

Suffolk Guild of Ringers

Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on 16th June 2001

Present: Brian Whiting, Stephen Pettman, Sandra Pereira, Trevor Hughes, Alan Moulton, Rolie Whiting, John Pereira, Anne Brechin, Alan Mayle, Winston Girling, Owen Claxton, Eric Bull, Robert Scase, Jonathan Stevens, Peta Luckily, Barry Pickup.

Apologies for absence were received from Hav Wilkins, Maurice Rose, Richard Gates, and Isabel Rivers

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been previously circulated, were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising

Web site. Still in hand. There remained problems with the domain name. Tower correspondent details were nearly complete.

Database. Secretary had started to update for this year's membership. When this was complete then forms would be distributed for further information.

Les Mills Commemorative Plaque. Secretary had been to meet Roger Green of Friends of St Peter's. It was agreed to place the plaque over the tower door. Permission was still awaited from the CCT. It was agreed to await this permission, and go ahead, with no further reference to the GMC.

Matters arising from the AGM

Vice-President - Canon Harry Edwards had accepted the Guild's invitation to be a Vice-President.

Venue for 2002 AGM. Horringer had been approached for this, a reply was still awaited.

Annual Reports - Secretary put out an appeal for any spare reports. There were not many left for sale to ringers from outside the Guild.

Peal compositions. - Trevor Hughes proposed, and Alan Mayle seconded that peal compositions remain in the Annual report as at present. Following some discussion this was accepted, with the recommendation that a reduction in font size would result in saving space.

The resolution passed at the AGM to change the format of the summary of non Guild peals was discussed. It was emphasised that this constituted the establishment of a policy, and was not a rule change.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Financial Statement

Eric Bull presented a report of the current situation. Statement attached.

Ringling Master's Report

The ringling Master reported that the splitting of the striking competitions had not encouraged an increase in the numbers of entries. He suggested that the rules might be changed to allow Benefice teams to enter, some towers finding it difficult to raise a team according to the present rules. After some discussion, including looking at the number of striking competitions in the Guild, chasing up teams, widening the scope for choosing teams, it was decided to refer the matter back to the R & T committee.

Sub Committee Reports

Belfry Advisory

A meeting had taken place on June 8th, minutes attached. Two members from Reydon had attended this meeting, and Winston Girling requested that they be invited onto the committee. This was agreed.

Alan Moulton suggested change to the formula for deciding grants. It was suggested that the present 25% of first £1000 and 10% of the balance, be changed to 10% of the whole plus £1000 for all new frame and fittings, or £500 for old frame and new fittings. This could throw up some anomalies, depending on for example the number of bells being restored. It was decided that the BAC treat each case on its merits as the grant applications are submitted.

It was decided to look further at the payment of grants for totally volunteer projects until the next meeting.

Recruitment and Training

No meeting had been held since the last GMC. The next meeting had been arranged for Monday 23rd July. It was hoped to hold a training day in September and a Fun Striking competition on 29th September.

Central Council Report

The Ringling Master gave a verbal report on the Central Council meeting which had been held in Liverpool. Two hundred and five people had attended, including all four Guild representatives. A full report was in The Ringling World. Highlights were the election of four new Honorary members, the creation of a new post of Hon. Assistant secretary, as yet unfilled, the election of a new Hon Secretary, motions relating to peals, and the annual excitement of the Ringling World Annual General meeting.

Applications for Grants

All Saints Sudbury

Winston Girling had received a letter outlining work to be done on the tower at All Saints Sudbury. The total cost would be in the region of £180 000. English Heritage would grant

£87 000 towards general work, but nothing towards strengthening, which was in the region of £35 000. Although no work was anticipated on the bells, it was felt by the Technical Officer, that the strengthening work, if carried out, would, in all probability, enable limited ringing. Several smaller grants had also been obtained. It was proposed by Stephen Pettman, seconded by John Pereira, that we give a grant of £2000 towards the strengthening work, bearing in mind that it would enable ringing. The conditions would be tightened to ensure that the work was carried out, and an Architect's certificate to that end be obtained before payment. This was carried by 14 votes to 1.

Guild Library Insurance

Gillian Wakefield had made a list of replaceable items. She had obtained the names of two possible valuers, who would charge about £50 for the valuation. It was proposed by Brian Whiting, seconded by Stephen Pettman that we ask Gillian to go ahead with the valuation. Secretary to contact Gillian.

Any Other Business

Alan Mayle notified the meeting that the Striking Competition had not been advertised in the Ringing World in accordance with the Rules. Stephen Pettman apologised for this oversight. It appeared that no teams had been affected by this omission.

Stephen Pettman has a contact number if any tower would like to have its bells featured on Bells on Sunday.

Brian Whiting advised that the deadline for the poster competition would be extended until October.

Brian Whiting reminded the meeting of the St Edmund Clapper competition for the best restoration fund raising which would run for six months from April.

Secretary asked for confirmation of dates for GMC meetings in 2002 in order to book the Hall.

Date of next meeting: October 20th at Buxhall Village Hall

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

Brian Whiting
20 October 2001.