

**Minutes for Arco Iris Committee Meeting - October**  
**Hosting: Ruth**

Present: Alan, Steve, Ruth, Ian, Ahu, Adam, Blake, Laura  
Apologies for absence: Larissa

**1. ROMP.**

Sept Committee meeting minutes at:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gRb0l3kxTZqx82tp1heodY6gN2sn0oe4h4sgWeuo1w/edit>

**Actions from last meeting:**

Adam:

- Ask via Facebook that people give us their photos of Arco
- Re-new the Flickr pro account
  - This should be renewed in time for next month's AGM.

Ian:

- Talk to Malcolm and look around at the insulation to see what solutions may possible  
Problem is that the vent on the Velux window is broken, so sound is escaping. This means we have to return to using the wooden shutter, as the Perspex sheet lets too much noise through.

Ahu:

- ✓ Book Missing Sock for Christmas party on 15th December  
Provisional booking made.
- ✓ Made amendments to gig managers list about dealing with festivals and liasing with organisers, especially when they want us to collaborate (or be near) other groups.

Alan:

- Alan set up subcommittee to discuss constitution.
- ✓ Talk to Emma about when money needed and when for Strawberry Fair.  
Emma is thinking we do a one-off busk around town to raise money.

Blake:

- Make instrument inventory and put it on the web  
The inventory has been started. It's needed inventory for the band's insurance by the Financial Officer.
- Talk to players about not hitting drums too hard  
The problem is not people hitting the drums too hard, but hitting them incorrectly, rather than too hard. Some players are swiping at the drum with the drum sticks, rather than making direct hits. This is causing the skins to rip.
- Label up cases and tell people how the surdo cupboard is organised  
Issue is to dispose of some of the old drums and shells to clear space in the cupboard.

Committee decided to offer these drums to band members. If no takers, then offer them to local schools.

Laura:

- Update and fix the score summaries

✓ Email to band about instrument amnesty (two bells missing).

✓ Collate people's responses about 20th anniversary and present at next meeting.

Laura described the various suggestions that had been mailed to her about celebrating Arco's 20th anniversary. This included: a booklet of stories about Arco; to invite past members to a big re-union party, e.g. during Wells or host a party; to have a workshop during the day and a party in the evening

[Laura to send full list of suggestions.]

ACTION: Laura – Take feedback forward.

✓ Talk to Leon about the workshop

- Invite Norwich along to Leon's workshop

Steph:

- Finish Treasurer guide and pass on to Adam to put on web

Deadline at end of month.

- Investigate technical details of how the member and email databases can be merged (talk to Steve and Adam directly)

- This entails more work than is practical at this time.

✓ Talk to Anke about Berlin Carnival and explain the situation.

- Look for invoice for when sound insulation was first purchased.

- £700 was spent previously on sound insulation materials and fitting.

- ACTION: Steph – Find original invoices and details of what was purchased

Ruth/Adam:

✓ Design and make up a board with bullet point information to be placed in the hallway, e.g. ear plugs, closing door, pick up any instrument, first time is free. Include notice board

Done – Committee agrees that it looks amazing!

Steve:

- Find out what other fund-raising events are happening for Strawberry Fair.

✓ Email to leaders - Point out what's new.

Recent gigs:

Bridge the gap (9th of Sept)

Springfield Street Party (16th of Sept)

Would do again.

Missing Sock night (29th of Sept)

Special night as always.

Grad Union (5th Oct)

Good gig. Organiser was very pleased and would like to hire us for other events.

### Upcoming gigs:

Sat 20th Oct Oxjam Cambridge Takeover 2012

Details still to be finalized about parade route and other events

Sat 27th Oct Hallowe'en MBA University Arms Hotel

Under control. Room reserved for us. Paid. Free drinks. Two sets.

Sat 3rd Nov Addenbrooke's fireworks

Anke is gig managing

Fri 16th Nov Children In Need Parade.

Late evening parade through city.

### **1. AGM 2012 (Alan) November 14th?**

The 2012 AGM is scheduled for 14th November.

Continue to encourage newer members to stand for the committee.

