

Meeting of Westenders Drama Group
13th February 2022 – St Joseph's Church Hall

In attendance: Ron Cairns (Chair), Ewan Walker, Helen Cairns, Andrew Murphy, Sheila Hay, Bridget McCarron, Briar Rose

Apologies: Aimee Dunsmore, Lauren Herbert, Kade Ironside, Kathleen Logan, Babs Jeeva

1) Welcome, Introductions, Current Position

Ronnie opened the meeting by welcome Briar, who wishes to join our group. He explained a little about the group and our background.

The priority for the group is to get access to St David's and clear out some of the items from underneath the stage. For example, after our last performance in 2019, we left some items of food and drink under the stage and it has now been there for 2 years.

St David's have requested a Covid risk assessment be completed by any group using the premises. Ewan has completed this and submitted it to the church for approval. As part of this RA, there will be significant changes to the way we operate, including one way systems and social distancing. Once we begin rehearsals proper, we will prepare a list of these measures and issue to each group member to familiarise themselves.

At present, we are aiming to get into St David's and put on a performance in June. We should also aim for a pantomime as usual in December.

2) Scripts

Andrew presented various scripts and we had a read-through of each. He explained that they were slightly different from our previous work.

Readthrough 1: A Stitch in Time. The group agreed that there was a slightly slow start but a good finish.

Readthrough 2: The Affair. This was written by Andrew himself and was well received by the group. Andrew presented 2 different endings, but the group was unanimous that the first one was more favourable.

Readthrough 3: Last Tango in Little Grimley: The group enjoyed reading this script.

Andrew agreed to continue looking for other scripts to present at our next meeting.

3) Committee Update

Ronnie informed the group that there had been some necessary changes to the Committee over the lockdown period as Val had stepped down from her role as Treasurer. In the interim, Ewan had been nominated by the other office bearers to carry out this role.

The group ratified the following appointments to the committee:

Ron Cairns: Chair

Andrew Murphy: Vice-Chair

Ewan Walker: Secretary / Treasurer

4) **Treasurer's Report**

Ewan presented a copy of the accounts. Our bank account is healthy. We made a profit of £110.61 from our last pantomime performance in December 2019. Following the performance, we banked £440.69.

As the group has been inactive since December 2019, there has been minimal income and expenditure during that period. In June 2020, we received a grant for new lighting equipment to the value of £1,967.18. We purchased the lighting equipment in August 2020.

Our closing balance as of February 2022 is £1,281.90.

5) **AOB**

Andrew expressed a vote of thanks to the group for performing his pantomime in December 2019. He was very happy with the final performances.

6) **DONM:** Sunday 3rd April 2022, 1pm in St David's.