

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Siobhan McGovern.

2. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

3. Hay Fever

Anji updated the committee on progress with Hayfever. There was now a full cast, with Richard Godden and Andrew Halley filling the vacant roles. It was hoped to start rehearsals in April at Buccleuch Place, COVID permitting. The committee noted the difficulties of rehearsing under current conditions and the risk that it would not be possible to rehearse adequately for a performance in May. In the event that it was not possible to go forward either with timely rehearsal or with a performance in May, the committee agreed a preference to postponement to later in the year rather than cancellation, subject to availability of cast and venues.

4. Bloody Wimmin

Again, the preference would be for postponement over cancellation. It was hoped that there would be a clearer picture of the likely shape of the 2021 Fringe by the time of scheduled auditions in May.

5. StagEHd funding agreement

Hannah updated the committee on the funding agreement for the proposed StagEHd festival. The Council had confirmed that there would be flexibility in the agreement should it be necessary to change dates from May (as seemed likely). It was agreed that the funding agreement be signed by Anji as President and David as Treasurer.

6. Covid Contingency

It was hoped that it would continue to be possible to stage Fringe shows at the Royal Scots Club as in previous years. In the event that this was not possible, open air venues should be considered. Dunbar Battery was a possibility, though it was doubtful whether an event in Dunbar during the Fringe would attract audiences. David noted that rehearsal space was likely to be a limiting factor given ongoing COVID restrictions. It was agreed that there was little definitive to be said at present.

7. Possible table reads during lockdown

The committee considered the possibility of further online table reads. Alma highlighted the positive role of these events in allowing people an outlet for their creative impulses in these strange times. Hannah noted that there was some work involved in organising the online table reads, and that she was no longer able to do this. Claire kindly volunteered to take this on, with the first reading on Wednesday 24 February.

8. SCDA online festival

The committee considered the SCDA's proposal for an online drama festival and concluded that EGTG would not be in a position to contribute. However, the committee agreed that the festival was generally worthy of support and should be publicised in the next EGTG newsletter, with committee support available for any members who wished themselves to participate.

9. Any other business

Home Street works were presently suspended during lockdown, though plans were advanced for storage of flats and freeing up of work space.

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held on Wednesday 3 March.