Steph has now reached 3 years as Finance Officer and, according to the Constitution, will need to step down at this AGM. Steph has been asking around to see if anyone is interested in the post.

ACTION: Alan – Announce AGM.

ACTION: Alan - Circulate to committee draft email about the AGM and committee posts.

### **2. Workshop weekend with Leon (Laura)**

10-11th November. Whole day of workshops on techniques for individual drums, followed by a day for the whole band where a new piece will be taught.

It will need to be clarified that people will need to sign up for specific instruments beforehand.

The Committee discussed options to raise extra money to help pay for the workshop. This included making a number of positions (15?) available to Global Grooves Network members at £40-50. Inviting Norwich and Ely to participate with the fee at a cheaper rate (but not as low as with the Arco subsidy). During the workshop, Arco drums will be available only to Arco players.

Leon has offered to do a workshop for Leaders. The Committee discussed who this would be open to? It was decided that Leon's tuition would be most valuable to those who have led before as they already have some experience. The Committee agreed that we can have a novice leaders workshop at a later time (or just encourage people to get up on a Wednesday).

ACTION: Laura - Find location for technique workshops on Saturday.

### **3. New timbas (Blake)**

The majority of the current timbas have probably lasted 10 years. However, the rims of all of them are damaged, including the newest one of only a couple of years.

Blake proposed that we replace all the current timbas with new ones. The old ones would be offered to people in the band.

Leon can supply these new timbas and could bring some down to the workshop for us to try. Costs for these are about 70 cm metal (£200); 120 cm metal (£240); 70 cm wood (£120). Committee agreed that whereas the metal timbas do sound better, the wooden ones better for Arco as more durable than the metal ones.

### **4. Luton Encontro (Blake)**

Ivan has sent email to chatter about the Luton Encontro. The problem is that it clashes with the Oxjam gig. However, the gig does not look to be at risk from people attending Luton instead.

ACTION: Blake – Send email to band about policy on borrowing instruments.

ACTION: Steph – Send email to band that members can get discretionary subsidy for attending workshops.

**5. Germany collaborations can be still on Bremen Carnival. We are invited by the Drum Kitchen people (Ahu)**

Drum kitchen are not going to Berlin Carnival, but they are going to Bremen. The Bremen Carnival is more “Mardi gras” in nature. We would also be able to play as Arco, and not under “Drum Kitchen”. Drum kitchen have kindly offered to provide larger instruments to Arco. However, if we don’t fly, it would involve 500 miles of driving. Before accepting the invitation, we need to find out is if it is practical and affordable. We then need to decide how much we are prepared to contribute from the band’s finances towards the trip.

It was suggested that we could apply for funding from elsewhere, such as the Arts Council or the National Lottery.

ACTION: Ian / Anke - First issue is to sort out costs. Ian and Ahu agreed to look into it further.

**6. Why don’t we invite Ely Band to the workshop with Leon? (Ahu)**

Yes.

**7. Some fine tuning to the Leaders arranging the band prior to the gig ( a new habit we are trying to bring to the band). Can we do a short risk assessment? (an emotional one) (Ahu)**

Ivan sent an email about swapping players around to get the best sound from the band. The committee agreed that this is an issue that needs to be handled sensitively. Leaders and gig managers must be careful not to upset people. There is a difference between asking someone to move onto another instrument because they’re good at it, and moving someone off because they’re poor at it and to be replaced by someone else. Possibly the happiness of band members is more of a priority than quality of sound. Each section of the band benefits from an experienced player and sometimes novice players are happiest when there is experienced player. However, it was pointed out that sometimes the absence of an experienced player can help raise the confidence of the relative new comers.

ACTION: Laura – Respond to Ivan’s email about switching players around.

**A.O.B.**

Ruth has put an order in to “Talking T’s”. T-shirts are £4.65 at cost price and hoodies are down to £12.95. The Committee agreed we should carry on charging £5 for T-shirts and £15 for the hoodies.

Agreed to have one more committee meeting before the AGM. This will allow us to discuss issues such as Christmas party and Leon’s workshop.

**Minutes signed off:**

**Signed: .....Alan Robinson..... Date: .....1st November 2012.....**

