

Present: Angela Harkness Robertson (Chair)
Hannah Bradley
Alma Forsyth
David Grimes
Alastair Smith

In attendance (for item 3): Gordon Craig

Apologies

Apologies were received from Daniel Sutton, Claire Wood and Siobhan McGovern.

Approval of minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2019 were approved.

Improv

Gordon Craig spoke to the Committee about his proposal for a short-form improv course to be run in the new year. He noted that although there was a lot of improv going on in Edinburgh at the moment, most of this was long form and lacking in structure. In contrast, his course would be a structured affair, with him in charge, and centre on short-form games in the Theatresports mode. He proposed a 12 week course, for a small fee (which the Committee agreed might be £10 for the course), with sessions being held at 18BP. The Committee agreed that this proposal should be taken forward.

Catch-22

Hannah reported on the progress of rehearsals for Catch-22, which were progressing well. She particularly praised the excellent cast.

One issue which remained to be resolved was the absence of seating in the Biscuit Factory. Around 70 chairs were required, and Hannah had been unable to identify anywhere that might lend us these. The Committee agreed that it would be appropriate to purchase inexpensive folding or stackable seating which could be stored at Home Street, since having our own seating would expand the range of venues which we could consider for future productions (including any return to the Biscuit Factory).

Rights and Venue Update for coming season

David reported that rights had been secured for all of the productions in the 2020 season, with the exception of Trifle, which had been confirmed to be out of copyright. The Coward estate had, however, refused the request to gender-swap a character in Hay Fever.

The Roxy Upstairs had been secured for Hay Fever and Brilliant Adventures.

No venue had yet been secured for A Christmas Carol, since the cost of the main space at the Roxy was now prohibitive. Angie was investigating whether St Brides might be a possibility. The space was good (though assistance would be required in rigging lights from high ladders), though cost was presently unknown. Committee members agreed to be on the lookout for alternative venues.

2018 Financial Report

The financial report for the year ending 31 December 2018 was approved.

AGM for 2018

The Committee confirmed the AGM for the year ended 31 December 2018 would be held on Wednesday 18 December, with the required 30 days notice given following the conclusion of Catch-22.

Slate of officers for 2020

All of the existing office-bearers, with the exception of Siobhan McGovern, had indicated their willingness to be reappointed for the 2020 season.

Consideration of constitution

The Committee discussed in principle a number of amendments and clarifications to the EGTG constitution, most notably introducing a mechanism for removing committee members for cause and increasing the terms of office for the president and vice-president from 2 to 4 years. The Committee agreed that David should circulate a revised text showing the proposed changes, for consideration at a future meeting.

AOB

The Committee noted with sadness the death of Susan Wales Hampson on 16 September.