

Suffolk guild of Ringers

Belfry Advisory Committee

Meeting at Crettingham Thursday 14th June 2018, 7.30 pm

Prior to meeting we rang on the newly augmented six and found them to be excellent, meeting in Bell PH then followed.

Present – W Girling (Chair), C McArthur (Sec), D Salter, C Davies, M Steggles, C Girling, J Taylor. Ringing Master – T Scase.

Apologies - M and P Rose, J Spiller, N Whittell, M Rolph.

1. **Minutes of previous meeting** 7/2/18 agreed as accurate and then signed. No matters arising.
2. **Guild Management** – Beccles had requested return of a sum of money collected 5 years ago at Barry Pickup's funeral. Enquiries revealed that this money was apparently lodged in the bell restoration fund with the agreement of the treasurer at the time. It was agreed at the GMC that the money should be paid back to Beccles with gift aid accruing. It was then noted that only approximately £18,000 currently remains in the bell restoration fund.
3. **Grant Applications** – N.Whittell has been doing excellent work at Hintesham sleeving the gudgeons. Total estimated cost of his materials is around £700. However recent management feedback on these costs being reimbursed is, that a parish contribution should be asked for. CM to write letter to the PCC, although we noted that parish affiliation fees had been paid. It was also agreed by this meeting that in future all works should be agreed prior to work commencing, although we pointed out that Neville had been planning this work for several years.
4. **Health and Safety** - We have an outstanding action to put links to documents on the guild website for Guild Members to follow as appropriate, when doing guild projects. This will be completed by the next meeting and DS/CM will find the appropriate limited number of documents suitable for Suffolk use, from central council material. The October meeting will then brief the meeting on them. Updates on insurance issues were not available.
5. **Technical Advisors report** – see attachment.

6. **NE district report** - AM has asked that Middleton bells be made safe as the headstocks are well decayed. CM/MR to take this forward following a parish request.
7. **NW district report** - Stowmarket new ring project is going well with over £38000 already raised, before grants have been applied for. Nettlestead are to have a single bell put back in by Nicholson's very soon. Redgrave is progressing to schedule with reinstallation starting on 23rd July and completion by 13 Aug. by Nicholson's. The timber frame has been extensively rebuilt and strengthened. Combs scheme is still proceeding as a local parish initiative and WG will make contact.
8. **SE district report** - Routine maintenance and minor defects work has been completed at Hollesley, Marlsford, and Framlingham. Crettingham bells are now augmented and many thanks to Jed for leading the team who undertook this lengthy project. Framsdon have had a short ring following work by Tom, but are not to be rung, in view of the extensive frame movement. Campse Ash has structural issues with the tower masonry and only limited ringing now. In Ipswich excellent work at St Clements by the "Salters" on repainting the frame. This is nearing completion, and new automated chiming equipment is to be installed in the next fortnight. Other initiatives in Ipswich are looking hopeful and an inspection at St Stephens is being undertaken shortly.
9. **SW district report** – Lt Cornard is progressing well and they will be back in around 16th August, having been welded and tuned. Hitcham rehang is proceeding as a local project. D Salter asked that following his recent peals could improvements to odd struckness be considered at, Boxford, St Peters Sudbury and Lavenham. The meeting agreed that the St Peters fund should be utilised for bell hangers work at St Peters, although management would need to agree this.
10. **AOB** – None
11. **Next meeting** - Lt Cornard at 7.00 pm for a ring, and then our meeting at 7.30 pm.