink

Unanimously agreed.

**Treasurer:**

**Nivedita Khullar**

Proposed by: Lizzie Brignall

Seconded by: Helen Lowe

Unanimously agreed.

**Secretary:**

**Becky Tarry**

Proposed by: Chiara Beebe

Seconded by: Sian Bowles-Bevan

Unanimously agreed.

**7. Election of Deputy Chair and members of Committee**

**Deputy Chairperson:**

**Jacob Botha**

Proposed by: Lucy Hennessy

Seconded by: Paul Dyke

Unanimously agreed.

**Social Events**

**Lizzie Brignall**

Proposed by: Louise Ellard-Turnbull

Seconded by: Anne Campbell

Unanimously agreed.

**Equality, Diversity & Inclusion**

**Cath Bryant**

Proposed by: Chiara Beebe

Seconded by: Chloe Anderson

Unanimously agreed.

**Safeguarding & Membership**

**Janet Simpson**

Proposed by: Anne Campbell

Seconded by: Jan Croxson

Unanimously agreed.

**Social Media & Website**

**Emma Hartnett**

Proposed by: Hannah-May Lucas

Seconded by: Becky Tarry

Unanimously agreed.

**BROS Academy**

**Faye Brann**

Proposed by: Sian Bowles-Bevan

Seconded by: Georgina Skinner

Unanimously agreed.

**8. Election of Vice President**

Louise Eddard-Turnbull was elected Vice President.

35 members signed before the meeting.

Unanimously agreed by all in attendance.

**9. AOB / Question and answer session for members to newly appointed Officers and** **Members of the Committee.**

Club 24 draw – Jonathan Warriss-Simmons

Clair Jardella – Spoke about ethical banking. HSBC is not very ethical. BROS might want to reconsider. Niv has asked it to be added to a future committee agenda.

Katy Jackson asked how to become a member of club24.

Niv took names and emails of members who would like to join.

AY reminded everyone what Club24 is that it helps as a fundraiser to the society.

HL thanked everyone again for coming.

**Attendees:**

Becky Tarry, Darren Moss, Jonathan Warriss-Simmons, Tracy Sorgiovanni, Aggie Holland, Jen Moorhead, Karen Swift, Susi Pink, Suzanne Yeates, Tom Nunan, Andy Yeates, Janet Simpson, Clair Jardella, Milly Newman, Georgina Skinner, Emma Hartnett, Rachel Williams, Helen Lowe, Stuart Vaughan, Faye Brann, Nivedita Knullar, Sian Walters, Sandra Mortimer, Louise Ellard-Turnbull, Chris Nash, Sian Bowles-Bevan, Katy Jackson, Bill Baker and Carl Smith.