

Happy Band.Steering Group

Meeting 9th October 2019. The Plough, Coddington.

Present

Graham Keeling, Jeff Taylor , John Aslin, Sue Moss, Jonathan Smith.

Apologies Jacq Cartwright

1. Jonathan Smith said that the Group currently had a balance of £262.34. Our average attendance was 15 and each session cost £20. This balance would only increase with current numbers and the Group had no plans to use any substantial funds. It was therefore unanimously agreed to reduce the fee to £1 for the first meeting of each month.
2. The purpose of each session during the month was discussed and it was agreed to open up the first session of each month to an Open Jam Session. Open to all interested in playing a ukulele at any level. The over riding theme would be to keep the session as free and easy as possible with the minimum of formality. Any song, any style. Introduce new ideas.
3. The remaining Meetings would be to specifically either a) Practice for a forthcoming Gig , or b) Play the current Setlist.
4. The Current Setlist to comprise 12 tunes and to be played no more than 3 times before being updated with a new list nominated in turn by members.
5. Jeff Taylor reported that the current list of songs was excessive and he wanted to hear any suggestions to prune this list.
6. Too much time was spent on tea breaks which impacted upon the time available for playing. It was agreed to have a more formal approach, with the Break beginning at 2.55 pm and ending sharply at 3.15 pm.
7. There was a universal lack of enthusiasm for "Outside Gigs" which always lacked atmosphere, audience and facilities. Whilst no decision was made to completely abandon "Outside Gigs" , these should only be undertaken in special circumstances with the approval of Members generally.
8. The Group was keen that Gig Setlists should be compiled by Members of the Group based upon our experience and level of competence rather respond to specific requests. This to improve the quality of what was performed in public.
9. Dress Code Dressing in Black and White was not always appropriate for certain Gigs. Demetia Groups and certain Care Homes were mentioned. Whilst we all agreed upon uniformity, that uniform could sometimes be "casual" as the occasion demands.
10. Some Members, not present at this Steering Group had said that they still wanted to influence this Group's decisions and hear the outcome of this Group's discussions. Minute could be made available to all Members via the website.
11. No date was set for the next meeting.