



## Cambridge University Amateur Dramatic Club

Minutes, 02.05.21, 11.00, Zoom

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Present: Ella Fitt, William Audis, Maria Cleasby, Derek Penny, Iona Rogan, Amber De Ruyt, Claire Lee Shenfield, Cat Salvini, Aine McNamara, Jonathan Black, Jonathan Powell, Mahon Hughes

Absent with apology: Hannah Collins, Annabelle York

Absent without apology: Elliot Aitken, Emily Shen

The presence of the Diversity and Inclusion Consultant, Mithiran Ravindran, was not requested at this meeting.

### 2. Minutes and Matters Arising

Minutes from the previous meeting have not yet been distributed; these will be reviewed at the next meeting.

### 3. Action Points

- a. CLS to assign roles to committee for Garden Party, later in term when Jesus come back with more information - **deferred**
- b. EF to organise sizes and ordering for stash - **ongoing**
- c. MC to create a Google Form for Cambridge Theatre to submit files, photos and plans for a CUADC Set Archive - **ongoing**
- d. EF to share spreadsheet of playwrights from underrepresented groups to slack - **done**
- e. HC to ask Jamie about CUADC / Club Plap Library - **ongoing**
- f. All reps get in touch with their representatives on freshers shows and introduce themselves (No Quarter) - **ongoing**
- g. EF will send out future sessions for welfare training for rest of committee - **deferred**
- h. WA to send final draft of welfare policy on to the slack for final thoughts - **ongoing**

- i. EA to create a rolling feedback form for CUADC shows - ongoing
- j. All committee to think about ideas for 'curtain raisers', monologue nights or long-term opportunities for Directors to work with underrepresented actors - ongoing
- k. EF to organise committee social - deferred

#### **4. Show Reports**

Awaiting SPAT reports.

AY presents show report for Calligrapher

Sales: Still no venue confirmed so there aren't any sales yet

Production: We're still contacting venues to try and get some more options before we make a final decision. We plan to start ringing some more venues this week

Acting: Cast have been confirmed and we have had a read through which was really good

Tech: Set designer has been working with the director to come up with a set, we plan to get a TD on board shortly

#### **5. Event Reports**

CUADC Garden Party - EF reminds the Committee that we need a Jesus student to book on our behalf. William Ashton has done this on our behalf. CLS can now progress with this.

#### **6. General Business and Updates**

EF informed the Committee that No Quarter has been granted a get-in extension. This will allow more time for assisting Freshers. It is imperative all technical representatives attend, and any other Committee members with technical experience are encouraged to attend. A rota will be put together closer to the time in coordination with the No Quarter team.

#### **7. Theatre and Gender Discussion**

EA represented CUADC at the Theatre and Gender Discussion last week. EF passed her thanks and commented on how good the event was. A key suggestion raised was to label parts as 'X-presenting'.

**[JP joined the meeting at 11:09]**

AM suggested we enact this for the Freshers' Plays.

**[MH joined the meeting at 11:10].**

Action point: EF will follow up with the event organisers on all of the suggestions put forward by Theatre and Gender Discussion Panel

IR suggests this is something we can look to include in the Code of Conduct.

## **8. Sustainability Committee**

MC updates the Committee on the discussions of the Sustainability Committee. Key student action points which were raised included developing a furniture request form (DP and CS could help with this), combining both the ADC's furniture stock, and items which individual productions are looking to acquire.

MC happy to follow up independently on workshop-based action points. The minutes from the meeting have not yet been released, so more updates may follow in due course.

## **9. Intimacy Training**

EF and EA received an email from Lucia discussing the possibility of arranging professional intimacy training. There is a desire on Management's part to set up a fund from next year to support this. Shorter-term, Lucia asked if the Club would be willing to contribute to intimacy training for The Passion (no more than a 50% contribution)

EF is keen to move to a more professional approach to intimacy training rather than peer-to-peer training.

CS enquired how funding for intimacy training would work going forward (and in particular how funding will work between different societies)

Action Point: EF and WA to follow up with Management, specifically on how funding for intimacy training would work going forward (and in particular how funding will work between different societies)

JP asked to what extent The Passion would require intimacy training, given the production is socially distanced

EF to follow up on this and ascertain whether there is a need for such training (N.B. the training was suggested by Management, and not requested by The Passion). No other objections were raised, if there is a benefit to intimacy training.

Action Point: EF to ascertain whether intimacy training is needed for The Passion

#### **10. Theatre Families Quiz**

EF noted that such events would need to take place within the next couple of weeks before exams begin (for most students); the Committee agreed.

CS suggested evenings would likely be best

Action Point: EF to follow up with ADR on when would be a suitable date/time for theatre families quiz.

#### **11. Costumes - Cupboard, Hire Charges**

EF informed the committee that CS (alongside DP) has been working on the costume cupboard, and passed her thanks to both.

CS extended her thanks to DP, William Ashton and Estera Ulrich-Oltean for their help. Most of the Guys and Dolls costumes had to be disposed of due to rodent damage. This likely represents a notable financial loss to the Club.

CS also noted that the Club is supposed to record what productions borrow from the Costume Store, and charge a deposit. Unfortunately, it seems the previous Committee neglected to do so, and many items have been returned in a poor state (smelly and unironed).

CS proposes introducing a nominal charge for costume hire (e.g. £10 per character costumed using the CUADC Costume Store). This would enable the Club to build up a pot to acquire new items in future for the wider benefit of the Club (e.g. the corsets required by Parnassus Players would be of benefit for future Shakespearan productions, and could be purchased directly by the Club).

Action Point: CS to put together a draft policy covering nominal charge for costume hire, and then to follow up financial considerations with WA

## **12. OVC Panel - Tackling Sexual Harassment in Theatre**

### **CN - sexual assault**

EF informed the Committee that we have been approached by OVC about hosting a panel with them about tackling sexual assault in theatre.

EF raised concerns about the suitability of a panel as a medium for the discussion of such a sensitive topic, and noted that as a student society, we do not have the authority to take action in the same way as Management.

AM proposed making the event slightly more general in focus.

IR raises that substituting a live event with a brochure would only enforce this prescriptivism and that live discussion would be of more use generally.

EF is also concerned with the use of Google Meet as a platform due to the lack of anonymity.

WA to look into the cost of the Zoom webinar extension to enable an event to be held without forcing attendees to identify themselves.

Action Point: EF to follow up with OVC about potential Q&A webinar.

## **13. AOB**

AM reminded the Freshers' Plays subcommittee to continue reading plays.

EF asked the wider Committee to read plays and contribute to discussions if they wish.

EF to look into arranging a Committee social, perhaps after restrictions have lifted further and we can meet in person.

WA apologised for not having progressed with stash yet. The Committee should expect a Google Form to be released this week to finalise stash arrangements.

IR proposed Committee rubber ducks. EF seconded. This is a possibility that can be explored further (cost-dependent).

**Meeting concluded at 11:40**