**Proposal to establish two show sets and perform them regularly at practices**

How many dances should we in Dolphin have in our repertoire? Opinions in the side have varied over the years. For many of us variety really is the spice of life, but sometimes this can be argued to come at the expense of precision and a quality performance. The latter matters most of course when we are on a paid booking and/or in front of a largish/ more critical audience. In this respect I felt, for example, that we did not do ourselves full justice at the Queen’s Oak weekend with too many mistakes all round.

Therefore I propose a ‘middle way’. Let’s carry on practising and performing our wide repertoire. Wil has done a great job in coming out with a dance order for each event covering a range of traditions and styles. We are much better organised in the shows than often in the past. However, I’d like to propose that we establish two sets of say five dances each that showcase our strengths, quality, and range of traditions and types of dances. These we would use on paid bookings and events with largish audiences. For standard pub events etc we would carry on as now.

I further propose that each week a small part of the evening be given over to rehearsing one of the shows as a performance, including walking on and off. The caller would briefly identify points of style to work on based on previous practices. The aim would be to achieve a very high standard of performance not just in the dance but in the whole show. A further benefit to my mind would be that we could talk ourselves up to the audience rather than be introduced as a bunch of superannuated dodderers ……

Bob 14 September 2016