

MINUTES

CAMUS Committee Meeting

9th June 2025

7.00pm at The Crabtree

In Attendance

Actions

GB, DB, NG, AK, EK, PK, RL, TR, JR, LR, NY

Approval of minutes

The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

1. Welcome from NY

NY welcomed the group and expressed thanks to everyone for their contributions to the show and CAMUS over the last month.

It was noted that the Gift Aid information is still pending an update. GB to follow up
Actions from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

GB

2. Financial Report

GB provided a financial update to the group:

- **End of May balance:** £10,853.38
- **Current balance:** £6,913.81
This includes band fees and van hire (awaiting the return of a £500 deposit) for MID.

Membership Update:

Three members are currently outstanding on their membership payments:

- SM is on a payment plan.
- GT has arranged to pay next month.
- KJ's payment is still outstanding.

Script Hire:

There are 19 scripts on loan, totalling £475.00 (not £300.00 as previously recorded in the financials). GB GB
will follow up to correct this.

Fundraising:

TR queried the £18.00 fundraising entry in the financials. GB confirmed this was a donation received via JustGiving.

Banking and Payment Access:

GB will follow up on granting bank account access to NY and PK for signatory and mandate purposes.

Currently, Zettle is set up for GB and LR. It was suggested that additional committee members (TR, LR, NY, and PK) should also be given Zettle access for ease of financial management.

3. Current Production – Made in Dagenham

EK provided a debrief from the Director's perspective:

- The show was very well received, with positive feedback particularly highlighting its professionalism. The theatre also shared their feedback from guest reviews.
- Ticket sales appeared to improve in the lead-up to the performance. This will be followed up by LR / PK via theatre comparison with previous CAMUS shows.
- EK expressed overall satisfaction with the final production.

LR / PK

Preliminary Financial Summary was drawn up by NY / JR

- A full financial 'wash-up' is pending, awaiting confirmation of ticket income from the theatre and any additional expenditures. (inclusive of £100 to NG for reimbursement of items purchased at the get in)
- Working income: £21,162.50
- Total costs: £21,879.94
- Current projected loss: approximately £700.00

It was noted that there were potential additional items that may be sold (set and costume) that would generate additional income and that the overall loss may be reduced.

4. Forthcoming Productions

And Then There Were None – Autumn Play

- Preparations are underway, and everything is on track.
- Director's Night is scheduled for next week.
- Auditions will take place a week on Sunday. Currently, only 5 people have signed up, so please continue to spread the word and push on social media.
- The break-even budget is based on 70% capacity, assuming a small cast and modest costs. Encouragingly, almost 10% of tickets have already been sold.
- Audience capacity is budgeted for 70, with the option to increase to 80 if needed.
- Rehearsal venues: IGC will be used on Sundays, Nic will host Monday and Wednesday rehearsals at her home to help reduce costs.
- Auditions take place in June, with rehearsals beginning in August.
- The audition panel will consist of DB, LR, NY, and KJ.

Sweeney Todd – Spring Musical

VJ attended the VIP night of *Made in Dagenham* and thoroughly enjoyed the performance. She wrote a very positive review and thanked the committee for inviting her.

Musical Director (MD): NY approached Lizzie Hales after MID, who initially expressed interest but later declined, as she would like to audition for a role instead.

The production will use backing tracks, raising the question of whether a full MD is necessary, or if a vocal coach would suffice to guide the cast through rehearsals. This change could offer a significant cost-saving.

Suggestions for Vocal Coach:

Jake Hellier (who could also prepare guide tracks)

Anton Gwilt

Sarah Jones

David Perkins

A production meeting will be scheduled once audition and rehearsal dates are confirmed with VJ. PK to meet with her.

PK

Tickets will go on sale as soon as we confirm details with the theatre. Committee approved that ticket pricing should be as follows:

Standard ticket for all performances: £23.00

No matinee performance.

Group offer: Buy 10, get 1 free.

