

Iminster Ukulele Club Working Group

Minutes of Meeting 30th October 2023

Present: Ian, David W, Marck, Elaine

Apologies; John, Polly

Chair: David W

- 1 **Minutes of last meeting** agreed. The last few meetings had focused on Warehouse gig planning and were not minuted. It was noted that Tony has resigned from the committee. The points raised in Polly's email of 24th October form part of the agenda for this meeting.
- 2 **Concerts:** Since last meeting the club have performed at Vaughan Lee, The Maltings, Parkinson Society, and Forget me not Café. All were well received, the songs were played well. The song Call Me Ma needs a little more work before The Warehouse concert.
- 3 **Warehouse gig.** Preparation is going well. All songs were covered in last weeks practice. Tell me Ma will be tweaked at next practice. Small group songs are all good.
- 4 **Leading & Planning rehearsals.** Discussion around addressing the stresses and tensions that have arisen from differing views of what people want from the club. Some want to progress and play more advanced songs, some want as many performances as possible and some just want to come for a fun social night. Preparing for big concerts means more time is needed on structuring songs and set lists rather than the fun side of the club. Agreed that we want to be an inclusive club and we rejected the idea of splitting the group.

We proposed a new structure from January. The aim is to give members choice to attend just for the fun bit or developing new songs bit, or both. Ideally members will want to come for the whole session but we recognise that some may not want to do both every week. The structure helps everyone, including leaders, to know what we will be playing each week.

18.30 – 19.00. Arrival, tune up, chance to catch up, new player support.

19.00 -19.50. Couple of warm up songs, followed by gig rehearsal songs, exploration and tweaking of new songs.

19.50 – 20.05 Break

20.05 – 21.00. 'Fun time'. Members choice, randomiser of doom, bringing in new songs when ready.

- 5 **Website** Website issue has been resolved by David W and we now have an https address. David W has kindly said he is willing manage the website going forward. There is a capacity issue to be resolved- DW will delete past versions of songs etc to create more space. He has also updated the songbook and will continue to do so. Many thanks!
- 6 **Performance equipment** Ian has managed to get grant funds so we now have money to purchase equipment once we have agreed what is needed.
- 7 **Intros and Outros** More members slowly getting involved. Encouragement of others will continue.
- 8 **Group communications:** Discussed need for Facebook page now we have a secure address on the website and whatsapp groups that seem to be working well. Agreed to delete the facebook page as we can promote concerts etc across the local community pages. DW to action.
- 9 **AOB Christmas break:** agreed to have a break after the Christmas Lights gig. The last session will be a Christmas Party Wednesday 29th November: bring and share food and drink, an instrument if you wish and/or a party piece to perform. (It doesn't have to be music based!)

Club will restart on Wednesday 17th January 2024.

Date of Next Meeting: to be agreed