**Sussex Harmony Committee Meeting held 8pm, Monday 6 January 2014 at the Brewers Arms, Lewes**

**Present:** Milly, Rachel, Jan

1. **Apologies for absence** had been received from Mike, who was feeling rather ill with a nasty cold.
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting** were agreed and signed as a true record.
3. **Matters arising**

Rachel asked whether SeFan had been contacted. Jan said that there had been no need to contact them.

1. **Treasurer’s report**

There was no Treasurer’s report as Mike was sick. However, he had emailed the end-of-year accounts and these were examined.

1. **Past events**

**Friday 29 November – induction service for new vicar of St Anne’s, Lewes.** Several members of the quire came to help swell the numbers of St Anne’s choir for this special occasion. The service had been interesting and Bishop Mark (of Horsham) had spoken very well.

**Sunday 8 December – organ replacement service at St Anne’s, Lewes.** The service had again gone well and was easier to follow second time around. We had received many compliments and thanks. We had also been paid.

**Sunday 15 December – Malling carol service.** It had been nice to have no snow for this, and fairly mild weather. We had received lots of compliments from the congregation after the service.

**Thursday 19 December – carol concert at St Peter’s, Preston Park.** This had been well received, as usual. People came back year after year for this concert.

**Friday 27 December – post Christmas sing at the Rights of Man, Lewes.** This had gone fairly well, although most of the people had either been Sussex Harmony members or Sussex Carollers. There had been a few others and two or three who came in just to listen for a while. Milly had ordered a buffet lunch for ten people and about twenty people had fed quite well from it. A basket had been passed to cover the costs. Rachel said that Sussex Harmony should have known about the Sussex Carollers events and invitations to prestigious locations. Milly said that she could book us in for next Christmas.

1. **Forthcoming events**

**Thursday 9 January – Sussex Harmony birthday party at Christ Church.** Rachel said that the hall was booked for both the party and the AGM. She would be there from about 6.45pm. Jan would send out another email reminding everyone about the 7pm start and not to eat beforehand but bring food to share.

**Thursday 16 and 23 January – normal practice evenings at Malling.**

**Thursday 30 January – AGM at Christ Church.** To be discussed under AOB.

Rachel would be away on 27 February and also from 17 March until 8 April.

**Thursday 13 or Saturday 15 March – possible fund-raising concert for St John sub Castro, Lewes.** Quire and church to be sounded out.

**May/June – possible concert at St John’s, Burgess Hill and/or Warbleton.** Rachel said that Paula was going to a meeting at Warbleton sometime this month. Nothing more had been heard about St John’s at Burgess Hill.

**Saturday 5 July – Sussex Harmony Sacred Harp sing at Malling.**

**Sunday 28 September – Bexhill.**

**Saturday 4 October – Harveys Old Ale.**

**Sunday 12 October – possible Moody and Sankey sing for Lewes Folk Festival.**

**Saturday 29 November – Punnetts Town.**

**Thursday 13 December – carol concert at St Peter’s, Preston Park.**

**Sunday 16 December – probably carol service at Malling.**

Rachel said that she didn’t want to do too much in December in case it people got too busy. She recognised that people needed time with their families at Christmas and didn’t want to make Sussex Harmony events a burden on them.

The post-Christmas sing would probably be on a Saturday this year. Milly would check with the pub whether that would be ok. Jan would email past members as usual once we had agreed a date. It might be possible to fit more chairs and people in if the buffet tables were not put out until needed.

1. **Any other business**

**AGM –** Dave’s email to committee members was discussed and it was agreed that the comments he referred to had been made before the meeting had started and had therefore not been recorded in the minutes. Milly would reply to his email in her role as Chairman.

Jan would send out another email to all members regarding any extra issues for the agenda if they were considered too important for AOB. Jan would also send out email attachments containing the Constitution and the updated address list.

**Malling church** would be having some remedial works in the tower before Easter. Other venues were discussed. St John sub Castro costs £14 per hour for a one-off booking and £12 per hour for a block booking of 6 sessions. It is also very booked up. Christ Church has the small room free on Thursdays. It should be possible to use the upstairs room at the Elephant and Castle but this would not be ideal and parking is not easy.

1. **Date of next meeting – Monday 3 February, 8pm at the Brewers Arms, Lewes.**