



Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 6 May 2020 (via Zoom)

Present

Angela Jones, Gareth Jones, Hilary Tucker, Liz James, Pam Hudgell, Cheryl Milne, Rebecca Strong, Simon Classey, Neill Wilkinson, Ellie Classey

Cheryl (as Chair) welcomed everyone and introduced the meeting.

1. Matters arising from last meeting

(a) Website traffic

Gareth shared and explained a graph of website traffic to the Shaddo website, showing peaks and troughs. There were two interesting peaks to be noted – one in March at the time of the virtual AGM voting and one in April when information about the various online entertainment events was added to the website. Gareth explained that there were many cases in which it could be seen that the viewer had gone on to look at other pages such as the Panto web pages. Gareth was thanked for his interesting presentation and it was felt that the addition of the entertainment information was a good way of promoting Shaddo.

(b) Format of Panto videos

Gareth had not received any further feedback about this issue since the last meeting. He explained the two video formats which he had put on the Shaddo Panto pages and he would like to know whether there is a preference for one or the other format. Gareth and Neill discussed the technical issues of recording the performances and Gareth would like to receive any further feedback on format.

(c) Netflix and similar online entertainment options

Neill reported that he had been doing research into these options and had found seven different variants so far (e.g. Facebook Party, Netflix Party, Watch at Home Together etc). He had reached the conclusion that none of these were “seamless” and all had technical foibles of one kind or another. His overall conclusion was that there was rather a “mish-mash” of platforms and all required some effort. Neill said that he would do some further research with a view to putting something together for the committee to consider.

Cheryl suggested the possibility of an online “film club/group” along the lines of a book group, where participants watched a certain film (separately at home) and then came together on Zoom to discuss it. Everyone to think about whether they would like to take this forward and, if so, whether anyone would be prepared to organise this.

ACTION – NEILL AND COMMITTEE

(d) Play Readings

Gareth reported that three online play readings had been held to date, hosted by himself, Angela and Charmaine. Four of the committee (Angela, Gareth, Hilary and Pam) had been

involved in the preceding week or so and the idea had worked well so far. Participants had worn costumes (from waist up) such as hats or wigs, which added to the atmosphere. Angela reported that two of the plays had worked very well but one had not worked quite so well due to the necessity for very quick dialogue (more tricky on Zoom), but all had been fun. The trial play readings to date had been organised through specific invitation but the idea was to widen this to all interested parties.

It was agreed that Ellie would explore the option of another play (a four person play called "Breaking and Entering") with Simon, Becca and Henry and would get back to Gareth. Either Ellie or Gareth would then host this or Gareth would set it up and assign it to Ellie.

ACTION – ELLIE, GARETH

The committee discussed scripts and licensing/use of scripts (so Shaddo remained compliant) and also the issue with the 40 minute "free" Zoom time limit. It was agreed that Shaddo would pay for a short term upgrade subscription to facilitate longer events such as play readings. Gareth would action this as and when necessary.

ACTION – GARETH

Cheryl had received feedback from Charmaine about the play reading she initiated and Charmaine had indicated she was happy for the feedback to be shared under her name. Cheryl would forward the feedback to Gareth and this would in due course be put together with other feedback from the play readings and possibly shared on the Shiplake Villages website so as to be visible to a wider range of people who might be interested in online play readings.

ACTION – CHERYL AND GARETH

(e) Other online events

Cheryl reported that she was participating in an online Murder Mystery (not free – this would have a small fee) and would give feedback on this to the committee so the committee could consider whether this might be a good idea for Shaddo to take forward. Perhaps this sort of event could be put on for members?

ACTION – CHERYL

Gareth suggested that an online Panto might be another good idea. Ben Crocker had given free access to all his Panto scripts for the "lockdown" period. Gareth suggested that a virtual Panto could be cast by the person agreeing to host the event, who would contact possible cast direct (e.g. by phone). Shaddo had the technical facility to host this, so it just needed a person to organise and cast it and give it a date and time. Simon agreed to look into a potential Panto script for this purpose (ensuring all cast members had a reasonable number of lines) and to think about who might fit the cast. Simon would then talk to Gareth about this with a view to taking it forward. Participants would need to have the script in advance so it was not read "cold" on the evening.

SIMON AND GARETH

2. Pantomime for January 2020 (potentially)

Ellie and Simon reported that they had found a new website (Tom Whalley Pantomimes) with potential scripts such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Robinson Crusoe and Beauty and the Beast. They would get copies of potential scripts.

Becca reported on potential scripts she had located and would request samples (or perusal copies) of The Snow Queen and Sleeping Beauty.

Once copy scripts had been located, the committee would review them using an Evaluation Form to assist with "like for like" comparison. Gareth had produced such a form for past use and this would be used again. He would send this out so it could be used for reviewing the scripts.

Simon, Ellie and Becca would let committee members have copies of the suggested scripts so they could be assessed with the evaluation form for the committee to review and discuss at the next meeting, which would be a predominantly "Panto meeting" for this purpose.

A preferred script or scripts could potentially be trialled by an online read through by the committee at some point after the next meeting.

Anyone interested in directing a Panto to indicate at this stage if possible and there could be more than one director.

ACTION – SIMON/ELLIE/BECCA/GARETH/ALL INTERESTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

3. Other possible events for 2020

It was agreed that it would be premature to organise any events at this stage beyond the ones mentioned above, but there had been some good ideas to take forward which had been mentioned at the last meeting (e.g. barn dance, Shaddo anniversary events).

This would all be reassessed as more information emerged about social distancing timelines etc.

Cheryl said she would be happy to host a BBQ in her garden this summer (if possible at the time).

4. AOB

It was agreed that Cheryl and Henry would put together an update for members, both to reach out to members generally and to update members on events to date and plans for future events.

ACTION – CHERYL AND HENRY

It was agreed (in line with earlier discussion about the Panto) that the next meeting would be principally a Panto script evaluation meeting (although some time would also be given to updating the committee on the "online" play readings/Panto).

This next meeting would take place on **Wednesday 27 May 2020 at 7.30** via Zoom.

Gareth would send out a meeting invite and Hilary would do a brief agenda in advance.

ACTION – HILARY AND GARETH

Hilary would send out minutes of this meeting to the committee with action points marked.

ACTION – HILARY

Cheryl thanked Gareth for his work in dealing with all the website matters and the committee thanked Cheryl for chairing the meeting.

END

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 27 May 2020 at 7.30pm