

Suffolk Guild of Ringers

Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on 16th February 2002

Present: Brian Whiting, Stephen Pettman, Sandra Pereira, Trevor Hughes, Rolie Whiting, Alan Mayle, Winston Girling, Eric Bull, Robert Scase, Richard Gates, John Taylor, James Smith, Jonathan Stevens.

Apologies for absence were received from John Pereira, Alan Moulton and David Mulrenan

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcoming the new Deanery Representatives who were present.

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been previously circulated, were accepted as a true record with the correction of two minor typographical errors.

Matters arising

St Edmund's Clapper. The Chairman stated that this would go ahead again this year. He would publicise it in the newsletter, and at district meetings.

80th Anniversary Dinner. Stephen Pettman had contacted the Suffolk Police Headquarters, where a review of dining facilities was being undertaken. They were willing to consider the event if we could provide a date. March 29th 2003, being the Saturday before the anniversary date, April 2nd, was agreed. Stephen will contact the police headquarters again; if they cannot accommodate us he will seek out another venue.

Web site. John Pereira continues to work on this. Links with one other site need correcting.

Database. Secretary has circulated all towers with names of members whose details are not on the database, replies are slowly coming in. We now have full details on about 430 out of 700 members.

Correspondence

Ian Holland had written to advise details of the Ridgman Trophy competition to be held at the Norman Tower on June 8th. The letter was handed to the Master for action.

A letter had been received from George Pipe thanking the Secretary for her good wishes during his recent illness, and outlining some ideas for The Pipe Family Trust Fund.

Financial Statement

Eric Bull presented the final accounts for 2001.

There was a query over the allocation of a sum of money donated by George Pipe. The Treasurer agreed to check the letter to ensure it had gone to the right fund.

The Treasurer expressed disquiet over the Ringing World account. It was decided that Secretaries should inform him when advertisements are placed, as he has no way of tracking this expenditure.

Subscriptions and donations 2003

After some discussion about membership and fees for the year 2003, Trevor Hughes proposed that the adult subscription be raised to £13.00. There was no seconder.

Stephen Pettman then proposed, seconded by Richard Gates, that the following be put to the Annual General Meeting for adoption:

Adult	£12.50
Senior	£ 6.25
Junior	£ 5.00
Associate	£ 6.25
NRLM	£ 6.00

This was agreed 11 votes for, 1 against and 1 abstention.

Peal fees

It was proposed by Stephen Pettman, seconded by Alan Mayle that these remain unchanged at £1.00. This was agreed by all.

Donations

The Secretary proposed, seconded by Rolie Whiting that these remain unchanged.

James Smith then proposed an amendment that they be as follows:

Friends of St Peter's, Sudbury	£50.00
Friends of the Cathedral	£50.00
Suffolk Historic Churches Trust	£50.00
Donation in lieu of wreath	£50.00

This was carried by 5 votes to 1 with 7 abstentions. The original proposal being lost, the substantive motion was put and carried.

These recommendations will be put to the AGM in April.

Ringling Master's Report

The Ringling Master put a proposal to the meeting that a motion be put to the AGM to change the wording of the Mitson Shield Rule 4.1 to read:

Bands shall consist of six members, fulfilling at least one of the following:

- a) at least four are listed under the tower in the Annual Report
- b) the ringers are a bona fide benefice (or similar) Sunday Service or practice night band.

This proposal was seconded by Jonathan Stevens and carried unanimously.

The Secretary will inform members of motion for a rule change in Ringling World in accordance with Guild Rule G 25.1

Quarter Peals for the Queen's Golden Jubilee. Two had already been rung. Ringling Master asked that towers plan these sooner, rather than later, so that bands can be arranged to cover towers that had not been rung. There would be a notice in the Newsletter, and all Deanery Reps were being circulated.

Sub Committee Reports

Belfry Advisory

A meeting had taken place on February 8th. Report attached. Winston Girling expressed his intention to retire from chairing the committee and running the Parish Affiliation Scheme from the AGM in 2003. Eric Bull suggested that the latter could easily be incorporated into the Treasurer's role. This offer was gratefully received by the meeting.

Recruitment and Training

A meeting had been held on December 5th, three districts being represented. Central Council approaches to training had been studied, and it appeared that most training was done through the many courses available. It was proposed that a Guild Training Day be held on 21st September, when the basic methods, up to Stedman, would be offered.

To encourage recruitment it was suggested that posters and parish magazines be used, together with talks to organizations such as WI, youth groups etc. The leaflet that is in new members pack would be updated and it was hoped that the current quarter peal project would generate some publicity.

There had been no first peelers last year, and it was felt that the welcome for visitors at some towers was less than encouraging. Press coverage for important events was considered

Applications for Grants

No applications for grants had been received.

The meeting was advised that some members had attended the rededication of East Bergholt bells on New Year's Day. Wingfield were planning to rededicate their rehung bells on April 13th. The work at Campsea Ashe had been completed and that All Saints Sudbury were behind schedule on their work.

Ratification of Non-resident Life Members

The elections of Enid Lawson of London, Matthew Hilling of Woodbury Salterton, Exeter, Michael Chilcott of Wallington, Surrey and Jeremy Pratt of Godalming, Surrey were ratified. Richard Munnings was now a non-resident member.

Guild Library Insurance

Gillian Wakefield had received a valuation for the library. This amounted to £7241, but we were advised that £9000 would be a better sum for insurance. Secretary agreed to obtain some quotations for insurance. The new catalogue would be put on the web site.

Annual Report

The report was now ready to go to the printers. A suggestion was made that with a new editor next year we could perhaps reconsider the content. One suggestion was that names and addresses of all members could be included. Ideas to be discussed at the next meeting.

Annual General Meeting

Arrangements for the 2002 Annual General Meeting had been finalised. The programme would be:

1:00 pm	Ringling at Horringer
2:00 pm	Service
3:00 pm	Meeting
5:00 pm	Tea

Names for tea to Sally Crouch, 01284 735338 by Wednesday 3rd April.
Secretary would place a box advert in the Ringing World.

Retirement of Ranald Clouston

The meeting was advised of the retirement of Ranald Clouston after 47 years on the DAC as Technical Advisor. Alan Moulton has taken on this role.

Child Protection

Secretary had received enquiries from two towers following the article in the last newsletter. We have a wording for a policy and guidelines for those working with children, and these could be used by individual towers. However towers are advised to contact PCC secretaries to be covered by action PCC's should have taken under the auspices of the Diocese.

Any Other Business

Eric Bull asked for guidance on the division of Gift Aid tax refunds between the funds. He was advised that it should be split in the proportion of the donations to the funds.

The Secretary put in a plea for districts to encourage deaneries to provide members for the committee. At the moment there are five deaneries without a GMC representative.

Stephen Pettman queried a peal at Hollesley, where one of the ringers is not a member of the Guild. He proposed, and James Smith seconded that the peal be withdrawn from the records. This was agreed by six votes to one, with 6 abstentions.

Date of next meeting: June 15th 2002 at 6.00pm at Buxhall Village Hall

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

D Whiting
15 June 2002.