Attendance: Ffion (FD); Kate (KC); Hannah N (HN); Laura (LW); Katherine (KR); Becky (BS); Anna Stedman (AS); Emma Hope (EH); Hannah TD (HTD); Rachel-Anne Smith (RAS); Sue (SC)

Apologies: Reesha, Hannorah, Joanna

Minutes ratified

Action points from last year complete barring Day of Dance (tried but didn’t work out); and HN needs to report back findings on SDU membership. Dan investigating spam filters as this appears to be getting much worse again.

Officer Reports:

Foreperson (BS): Thanks all. Improved style and quality of dancing. We have been acknowledged as being good post DERT – we did awesome! 4th overall and in the spotlight. Trad 3rd – thanks to Rachel. Steve Marris 6th. Music 4th – Kate is awesome. Tommy 7th – beaten only by the usuals.

Interjection from RAS – “You’re awesome Sue, face it.”

Chippenham was good. Hopefully we will make it to more outings next year, need to commit to things. We learnt clog which will be useful next year. Warwickers – thanks for learning fast, there have been a couple of things we couldn’t have done without you.

Secretary (HN): 12 dance outs that were not crawls (down on last year); and around 14 been invited to but unable to make (up on last year). Some of the ones we haven’t been able to make were due to very short notice and so not having enough people available. Highlights obviously Laura and Katherine’s weddings! And DERT! Had some good feedback from events like May in a Day, DATW and Chippenham. We just need to make sure we keep signing up for stuff so that we can keep going to things.

Treasurer (SC): about £900 in the bank now. 2016 annual total smaller due to earlier AGM. This year we spent a lot on reimbursement of travel. Future subsidies will depend on the crawl takings. Small discrepancy between bank account and the spreadsheet to be checked over (£4-£5). £170 in subs. Hall hire slightly more than last year as spent £90 on an extra DERT practice elsewhere. Average crawl income £161.86 – did very well pre-DERT, less good more recently. Donated £279.71 to the Trussell Trust. Thrales Oyster cards – we will write that debt off.

Kit Keeper (KC): Kit still exists. Kitted out the new people. Need to check what is left. May need to move it to somewhere else next year.

\*Sue to email Reesha Re: stopping paying

Tour Organisers (collectively): did all the places Sue listed. 2 last minute abandonments – annoying as they were new places which can make it hard to go back. Multiple people organising works well. Ideas of places new or old always welcome.

Publicity (FD): Removed people on the mailing list that no longer come. Facebook / twitter / website have all been maintained. Kept up with events, not so well with general Ravens chat. Have leaflets – please take some if have somewhere to put them. Business cards have been redesigned.

Nominations and Voting

Propose new job of social media “chat” person. Bear archivist in mind – to be discussed in AOB. Mailing list maintenance to be moved to the secretary role.

Foreperson – Becky nominate. HN second. BS notes that small chance of not being around after May. BS voted Foreperson.

Secretary – HN, RS nominate. Voted in

Treasurer – Sue. BS second. Voted in

Tour Organisers – same as before (Hannorah, FD, LW, KR). EH and HTD said happy to organise an odd one.

Kit Keeper – HN

Publicity Officer – Chat – HTD; Logistics/web upkeep/event tweets etc. – FD

Note – LW happy to sort hoodies.

RAS will start an Instagram and run that – can link to twitter.

1. Tours. Happy as is. DERT ones – some Fridays are ok (though not for RAS). Timings – start 1930, end 2230.
2. DERT – Piccadilly as the DERT dance. Westerhope for the trad. Person to lead westerhope (teach / polish) – RS interested, but things up in the air at the mo. EH may be interested. If anyone interested to let BS know (whenever you are).
Dancers – happy with status quo
Insurance up to date
Last year’s double jubilee was awesome – having us all up there really nice. Maybe something similar? Sheffield apprentice? Ideas on a back burner. If have any ideas speak to BS.
3. Jubilee to remain the main dance. Changes – jubilee we have no drive as we all already know it. Maybe we could tighten it up and remove some of the longer stepping sections. Drill precision again. Listen to 1. BS to think of a plan for if a sword breaks.
Attempt a dance practice where random figures are called and just do them.

Characters – HTD would like to do a little tommying. Try and organise an afternoon.
HTD could be a London tour guide character? Blue brolly and interesting facts.
New positions – AS wants to learn more and to make sure doesn’t end up just doing music.
HN to make that spreadsheet again – positions people can/won’t do/want to learn.
Tumbling practice? Forwards tumble.
Trampolining social – LW to organise.

1. Cover ½ costs of travel to things. If have any issues, speak to SC.
Xmas crawl money to go to charity.
Clogs – maybe provide loans to those purchasing, though will depend on the bank balance at the time and individual’s needs.
2. DoD -succeeded 2years ago. 2017 just didn’t work out. HN to do a doodle poll for April.
3. Kit – AS skirt needs adjusting. Transition of kit from KC to HN – look at problem kit as well then – date to be arranged.
Trad kit for DERT – assign to the DERT trad team. Note that keen to address it as not keen on the existing version, there may be issues in finding more of the shirts if we needed more.
4. KC wants /needs people to play with. Ideally we need someone who knows dance/style and is a regular musician for us. AH can cover when needed, but does want to dance as well. All to think of people that might be interested. Recordings of all the tunes for emergencies?
5. Festivals - we have been keen to do these but hasn’t necessarily worked out.
Should try to get to Beverley – otherwise might not get invited again as we couldn’t go last year. LW suggests Edinburgh Fringe – could just busk / arrange times between acts. Accommodation could be tricky – but maybe stay further out.
Try Bromyard again?
DART – could be a great thing to do. Might need extra crawls over Summer if went. Would have to actually commit to it. Need someone to spearhead & do logistics/deal with the practical stuff

AOB Interlude – Archiving – key things, events, places, people etc. Milestones. RAS now the archivist. Digital stuff needs to be considered as well. (RAS and RS to discuss some stuff.)

RS goes to look after baby. LW to finish Chairing.

1. EGM post DERT fine. (Extra General Meeting)
2. Session on doing tumbles in TR style.
Uniform in time no speed up stepping (metronome stepping practice)
Tightening up – jubilee. Needs to get less lazy again.
The random figure calling practice
Buzz things – LW to look at blue sparkly things and tat. Can we have stickers again for DERT?
Warwick thought we looked like London. Emphasise the tower. Maybe emphasise the London underground a bit on social media.
3. AOB – Hoodies LW to investigate and discuss at business.
Need good photos – RAS suggests that Alastair could do some? Maybe at a practice could “fake” some and then dance in nearby pubs.

Meeting closes at 2158.