Ilminster Ukulele Club Working Group

Minutes of Meeting 10/01/24

Present: Ian, David W, Marck, Polly, Elaine Apologies: John Chair: David W

- Minutes of last meeting: Agreed. The group reluctantly accepted John's resignation from the committee. His contributions to this group over the past year have been instrumental in moving the club forward. Agreed that we need to seek one or two new members for the working group.
- 2 Concerts: Feedback from various quarters concluded that The Warehouse concert was a great success. Well done to all who took part. We are victims of our own success and have growing numbers of requests to play at a variety of events. We agreed that this needed to be managed so that gigs were always fun for us to play, and ideally any funds raised would benefit charities close to our hearts. Consequently, we decided to decline invites to play at 1) Horton Village fete on 9th July (clashes with date for our regular Parkinsons Society gig, plus there are a number of other musical events at the fete on that day) and 2) idea muted by a member re possible gig at the Bowling Club, which would involve playing an extended set over a number of hours. We will *try* to keep to one gig a month.

Gigs/potential gigs for 2024:

- a) Chard Hospital League of Friends: 24th February
- b) Horton Cross Nursing Home seek a date in March TBA
- c) British Legion, Merriot Village Hall 23 March (TBC)
- d) Hazelwell Lodge Ilminster- seek date in April TBA
- e) Mulcheney House Ilminster request from the home and also from Alzeimers Society to play at same venue. We will investigate combining the two for a gig in **May. TBA**
- f) St Nicholas Church, Combe St N find date in June TBA
- g) Parkinsons 9th July The Bell in Ash
- h) Chard Ladies Guild 3rd September
- i) Westlands AWRA AGM 11th or 15th September
- Song Book: the songbook needs pruning so that we can add new songs. Members to be encouraged to bring new songs (using the agreed process). These will be developed during the first half of the Wednesday sessions as per suggested new format. All members to be asked to choose five songs to remove from the book. David W will bring survey to next session.
- 4 **Leading & Planning Rehearsals:** David W is away from 14th February to 1st May. We need to encourage more session leaders. David W will lead next three sessions, then Ian and Marck to draw up rota for March and April, adding in new leaders if we can persuade anyone to agree!
- 5 **Website** Polly will manage website issues if required during David's absence
- Performance equipment lan/Marck to visit the Chard music shop to see if they can give advice re various options.

 Ideally we would want wireless speakers etc to minimise trip hazards on stage. We agreed we would offer a gig to a Town Council organised event in the future in recognition of their grant towards equipment.
- 7 **Intros and Outros** Encouragement of others to continue. Thanks to Zoe and Cheryl who have already been working on these.
- 8 **Group communications:** Polly offered to send out info sheet to members covering the various topics agreed at this meeting.
- 9 **AOB**

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 5th March 2024, at Sweet Surprise.