

Minutes of Steerers Meeting 9th April 2026

Chair: Fritjof Koerber All present

1. Minutes of 5th March 2026 approved with minor amendments

2.1 Lyn reported that Helen will invite Roland to the website so he can edit the list of past gigs directly on to the website

2.2 Thanks to Judy for the gig feedback form which looked just the ticket. The email address (secretary...) is no longer functioning, so needs to be amended to bvb.committee@gmail.com (which goes to Fritjof's inbox). Also change 'storyline' to 'narrative'.

This is how it will be used... the BVB gig person liaising with the person booking us will email the form to him/her immediately after the gig. When it's returned, Fritjof will forward it on to steerers so that it can be considered at the next steerers' meeting when we review the gig.

Action:

-Judy will email a revised version in word and pdf formats to all steerers.

-Liz will run it past Alison.

-Heather will ask Helen to put it on the website in the gig planner section.

2.3 Everyone was informed about the 3 topics at the last rehearsal. No other topics have been raised but, as the purpose is to get feedback, it's likely the meeting will move in other directions! Liz will chair discussion centred on the 3 topics. Heather will take minutes.

2.4 Proactive searching for gigs, inc Long Ashton community centre, carried over to next time.

2.5 Fritjof reported that the 2 microphones have arrived and are working (they can work independently and at the same time). He will bring them and the amp to the rehearsal on 19th Apr. and demonstrate them to Liz and Chris N. Might be useful for Alveston gig. Thanks to Fritjof

3.1 Bristol Folk Festival gig. Kitchen rehearsal booked for Friday 1st May at Pill Memorial Hall. Alison will be playing with us at BFF on Sunday 3rd May.

3.2 Alveston LHS gig 27th May. Kitchen rehearsal booked for Friday 22nd May at Pill Memorial Hall. The organisers want us to play 19.30 – 20.50 (when they serve refreshments). We agreed we would play through – an interval would break momentum.

We discussed whether to ask Alison to play with us. The general feeling was that while Alison keeps us together, we should be learning not to rely on this and maybe only ask her for public facing gigs, though Liz said that when Alison plays with us it helps her by removing some of the pressure to keep track of things musically. With regard to the Alveston gig, at the kitchen rehearsal we should practise the things Alison does to keep us together, ie the leading in, keeping track of the number of times through, leading the endings. (Bobby is able to do all the summer gigs so the percussion will help keep us together) We hope this will help Liz so that she does not have to feel that this is part of what she is responsible for at a gig.

Liz will discuss with Alison what she thought about the Crockerne Pill gig.

3.3 – 3.5 future gigs to keep on the Agenda

3.6 Chris suggested £70 - £100 for charity (non-commercial) gigs.

3.7 Judy said that the general flyer needed updating, especially the email address, and removing the reference to Newark Park. (The flyer is not practicable as advertising for forthcoming gigs because of having to adapt it multiple times and go via Pauline's print shop; however it is good for general information about the band, especially for people who might be considering booking us). We should finalise the wording by email so that, if all is OK regarding the print shop, Pauline can order copies in time for distribution at Bristol Folk Festival.

Judy suggested having another board, similar to the current A board (which was painted by Liz' son's partner), which would have the website address and a space for details of the next public gig – maybe blackboard paint with chalk. It could go out in front for people to take a photo of /put in their calendar. Steerers thought this was a good idea to take forward.

Actions

- Judy will send a photo of the flyer to all steerers with suggested amendments. Everyone to give feedback to Judy. Pauline will check whether the print shop still has the original and whether it can be reprinted with amendments. If so, she will be get copies printed, hopefully by 3rd May BFF gig.
- Heather will ask Helen if it's possible to have future public gigs displayed prominently on the website home page.
- Liz will bring the usual board to April 18th rehearsal, and ask if anyone could take on making a similar second board for advertising future public gigs.

4. £2,486.68 in current account – all members are fully paid to date.

5. AOB Bitton LHS has enquired whether we could do a gig in St Mary's church Bitton in either March or April 2027 – any day except Monday. The church could do with a reconnaissance for heating and space! No preference except later because it's warmer. Liz suggested a Saturday afternoon.

6. Next meeting: Monday 1st June 9.30am. Chair: Chris Mapp