Tower Ravens EGM Minutes 21/3/16

Present: Rachel, Kate, Sue, Sinead, Jo, Hannah, Katherine, Becky, Ffion, Laura S

Apologies: Laura W. Nikki

2. Elect Chair: Ffion

3. Minutes of 2015 AGM ratified

4. *Katherine*: Thank you for everyone’s hard work. Very disappointed not to come first but so so happy with how we did ☺ Doing dance really well, to move forward we need to make that level of dance consistent amongst team and over each dance.

*Becky* - people need to sign up better to ensure we actually have dance outs to work towards and hopefully this summer will have more consistent attendance

*Sue-* Accounts very full, looking very healthy. Some outstanding expenditure (tights etc.) so not totally up to date but still got about £1400 ☺

DERT more expensive for whatever reason, Crawl £185.94 average crawl takings atm ☺ result of assertive collecting so well done everyone.

*Crawl Organisers (Represented by Ffion)* gone fine- map begun by Lindsey- needs developing. Each organiser to do so, better at knowing when certain areas are good. Split role working well

Music- Nikki stepping down as musician

* Who would like to lead? Kate happy to lead but still wants to have other people playing
* Hannah happy to play but would rather dance
* Kate happy to play instead of dance
* Rachel points out being in charge doesn’t mean having to play at every practice- just organising other musicians in the team.
* Hannah, Ffion and Laura S. happy to play- bring instrument along when can. Organise this more? Sinead would like to try but might take her a long time to learn tunes

5. DERT

Ffion reflections: 1st year impact new, 2nd year impact much better, 3rd year impact new dance. 4th year we made far less impact as assumed being better than last year but we didn’t make as big an impact. Feel next year we should do something different- whole dance, some dance, character, music. Or more prep in social media. (red mum flags etc.)

Hannorah enters stage left

Katherine- need to decide on a STYLE- dance done very well but not done in a particular way. We need to find out niche that is different to everyone else (and the character and music fits in with this)

Laura thinks we currently fit together very well- do we need to change?

Katherine- but kings men do the same thing all the time and doesn’t make any difference!

Rachel- showcase- we were the first people that was cheered for here and generally had the whole rooms support

Sue- making an impact but not necessarily reflected in the marks.

Ffion- personally felt very nervous- most comments had that we looked nervous and weren’t dancing confidently enough. If we dance at festivals in front of other dancers/judges we’d know them and them us so we’d feel more comfortable. With teams we have great rapport (hence support Star and Shadow, SS etc.) but nothing with the judges. Spent very little time at Fri night socialising.

Kendal will be much smaller and therefore end up being much closer to other teams.

Sinead- watched all videos, not much stage presence (maybe thinking irish dancing) but not as much smiles. Really need to go on with confidence- know how good we are

Think about ‘performing’ as personalities. Improv if that’s what it takes

Laura S. maybe missing some more technical figures (spins and sword swishes comment from DERT)

Katherine we got 13/15 on sword handling on that same dance from same judge so what does technical mean!?

Sue says- bah judges, you guys are all doing brilliantly.

Westerhope marks- very hard to judge, the mark scheme doesn’t make much sense of what we needed and will it change by next year?

So many contradictions from judges- you can’t win so just need to push at everything

Negative things- nothing huge we need to change just need to be more confident- and get everyone up there which should make us all more relaxed because we have confidence in ourselves.

Defo don’t want an A team and B team

Hannorah says well done!

We’re beating premiership teams on certain aspects which is really great.

6. Dance development

a. dance jubilee as base dance- practice once at start and end of practice? But aim to focus on piccadilly and getting us all the same level. And get everyone to learn westerhope.

Last summer was really bad attendance and therefore hard to progress all of the dances. If we’re not going to festivals how are we keeping the motivation. Commitment to events and practices.

d. learn different positions

7. Practical details:

b. Recrutiment- email out to say it’s post dert all come out. Try and recruit more people. More on social media. Open workshop on 25th April. Dance at events at cecil sharp ceilidhs etc. where we can dance and be seen locally (Laura S.).

Who would work well as ‘looking after’ the new person. Vote in Hannah.

1. Who else willing to teach – Laura S. Westerhope, Sinead, Rachel, Becky. Give some notice as to if it’s needed. Some practice sessions with Katherine there but not teaching.

8. Crawls:

Signup sheet and festivals

Characters- Westerhope – Hannorah wants to be tommy- Rosie Riveter?

Sue Beefeater

Nice to have an alternate character- prisoner, cleaning lady, soon have a practice of how to interact with set. 18th April and see where this leads us

9. Funds:

a. Charity? Give to Christmas but leave the rest of the time

Subs reduced?

Keep everything going the same, all working.

Camera/camera person: Until AGM, those who have capabilities and equipment do stuff by themselves, if gone well see what we need re. equipment. Pre-crawl make it part of organisation.

1. Constitution change: Finance-Need a debit card to pay in cash at post office (HSBC branches thin on the ground) and can only do this with a debit card. Also means expenses while out and about can be handled. Therefore in constitution change to only needing one signature not two. Treasurer shall produce bank statements to be ratified ahead of EGM and AGM checked and audited by signatories and foreperson (i.e. every 6 months). Ffion and Becky to try logging into HSBC account. Voted and confirmed

Hannorah reveals surprise gift for Treasurer- BEEFEATER MONEY BOX!

10. Self Promotion

A. Yes to films and photos on tour (encourage each other)

b. how can we create more buzz?

Access to any publicity platforms just ask

Facebook- add people to admin who need (Katherine)

Twitter-

Post more, maybe a personality will come out of this?

Badges- stickers.

Laura S bring in designs and look into prices, ppl to think on what we can have

Badges go to friends in folk world

Interactions in pubs- drinking or not, socialising

Crawl organiser being organised as to which pub we can pause and drinking in- regulating it a bit more rather than being stuck at one for ages.

Sue makes odd comment about us all being attractive to middle aged men ☺

11. AOB

Cake monitor- who’s bringing cake next week reminder at business

Who has paid for what on paying out for tights etc. Shirts etc. Katherine to send invoice to Sue. Shirts pay Sue.

Team pays for tights and pants etc. Shirts paid for by individuals. Katherine to send round details and all dancers to buy shirts. Westerhope shirt part of kit.