

Present (via Zoom): Angela Harkness-Robertson
David Grimes
Hannah Bradley
Alma Forsyth
Siobhan McGovern
Claire Wood
Alastair Smith

1. Apologies

Everyone was (virtually) present.

2. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 26 January were approved.

3. Fringe cancellation

The committee noted with regret the cancellation of the 2020 Edinburgh festivals.

David proposed that our Spring and Festival programme from this year should in principle roll over to the same time next year. Hannah expressed doubt about Trifles, given her planned wedding early next year.

Hannah queried whether there was any appetite for doing something in the summer should this prove possible. She thought that Trifles might be suitable for production at short notice. David proposed that we keep the registration for two shows for the next Fringe, with the possibility that one of these would not be trifles, should it be possible to stage Trifles this year.

It was agreed that we should plan for two shows for the Fringe next year, with a wait-and-see attitude for the next month or so regarding a possible summer production of Trifles. Breakfast for One might also be capable of revival at short notice, subject to availability of cast a director.

It was agreed that the committee should reconsider at the beginning of May.

4. Brilliant Adventures

It was hoped that this could proceed next year under Ross's direction. Claire would check with Ross.

5. Hay Fever

This would be rolled forward to next year. Anji had booked for the same week next year and David had secured the rights.

6. Improv

Attendance had been disappointing, given the start of the COVID-19 situation. It was hoped that the course could be continued once normality was restored.

7. SCDA one act and full-length competitions

The one act entry, Breakfast for One, had progressed to the Eastern Division final, although the event was subsequently cancelled. There had been difficulties in coordination with the SCDA, and the committee agreed that it would be appropriate to accept the offer for an SCDA committee member to attend a future meeting of the Grads committee.

The committee expressed its congratulations to Hannah Bradley, whose production of Catch-22 had won the SCDA full-length play competition.

8. Home Street

The Committee discussed the present state of Home Street. Alastair had made some temporary repairs to the roof, but it was not clear whether this had solved the water ingress issue. Further waterproofing works would be required, as well as work to deal with the ceiling, which was covered with black mould and in danger of collapse in places. Hannah suggested that there should be some come-back against the Council, since the works which they instructed a number of years ago should not have allowed leaks. David would check the insurance position. Unfortunately the present coronavirus restrictions prevented any further work in the immediate future.

9. AOB

David hoped that it would be possible to arrange for a read-through of Bug in June and for auditions to take place in July.

The Committee agreed to consider arranging a virtual play-reading via Zoom at some point in the coming months.

The next meeting, via Zoom, was tentatively fixed for Wednesday 6 May.