

Minutes of EGTG Committee Meeting – 8 May 2022 via Zoom

Present: Angela Harkness Robertson
Alma Forsyth
Wendy Brindle
Hannah Bradley Croall
Martin Foreman
James Scott
(James had to leave for work part way through)
Alastair Smith
Claire Wood

1. Apologies were received from Siobhan McGovern and Beverley Wright.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
3. **Hay Fever update:** Martin reported that he was more or less satisfied with the present status of the production, although sourcing props was still a problem. Hannah announced that to date 60 tickets had been sold. Claire said it was a healthy position at this stage before curtain up (18 May). She enquired as to how many of the cast had taken out membership with EGTG and the Committee noted the agreeable news that all cast had done so. Hannah congratulated Martin on his social media posts and will press the Roxy to share via its publicity site. Martin added that Richard Spiers had finished the flats and that organising the get-in was well advanced. Michael Mulligan had offered to help with the get-out.
4. **StagEHd update:** Hannah advised that 500 bookings had so far been made which was encouraging, given that the original target in the proposal was 600. Some shows, however, needed more 'plugging' and Claire offered to mention other participants in any future emails concerning *rock*. The number of volunteers registered so far being 14, basic coverage of the event would be possible but Hannah would need more recruits for Front of House should anyone drop out. Craig, in charge of technical issues was excellent as was the sound technician. Feedback from the announcement of the festival was positive, particularly because the Ross Bandstand is being used for the local community and not for a big international event.
5. **Rock update:** Claire reported that rehearsals were progressing well in spite of various cast absences. She is looking for blue ribbon and Anji advised her of a good, inexpensive source.
6. **Fringe update:** Following a drop out from the cast of *Bloody Wimmin*, the problem had been solved by doubling up the role. Director, Hilary Spiers, will not require a prompt for *BW* but Anji will for *Merchant of Venice*. A draft rehearsal schedule for *MoV* had been distributed and the first meeting would be on 22 May. Regarding the weekend of performances at the Dunbar Battery for which tickets will not be sold, discussion ensued as how best to persuade audiences to make a 'bucket' donation when few people carry cash these days. Hannah informed the Committee of a system being used at StagEHd whereby a QR code displayed on a bucket can be linked to the EGTG bank account, thus insuring we receive 100% of donations. Other options include cash or the EGTG card reader which Wendy says David Grimes

assures her is in Home Street. Martin will try it out for sales of *Hay Fever* programmes. Anji also announced that our Fringe listings are now live.

7. **Satyricon update:** Martin was disappointed at the response to the audition notice and will relaunch the process after *Hay Fever* run. Anji asked to be reminded of the agreement between EGTG and Arbery Productions regarding *Satyricon*. Martin reiterated that EGTG would be providing rehearsal and other facilities but no financial support and would receive 10% of the income generated by ticket sales.
8. **Treasurer handover:** Wendy confirmed that David had passed on to her a large number of documents from which she will extract relevant information and file the rest. The process of adding Wendy to the official list of those who may sign cheques has been complicated and is still rumbling on. Wendy thanked Claire for her help so far. She also observed that she would like to abandon the '2 to sign' requirement which makes our financial procedures rather lengthy. Hannah proposed moving to digital banking and it was agreed to put this item on the agenda of our next meeting.
9. **Pay Pal:** As using this system involves a 4% fee, the Committee agreed we should try, where possible, to persuade potential members to make a bank transfer. Martin proposed that the Membership page on our website explain that making a bank transfer ensures EGTG receives 100% of the money. It was agreed and during the meeting Hannah added this request to our site.
10. **Home Street:** Alastair confirmed that the Deeds have been ordered. The result will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.
11. **Committee Meetings:** Following a request from Siobhan to put this on the Agenda, the Committee discussed the pros and cons of meeting via zoom as opposed to in person. As meeting via zoom saves time and reduces our carbon footprint, it was agreed to continue meeting via zoom.
12. **AOB:** . Martin is contacting theatres to ask about discounts for EGTG members;
 . Martin sought confirmation that the EGTG website provides a link to the Roxy for *Hay Fever* ticket sales. Hannah reassured him this is the case.

The next meeting will be held **via Zoom on Wednesday 8 June at 19h00.**