

**NTC Minutes  
of Committee meeting held on  
Tuesday 7th February 2023 at 71 Fenchurch St, EC3M 4BS**

**Present**

Sue Small, Moira Cane, Fred Johnson, Paul Evans, Dom Thomson, Jennie Rich, Paul Lunnon, Alastair Callcutt, Owain Jones, Rebecca Mason, Amalia Kontesi (joined at 8pm) Dan Young ( joined for 1/2 at the start of the meeting).

Many thanks were extended to Rebecca Mason for hosting the meeting at her place of work.

**Apologies**

Kay Murray

**Draw for Arch 200 Club**

1st prize £48 #19 Rebecca Mason  
2nd prize £29.25 # 23 Ruth Sanderson  
3rd prize £19.50. # 1 Dan Young

**Minutes of 10th January 2023**

It was added that 'Paul Lunnon will donate £80+ to Network theatre from his photograph sales.' He was thanked for this generous donation.  
The minutes were then signed off as a true record of the meeting.

**Matters arising**

None

**Chairman's report**

No report this month.

**Treasurer's report**

The current bank balances are:

Main account: £647.70

Bar account: £ 3588.95

Paypal Account £5284.95

Zettle Account £0.00

Main movements:

Income: £10 donation, £1500.00 transferred from Bar account.

Expenses: £22.84 in respect of the WIFI, £194.40 regarding Cleaners, £19.50 Cinderella expenses, £131.67 in respect of maintenance items, £55.00 in respect of scripts for Beauty and the Beast, £1585.82 in respect of Insurances and £5.00 charges.

Bar Account:

Receipts: Via Zettle £336.50 bar sales.

Paid out £5.00 Bank charges, Zettle charges £5.86, Transfer to main account £1500.00.

Paypal:

Receipts: Membership £100.00, Participation fees £100.00.

Expenses: Charges £10.02

Items still to process: Electrical survey £2550.00 plus VAT, Other Cinderella expenses, Network Rail back dated insurance £772.30 (still awaiting confirmation of how they require payment), £300.00 license for Beauty and the Beast and £360.00 license for Murdered to Death.

### **Review of A Society**

DT felt that the production had been creatively ambitious with some strong acting. He acknowledged that the 1st and 2nd Acts may have seemed quite separate. The rehearsal process was a bit stressful as it was difficult to get all the cast together at one time. However the play sold very well. DT was able to spend 2 hours a day on marketing it and this had paid off. The Production Assistant, Sarah Wells, was very helpful and the cast did a good job of advertising the show on Social media. DT created a special Instagram Account for the show. He noted that followers to this platform increased whilst FB followers went down. A photographer took shots of the rehearsals 2 weeks before the show went up and DT was then able to increase posting during the run up to the performance. He spent £67 on advertising on Instagram which he felt was very worthwhile. A convenient link to buy tickets could be found within the advert. JR tweeted the posts from Instagram. DT would recommend that reviewers should be contacted 2 months in advance of a show going up so that they can come at the beginning of the run and then their reviews can be advertised to increase sales. The Committee congratulated the cast and crew for a very successful performance.

### **Future productions**

MC and FJ had missed the November meeting where ticket pricing was discussed and increased. Although FJ sent his views by email he still felt it was appropriate to express a reservation about the best way to raise funds for Network. There is a possibility that Network could find that raising ticket prices will not result in as many seats being sold and that raising membership fees or asking for a greater donation from outside companies would be more beneficial. As a comparison The LTG theatres have priced their tickets from £8 - £13 with concessions for members and other groups. However it was felt that most of these theatres are outside London and do not have the overheads London groups have. It was therefore agreed to continue with the revised pricing :

( £15 + 10% booking fee in advance and £17 on the door.) FJ suggested a review after the next couple of shows to see if there had been an impact on ticket sales. RM did not agree with this.

DT outlined the pricing for the VAULT show which had resulted in good ticket sales. (£13, £11.50 for a concession and an invitation to pay £18.50 if someone was in a position to pay more to support the theatre.) He would support this pricing level as the VAULT festival is a direct comparison to Network.

Launch Party - this was a very successful event (approx 30 people attended) and SS thanked RM and PE for running the event in her absence.

Someone of Significance - Amalia Kontesi attended the meeting to request a budget for marketing the show on Instagram. A further £100 was agreed. SS asked DT if he would support AK in marketing the show and sharing his experience. He was happy to do this and said that they had already had long conversations.

Murdered To Death - the license has been granted and one auditionee has signed up already. The posters will go up in the Green room asap. The director, OJ, is

getting his crew together and has a person ready to work on set design alongside PL.

Amadeus - MC is applying for the license. The director JR would like to make a few minor changes to the text. RM stated that licenses are contracts that need to be adhered to.

2024 Season - it was agreed to start asking for VAULT submissions now. Further discussion is needed on the closing date for submissions. It was agreed also to welcome any suggestions for the Network 2024 season.

Commented [1]:

## **Reports from committee members**

### Diary

The diary is now full until end of VAULT festival with many bookings afterwards.

### Marketing

Already discussed..

### Bar

Nothing to report. The VAULT team are managing it during the festival.

### Premises and Technical

Following the failed electrical inspection conducted by the company on behalf of Network Rail PE is leaving any work until after the VAULT Festival has finished. He is also awaiting guidance from the company as to who will do this work.

Alex Farrell has secured some lights for Network from the South Bank. The committee thanked her for this donation.

The back wall of the stage will be repainted this week.

PL and David Harvey will continue with the maintenance work required.

### Volunteer recruitment and training.

Nothing to report

### Volunteer rota

Nothing to report.

### Reading Panel

JR sent out one full script to the reading panel before Christmas. She has received a one act play called *Beckett's Party* which might be suitable for the VAULT Festival next year. She has asked for comments to come back by 24th Feb.

### Social Events

Nothing is planned during the festival.

### Membership

There are 114 active members. AC expressed some concern that it is getting increasingly difficult to get cast members to pay their membership and participation fees. He feels unwelcome at rehearsals. The committee need to address this. Further discussion is needed and the fee structure may need to be adjusted.

### **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 7th March 2023 at 7pm at the Royal Festival Hall.

Meeting closed 9.19 pm