

Suffolk Guild of Ringers- Belfry Advisory Committee

Minutes of meeting held at Stowmarket church - 4th February 2019

Present – W Girling (Chair), C McArthur (Sec), C Girling, J Taylor, M Stegges, Z Wright, C Davies, J Stevens, and T Scase in attendance.

Apologies – M Rolph, D Rose, P Rose. Best wishes were sent to D Salter who is recovering from a serious illness. As J Spiller is no longer a guild member it was concluded that his membership of this committee also now ceases.

1. GMC feedback - Little to report but it was noted that the committee had now begun to link grants to potential ringers in a parish, when making awards.
2. Grants – Hintlesham was not discussed in any detail as N Whittle was not present. However a fully structured application needs to go the next GMC meeting and W Girling will talk to N Whittle about this matter. A letter from the Clergy/PCC is required in support of the application. Hitcham has a scheme for a new eight bell frame with six bells to be installed initially. Three quotes have been obtained and Taylors at £85957 is the highest. W Girling is to obtain new figures for GMC, that remove builders work and the chimes, before the grant application is considered at our next meeting. Combs are pressing ahead with a new ten bell frame with a Warner's eight from the Keltic Trust, and two new Taylor trebles. The total for this work is £97717 but again W Girling is to ask for revised figures without the builder's costs and two new bells. Two other quotes were required in addition to Taylors. As a consequence of our deliberations no grant applications are to go forward from this meeting to GMC, and decisions will be made at our next BAC meeting on all three.
3. Health and Safety – Little progress but C Davies will ask Nicholson's for a copy of their bell hanging risk assessments, these could be then modified for Suffolk Guild use. Separately site specific risk assessments will always be prepared by the parish at the time of any work.
4. Technical Advisors Report - Report attached to these minutes. Work or visits undertaken at the following. Great Barton, Palgrave, Framsdon, Barham, Hoxne, and Cotton.

5. North East district - Repairs to the clappers at Strabroke and inspection of loose headstock at Elmham St. Margaret. Brundish are in discussions about a new ring of six in this large tower.
6. North West district – Redgrave is progressing well with the oak frame repaired by Nicholson’s being installed this week. Ringing should recommence shortly. Stowmarket scheme continues with plans and photographs being completed for the archives of the old installation.
7. South East district – Bredfield has a broken gudgeon pin on the treble with W Girling helping with removal and returning it to Taylors. St Mary le Tower has had a clapper repaired. Framsdon are seeking approval for a complete restoration
8. South West district. – Lt Cornard grant inspection has not taken place as Taylor’s final minor works are yet to be completed. However ringers report the bells go well.
9. AOB – None
10. Next meeting is to be held at Redgrave church, starting with a ring at 19.00 hrs. C Davies to make arrangements please.