Educational Offer to be promoted from September, with Education Pack and 'meet and greet' / Q&A offer:

£18.00 per student

1 free staff ticket **per 10 students (1:10 ratio)**

5. 2006 Autumn Production

Stepping Out had been proposed as a potential production for 2026; however, DB has requested to pause this proposal for the time being.

The committee remains open to additional production suggestions. JR expressed interest in directing *Things I Know To Be True*.

There is also potential for staging a Shakespeare production, with EK expressing interest in directing.

EK advised a cautious approach before committing to another play at this stage, suggesting the committee wait to assess the success of *And Then There Were None* at Warbrook House before moving forward with future bookings. It was agreed by all that this would be a prudent move forward.

6. Fundraising

Fundraising and Events Update

- Farnborough Donkey Derby/Yateley May Fayre:
 - A total of £143 was raised at the event.
 - There was minor damage to the gazebo. TR to discuss with EK.
 - An additional £280 was raised at the May Fayre
- CCC – Camberley Concert (CAMUS Concert Choir):
 - Concert date: 19th July
 - Intro night: 25th June
 - Auditions: 30th June
 - TR, RS, and PK will meet to finalise details.
 - A 30-minute singing slot has been secured, with a stall provided free of charge.
 - A budget will be outlined at the next meeting.
- Fundraising Budget Meeting:
 - Scheduled for Friday 13th June.
 - Topics to include:
 1. Events and fundraising opportunities post-August
 2. Upcoming social events
 3. Future planning for Pride events:

TR/EK

TR/RS/PK

- Reading Pride – 30th August (£48 fee)
- Rushmoor Pride – 13th September (Free, due to performance involvement)
- Pride in Surrey – awaiting confirmation or details.

After discussion it was agreed that we should continue with plans for Reading and Rushmore, but to leave Surrey Pride due to costs.

- Tracking & Planning:
 - TR and LR have created a shared Google Doc for full tracking.
 - This includes a comprehensive calendar and all fundraising activities.

7. Socials

Social Events Discussion. It was clear that a Film Night was the top choice for the next social event. Suggested screening: *Sweeney Todd* (in preparation of our next big musical).

Idea: A relaxed outdoor gathering with a show-themed film screening, encouraging attendees to bring a chair and a share platter.

Potential timing: Late August – dates to be confirmed.

Horse Racing Night at the Crown and Cushion needs follow up regarding available dates.

Christmas Social Plans need to be agreed at next meeting. Initial thoughts were discussed about planning a festive event later in the year – ideas to be explored further at the next meeting.

8. Marketing

Marketing & Website Update

- LR and PK will follow up with the marketing team at the theatre for further updates regarding any correlation between social media promotion and the increase in ticket sales.
- The website has been updated:
 - *And Then There Were None* now appears on both the home page and shows page.
 - *Made in Dagenham* photos have been uploaded to the Members Area on the MID page.
- The 'Where did you hear about us?' question should be expanded to capture a broader range of responses beyond just "family and friends."

Website Content & Accessibility

- It was agreed that key policies should be publicly available and displayed on the website.
- A 'Meet the Committee' section will be added to the public-facing site.
- In the Committee Area, all policy documents and key materials should be accessible in Word document format.

Constitution

- PK will send the Word version of the Constitution and policy documents to LR for upload.

9. AOB

Committee Dates

RL requested confirmation of upcoming Committee meeting dates. It was noted that these are available both on the shared calendar and in the minutes of previous meetings.

Get-Out Support

NG expressed disappointment regarding the lack of support at the lock-up during the get-out on Sunday, 8th June. A question was raised as to why more committee members had not been present to assist.

Meeting Disruption

A heated discussion ensued, during which both **LR and NG left the meeting**. The atmosphere became notably tense, prompting further discussion about NG's reaction, which was deemed **inappropriate and aggressive in tone**. Following this, it was agreed that **NG had breached the CAMUS Code of Conduct** and would therefore be **asked to leave the society**.

A separate document outlines the full details of this decision.

Acknowledgements

AK extended her thanks to NY for hosting the after-show party.

Next Meetings

Sunday 21st July – confirmed

August – no meeting scheduled

Monday 8th September – next meeting after summer break

Meeting closed at 20.37