

Suffolk Guild of Ringers

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on 16th October 2004

Present: Winston Girling, David Salter, John Pereira, Eric Bull, Rolie Whiting, Richard Knight, Richard Gates, Maurice Rose, Robert Scase, Jonathan Stevens, John Taylor, James Smith, Alan Moulton (invited).

Apologies for absence were received from, Sandra Pereira, David Mulrenan & Trevor Hughes. In the absence of the Secretary, John Pereira was asked to take the minutes.

The minutes of the previous meeting, which had been previously circulated, were agreed unanimously with the correction of two minor errors.

Matters arising

Venue. The Secretary was asked to check the practicability of meeting at Pakenham in future as this might be more comfortable.

Web site. Stephen Young as indicated that he is no longer able to take on the web site and therefore, John Pereira will continue. In future, as a result of a constructive comment received, the 'What's On' page for the current month will not be removed until after the month end. For part of each month there will be both current month and next month pages.

Loyalty Service. The service at Debenham on 18 July was attended by over 100 people and received favourable comments. The meeting asked that thanks be recorded to David Salter, Brian Redgers and the Debenham ringers. David Salter said that written responses would be deposited in the Library.

Veterans' Day. This was successful thanks to the efforts of Muriel Page and the Debenham ringers.

Public Relations Officer. Bruce Wakefield has unfortunately had to withdraw his offer to take this position, for health reasons.

Annual Report. James Smith reported that work had been started by the group set up last meeting.

Badges. The Secretary was asked to check the stock of badges and order more if necessary.

Correspondence

The acting Secretary reported that an invitation had been received from Thurston to the Thanksgiving Service for their bell restoration on 31st October.

Other correspondence would be dealt with under the appropriate agenda item.

Financial Statement

Eric Bull presented the accounts for the year so far. Subscriptions appeared to be slightly above last year, whilst insurance had risen by 10%.

Maurice Rose raised the issue of the Les Mills plaque. The Chairman agreed to ask George Pipe if he would consider making one in the style of his peal boards.

Ringling Master's Report

The Training Day on 18 September at Stutton had been a success with a course for Bob Doubles but more helpers would have been welcome.

The training on 16 October at Bacton was less successful and only one course (for rounds and call changes) was run out of the four proposed.

The SW District Open Towers Day was very successful and noted for efficient organisation, raising £803, thanks to the efforts of Rolie Whiting. It was suggested that the Guild should consider a similar event every two years and circulating around the districts.

The Master has produced a CD of pictures and ringing in Suffolk of which copies are available from him.

Sub Committee Reports

Belfry Advisory

A meeting had taken place on October 8th a written report of which was provided

The Chairman reminded the meeting that he would be resigning as chairman of the BAC at the next AGM.

The Chairman read a letter from Alan Moulton (Copy to be provided) suggesting the Guild take over the management of the work required on the 7th at Sudbury All Saints. He also stated that he could not recommend drilling the bell in the tower as proposed by Richard Knight. After discussion, it was proposed by David Salter, seconded by Maurice Rose, and passed unanimously that:

Alan Moulton would arrange for himself, Richard Knight, Winston Girling, David Salter and Laurence Pizzey to meet the Churchwardens at a weekend, to decide how the project could be progressed.

Recruitment and Training

No meeting has taken place since the last GMC meeting.

Applications for Grants

An application had been received from the Gislingham Bells Restoration Group. The work was estimated to cost £58,611 + VAT. It was proposed to install a new steel frame under the existing wooden one. It was proposed by Richard Knight, seconded by Richard Gates, and passed without dissent, that:

A grant of £6,000 be given subject to the usual conditions.

After discussion on possible formulae for the level of grants, it was agreed that a degree of flexibility is desirable.

Ratification of Non-resident Life Members

Adrian Edwards of Harleston, proposed by Mary Allum, seconded by Josephine Beever for a peal at Tannington on 15 August, was ratified.

Any Other Business

There were no proposals to be discussed by the meeting.

Annual Report 2004

James Smith agreed to assemble the quarter peals.

George Pipe has warned that he can no longer prepare the obituaries. It was agreed that District Secretaries would be asked to do them.

Alan Moulton said the notes of the tenors in the previous reports were sometimes incorrect and asked that errors be reported to him.

The report team were asked to consider if additional information e.g. bell diameter should be added to the tower information.

Any Other Business

The merits of the 5 year limit on office tenure were discussed without definite conclusion.

Richard Knight suggested spare sallies and tails should be collected for reuse rather than leave them in towers where they were not required. This was referred to the BAC.

David Salter is in the process of resolving inaccuracies in the historic record of membership which he had picked up from annual reports.

He also recommended that enquiries by District Secretaries should be made where annual subscriptions were not renewed, in order to reduce the 'leakage' of members. The possibility of taking subscriptions by standing order was passed to the next meeting.

Alan Moulton has a list of towers with fewer than four bells, which he can email to anyone interested.

On the question of child protection, the meeting recommended that the CCBR guidelines be applied.

Date of next meeting: February 19th 2005 at 6.00pm at Buxhall Village Hall unless otherwise notified.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:30 pm.

Wm. S. C. C. C.
Chairman.
19th February 2005