Cumnor Players: Guidelines for Script Selection and Director’s Appointment

This document outlines the processes followed for the selection of the Cumnor Players’ Pantomime productions.

The CP committee has responsibility for the selection of the story/plot, and the appointment of the key roles of scriptwriter and director who define the creative structure, and of the producer who oversees the organisational structure of the production. Other key roles are subsequently populated by the Director/Producer, with guidance and input from the committee, as required.

Director

A number of scenarios may be (have been) followed that lead to the appointment of Director:

- An individual offers to direct without preference for a story or plot. The committee may then offer this person one or more storylines/scripts to consider.
- An individual offers to direct and has one or more stories in mind that they would be interested in leading. The committee may then approach scriptwriter(s) and ask if they would produce a script for a specific storyline.
- An individual teams up with a scriptwriter(s) to propose a story they are both willing to develop. The committee would consider this combined proposal, possibly alongside others that have been presented.
- The committee approaches an individual and asks them to become director. The committee may ask the individual to propose a story of their choice and/or one or more storylines may be offered by the committee for consideration.

Scriptwriter

A number of scenarios may be (have been) followed that lead to the appointment of Scriptwriter(s):

- A scriptwriter(s) offers to produce a script without preference for a story or plot. The committee may suggest a storyline they would like developing.
- A scriptwriter(s) offers to produce a script for a story/plot of their own choice. This would be considered by the committee alongside other proposed or request scripts (see below).
- A potential director approaches a scriptwriter(s) with a suggested story/plot and they develop a combined proposal for the committee to consider.
- The committee approaches a known scriptwriter(s) and asks them to develop a script for a story/plot of the committee’s choice, with appropriate guidance.

Outline plots from potential directors and/or scriptwriters need only be brief in the first instance for review by the CP committee, defining the proposed title, the main storyline and perhaps key characters (e.g. one A4 page). Proposals may be submitted to the committee at any time, but the last day of January at the latest for consideration as that year’s pantomime.

If a proposed storyline is not selected it may be considered for a later production, should the proposer desire this.