

## SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS BELFRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Minutes of Committee meeting held at Iken St. Botolph at 7.30p.m. on Friday October 7th 2005.**

**Present:** Winston Girling, Bruce Wakefield, Chris Nunn, Neville Whittell, Michael Rolph, David Salter and Carol Girling. Members had a ring on the 5 bells at Iken by kind permission of Mr J. Calver.

**Apologies for absence** had been received from Chris McArthur, David Greenfield and Alan Moulton.

**The minutes** of the previous meeting held in June were agreed.

**Matters arising:** None.

### **District Reports:**

#### **NE**

**Leiston** – (Michael Rolph) out of action for about 6 months because of work in Church.

**Kelsale** – (Michael Rolph) Michael and Richard Rapior have checked and oiled these bells.

**Wingfield** – (David Salter) are looking at installing a ringing gallery.

**Barsham** – (Winston Girling) visited because of problems with tenor dropping and other bells can be difficult. Traced to tower movement. Bells were re-hung in old wooden frame right at top of slender round tower and 3, 4 and 5 all swing same way. Re-hanging in steel frame much lower in tower is only solution.

#### **NW**

**Thurston** – (Winston Girling) Eayre and Smith have been back to hopefully cure problems with 4 and 5 slipping the wheels. Winston and Carol Girling will now be installing sound proofing on the bell chamber floor which should resolve the bells being far too loud in the ringing chamber.

**Ixworth** – (Chris Nunn) have been given permission by PCC to seek quotes for re-hanging in old wooden frame.

#### **SE**

**Framsden and Stonham Aspal** – (Winston Girling) worrying frame movement in wooden frames at both towers. Arrangements being made for assessment of both frames shortly. Stonham Aspal side frame by 7 and 8 moves between .25 and .5 inch. All clappers at this tower to be removed and fitted with new crown washers shortly. At Framsden there is clearly decay in frame uprights adjacent to tenor, the tenor headstock is badly decayed and the gudgeons on all the bells show signs of severe wear.

#### **SW**

**Monks Eleigh** – (Neville Whittell) slider on second keeps jumping out of its run. Needs retainer fitted across top of slider run.

**Technical Advisers Report:** (Alan Moulton) not at Meeting. Requested Meeting be informed of following restoration etc. Parham - bells being removed 10 Oct onwards. Felsham – attempts being made to set up meeting with EH. Hopton – fund raising continuing. Rattlesden – no real change. Wissett – 12<sup>th</sup> century floors in tower delaying things. Chediston – looks likely to go ahead. Dennington – meeting tomorrow. Aldham – single bell to be rehung. Rushmere St. Andrew – tenor has now been recast.

**Applications for Grants: Woolpit** – have fitted new chiming bell, to be treble of 8 when bells can be rehung in the future. Bell hung above others, no wheel. David Salter proposed that a donation of £250 be offered, seconded by Bruce Wakefield and agreed by all.

**Any other business:** David Salter asked how was it that **Fressingfield** had obtained a Faculty when expert reports had cast grave doubts about various aspects of the proposed job. In particular, there were many concerns about the long term viability of the resulting installation. The Guild had rightly refused a grant because of these doubts. (The chairman will write to the Guild Technical Advisor to see if the thinking behind the DAC decision to issue a Faculty can be revealed so that Guild Members can perhaps better understand why various expert reports seem to have been ignored or simply discounted in this case.)

**Date of next meeting: February 3rd 2006** at 7.30p.m. at 6, Cavendish Road, Stowmarket.

The Meeting closed at 9.20p.m.

Winston S. Girling  
Chairman

**Belfry Advisory Committee Meeting – 6, Cavendish Road, Stowmarket 7.30p.m. Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2006.**

### **AGENDA**

- 1) Apologies for absence
- 2) Confirming Minutes from 3.10.05
- 3) Matters arising
- 4) District reports – NE NW SE and SW
- 5) Technical Adv report
- 6) Grants
- 7) Date and place of next Meeting
- 8) AOB