

Modbury Gospel Singers Committee - March 2026 Meeting

Date	Monday 9 th March 2026
Start time	20:00
End Time	21:00
Attendees	Tim Beavon (TB), Maureen Bennett (MB), Hans Van der Heiden (HVH), Heather Farrow (HF), Kate Byrom (KB), Jane Elliot-Toncic (JET)
Apologies	Siân Walker-McAllister (SWM)

Agenda Items

1. May fair concert
2. Aveton Gifford performance
3. Treasurer's report - MB
4. Membership report
5. Free banking
6. Publicity
7. Feedback to Freya
8. AOB

Minutes

Item	Discussion	Conclusion/Actions
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 7th May • Concert to be held in the church, which doesn't normally charge for May Fair events (TB). • Refreshments? Wine - don't need a licence for alcohol if it is a donation (JET). • Nibbles - crisps (ask Jean if we can borrow bowls) • Tickets or donations? In the past the total donations have gone to the May Fair. • Buckets for donations? • Bistro set up for tables. • Probable for an hour's worth of singing with a break in the middle. • Need some non-singing volunteers to shake the donation buckets and staff the bar. • Glasses for drinks available at the church. • We need to arrange the tables and chairs - volunteers needed. Likely we will have to pack up afterwards! • Discuss with Freya what time she would like the choir to arrive. • Week before - arrange a seating plan. • Tim has had email from May Fair organiser (Pip) asking about what we are doing on the eve. • Bigbury Drum - online events across the local area - Hans to find out contact so we can advertise. <i>Post meeting note: bigburynewseditor@gmail.com - KB to send in concert poster for advertising.</i> • Poster - Modbury Nextdoor, Modbury Community Group facebook, Curator, places in Ivybridge - ask Kate and Robin if they can put one in the Ivybridge Methodist Church. • Photography - ask Alan Bennett if he doesn't mind photographing. 	<p>Donations for entry Donations for refreshments Doors at 7, concert at 7:30</p> <p>TB to talk to Pete about how he previously sourced wine and soft drinks.</p> <p>Volunteers required for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table and chair set up • Bar • Donation buckets <p>Committee members to ask family members (ALL).</p> <p>JET to ask Jean if we can borrow bowls.</p> <p>Arrange a seating plan week before concert (ALL).</p> <p>MB to ask Kathy if she has the donation buckets.</p> <p>TB to speak to Freya about timings for choir arrival.</p> <p>KB - ask Alan Bennett if he can photograph the concert.</p>
2	Saturday 6 th June - Freya is available but needs to find	Awaiting 100% confirmation

	out if she has a babysitter. 20 minute performance - highlights reel of May Fair songs to be performed, as the theme is helpfully water-related.	from Freya.
3	Treasurer's report given by MB. Choir finances just about breaking even - 30 paid up members (plus one who joined half way through term, therefore charged half subscription). One extra member would see us make a small profit per term. Freya to be paid £50 per upcoming performance.	
4	Currently 30 paid up members according to Treasurer's report. Siân has confirmed 32 members, taking account that PC and SH left during the Spring Term. Noted in the Treasurer's report that traditionally numbers drop off slightly in the summer term with the lighter evenings.	SWM will reconcile her membership list with MB's paid-up Members List
5	Co-op banking is free if you call yourself a 'community benefit' - what does this involve? Co-op banking free for 30 months and then changes to £7 a month. TB: community benefit = "a UK legal entity registered with the financial conduct authority". Very few free bank accounts! Currently £8.50 a month. Hans to ask HSBC when he next has a meeting there.	MB to research. HVH to ask HSBC.
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three potential performances up-coming (May Fair 7th May, Ugborough 16th May and AG 6th June); poster to be created for May Fair concert, however likely that Ugborough and AG will do their own publicity (however it can still be added to the MGS Facebook page/website). • MARS hall website has information on some of the clubs that meet there - worth checking to see if we can get ourselves on there. • AG and Ugborough magazines/community pages? • It is felt that it is hard to gain new members from current Modbury residents, given that the choir is relatively well known about. Word of mouth still seems to be the best way of recruiting. 	KB to investigate MARS hall website and other local publications. KB to create May Fair poster.
7	Growing in confidence. Warm nature still very much appreciated but does she let us get away with too much?! Encourage more criticism/instruction/more development of skills.	TB to give feedback.
8	Hans mentioned about the coffee break moving back to half time. It was noted that while this may be preferable for some, it did ultimately mean that the tea break overran, so there was less available time for singing and it often meant that choir finished later than planned.	