

Suffolk Guild of Ringers – Belfry Advisory Committee

Minutes of meeting held on 8th June 2016 at Rendham

Apologies given– Derek and Penny Rose, Neville Whittell, Alan Moulton, John Taylor, Chris Nunn and David Salter

Present- Winston Girling (Chair), Christopher McArthur (Secretary), Mark Steggles, Carol Girling, Chris Davies, Jonathan Stevens, Martin Croucher.

1. **Minutes** of meeting 1st February 2016 at Bacton accepted as a true record and signed with the correction that Crettingham augmentation is for a new treble not tenor bell.
2. **Matters arising - The** grant recommendation to GMC for St Margaret's Ipswich of £12,000 was changed after debate at their meeting. The proposal now is for a £9000 award. The GMC view is that all grants should not exceed 10% of expected costs and this will be net of expected income from VAT reimbursement etc. Our meeting of BAC then considered this guideline and agreed that it would be a clear and fair principle for all to follow.
3. **Grant applications**- None received for this meeting although it was noted that enquires about grants for one new set of ropes had been received.
4. **Training**- Following the success of last July's maintenance event at Long Melford it was decided to organise another occasion in the late summer /early autumn, potential venue Framlingham church. **Jonathan volunteered to organise, assisted by Chris Mc.** Another potential venue would be Aldeburgh.
5. **Technical advisors report**- Eye have had work done on clapper tightening. Thornham Magna had adjustments made to a slider. Melton Old Church has a single chiming bell, work to be done on pulleys etc. Levington inspection of three chiming bells. Cotton test rung and an engineering plating solution found for beam repairs, in due course. Crettingham site meeting re. augmentation. Broome inspected and roof leaking, as well as bells in poor state. **Chris D and Mark S agreed to do work at Broome on the bells.** Lidgate has had chiming bell rope work completed (Derek & Penny). Nettlestead needs help with a single bell rehang and the members agreed to provide input. Badwell Ash inspection remains outstanding still.
6. **NE District- Laxfield** restoration is finally happening with bell hangers approached for quotes.
7. **NW District**- See TA report above re Eye, Brome and Cotton etc.
8. **SE District**-Wickham Market is having Taylor's reclapper the back two bells with new wooden shaft types, following bell raising issues. Crettingham augmentation scheme is progressing well and Alan is now leading a guild team who will provide labour. Locals will repaint the frame. New bearings and fittings are now part of the scheme supported by the PCC, although completion is not until November 2018.
9. **SW District**- Lt Cornard scheme continues to progress thanks to the efforts of John T, although final detail on the old frame has yet to be finalised.
10. **AOB**- Winston suggested new members were always welcome to BAC and asked if we would support Jeremy Spiller as a potential member. All agreed this would be a good idea and a recommendation will go to GMC to this effect.
11. **Next Meeting**- Thursday 6th October 2016 at The Ten Bells Stonham Aspal. **Chris Mc to confirm availability of a meeting room/bar.** It was noted that a meeting at Horringer in due course would be good, although the central county venue of Stonham Aspal could become our normal meeting venue. Lastly we all thanked Jonathan for making us welcome at Rendham.