

**Minutes for Arco Committee meeting
04 February 2016**

Host: Celine

Present: Martin, Duncan, Kate, Chris, Celine, Axel, Katie, Hester, Hannah
Apologies: Jon, Bertha

1) ROMP – Minutes
To send as pdf next time. Minutes ratified.

2) Matters Arising
Asnat does not want to be a signatory. **Chris** to be signatory instead.
Actions carried over from last meeting.

Email about ear protection should be sent out again regularly. **Action: Hester**
Martin to look into selling a high and low surdo that are not needed by band.
Buy new boxes (**Chris**)
Mackays fixing bells. (**Hannah**)
Martin has bought some drum heads and caixa wire.
Key holder list needs to be updated (**Hester**)
A4 posters (**Chris**) – work in progress
Katie to do a rota for subs collection when she has a cash box.

3) Recent Events/Gigs

Christmas Party

Enjoyed by those who went. Costumes admired, especially Fina's – multiple costumes!

Busk in Cambridge

People appreciated the structure of the gig. Charlie queried if we should busk for ourselves, rather than for a charity as we have raised fees etc. Hannah suggested making a preferred charity list for the band. Duncan suggested asking the council if we could use the band stand on Jesus Green for a gig in the summer.

Money raised at January busk could still be given to charity –eg Jimmy's shelter. Contact band about this (**Chris**)

Chris proposed another busk, end of February, raising money for eg Syria.

Bremen

Comments from all those who went were very favourable. Atmosphere downstairs, great and Main stage. Arco got a slot on main stage on Friday. We were much appreciated by subsequent band. Massive thank-you to Ahu, Ian, Miguel, Celine, Chris and Ivan for all the work they put in! Costs £866. This needs to be set against a donation of £200 from the Bremen organisers and the contributions from the band. People want to re-use their costumes. Appropriate gig will need to be selected.

4) Upcoming Events

Hester suggested putting chief events in calendar.

6th Feb Norwich Carnival

28th Feb Cambridge Half Marathon

18th June Melbourn Village Fete.

Race for Life July 17th - probably won't happen as it clashes with Liverpool.

Liverpool Carnival July ?

29th-31st July Barefoot festival

Wells Carnival (early August)

Drogheda – happening this year? Hester in contact with organisers who thought it was unlikely to happen this year, but asked us to keep the date free (last weekend in June) for the time being.

possible festival: Coburg – 8th- 9th July – discussed. Committee decided it is a bit too far for drivers to take drums etc.

3-4th September: festival in Holland (accessible by train and boat). Possibly clashes with Lodestar? **Martin** to research. **Duncan** to check dates for Lodestar

5) Applying for grant for Liverpool. Will ask Laura to look into getting the grant for this event. Need to find out if there are any 'strings', and if we can obtain another paying gig. **Duncan** to check with Laura.

6) Spending money on Instruments and Repairs – progress?

Mackays fixing bells. Hannah making drum dividers. **Action:Hannah.**

Martin to buy 6 new bells, and purple ear-plugs.

Date to be set for an inventory session once new equipment has been bought. To doodle poll.

Celine to buy more T-shirts.

7) Publicity: attracting more members and leaders. Membership benefits. Progress?

Discussion about how to attract members. Encourage current members to bring friends! More busking to attract new members.

Membership benefits: reduced price workshops, travel to some gigs, earplugs, access to the web-site.

8) Music and Instrument videos.

9) Issues with email list.

Axel proposing to trial Google groups, initially for the committee, then if there are no issues, to use it for the band and for Chatter. Also to look into sending out automatic reminder emails if subs are due.

Axel also looking at using a Wordpress website for the band as it is easier to use and navigate the site. To send the committee a draft of the new website when it is ready.

10) AOB

1. Ian suggested painting surdos in single colours to make them easier to paint. Committee likes the rainbow banding. Hannah suggested vertical stripes. Surdos do need painting. Painting day to be organised.

2. Choreography. Hester suggested simple choreography. Hannah suggested formalizing some of the moves we already do. Martin suggested it is easier to use choreography in bloc formation. **Chris** to speak to leaders re introducing some choreography in practice.

3. Workshops. Ask JP to do a workshop? He is available on the 7th of May. No decision made about this date, but there were discussions about technique workshops. Martin, Laura and Ivan could offer eg tam workshops. Could do a workshop with instrument technique, leading, tuning on a Saturday at the Social Club or pre Wednesday workshops. **Chris** to send an email to see if people could volunteer to lead workshops, and to message Raz, Jon and

Global Grooves. Hannah suggested learning a new piece in a day, or half day. Chris also to email band to see what they want.

4. Previously we have given money to people who go on to external courses to improve skills. Should we continue to subsidise, especially if people are using instruments from the band? Remind band that instruments can be borrowed, but they need to be signed out. Email to remind band (*Hester?*)

Meeting Adjourned at:

10:30