

**DRAFT Minutes: NW Annual District Meeting
at All Saints' Church, Hopton
Saturday 12th October 2024**

Present: Neal Dodge (Chairman), Josh Watkins (Ringing Master), David Everett (Secretary) Ruth Young (Treasurer) plus 19 other members

1. Chairman's opening remarks and votes of thanks; notification of Any Other Business

Neal Dodge welcomed everybody to the meeting and he thanked them for their attendance today and at the District Meetings throughout the year. He also thanked Ruth Young for providing the drinks and organising the tea and to Rev'd David Everett for leading the service and to John Ramsbottom for playing the organ.

2. Obituaries

There had been 2 members deaths in the last 12 months, those of Brian Wells from Barrow and Muriel Page from Stonham Aspal. Obituaries for Brian & Muriel are included in the 2023 Guild Report and a moments silence was observed so the those attending could remember them and any others who were on their minds.

3. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Jo Beever, Sharon Burman, Julian Colman, Cath Colman, Jean Deathridge, Jed Flatters, Clare Free, Joan Garrett, Clare Gebel, Dawn Gillett, Martin Kirk, Nigel McLaughlin, Angela Packer, Janet Sheldrake, Gordon Slack, Ruth Suggett & Rowan Wilson

4. Minutes of previous meeting; approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting had been previously circulated. No amendments were made and they were unanimously approved and then signed by the District Chairman.

5. Matters arising

There were none.

6. Reports from officers

Ringing Master: Josh Watkins reported that the District Open Day proved to be very successful and raised over £2,000 for the rehanging work at Drinkstone. Over 80 visited Westhorpe and over 70 at Fornham St Martin together with good numbers at the other open towers.

He reported that there was a very successful Tour to Cambridge in July which was enjoyed by all who came. It included a visit to ring at the 12 at Great St Marys. There were also many quarters rung in the QP Fortnight.

Josh also informed the Meeting that he intended to organise some special focussed practices during the year in addition to the regular monthly practices. Details of these special practices will be communicated it due course.

Our District Chaiman then thanked Josh for all that done over the last year in what had been a very busy time for him. He also thanked Maureen Gardiner and Lesley Steed for all their help with the practices.

7. Election of new members

There were 4 new members proposed and seconded at this meeting.

Name	Proposed	Seconded
Juliet Griffiths	Josh Watkins	Maurice Rose
Nigel McLaughlin	David Everett	Mary Dunbavin
Kathryn Tolmie	Robert Rolph	William Smith
Carissa Tolmie	Robert Rolph	William Smith
All were elected nem. con.		

8. Election of officers

See Table below for results. All were unanimously approved.

The Chairman thanked all the Officers for their service over the last year. Ruth Young was thanked for her 29 years of service as the District Treasurer and David Everett was also thanked for his 5 years as District Secretary. Presentations were made to both with the Districts thanks.

9. Programme of Events

The Secretary informed the meeting that the Programme of Events for 2025 had not been finalised but that he hoped it would be available before the District Meeting in November.

10. Any Other Business

Maurice Rose suggested that Ruth Young should be recommended for Honorary Life Membership of the Guild in recognition of her service to the Guild.

The Secretary informed the Meeting that the next District Meeting would be Redgrave on Saturday 11th November and next year's ADM would be at Fornham St Martin on Saturday 11th October 2025.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting.

Election of Officers 2024/25

Position	Current Holder	Elected 2024/25	Proposed	Seconded
Chairman	Neal Dodge	Neal Dodge	David Steed	Maureen Gardiner
Secretary	David Everett	Mary Oliver-Barratt	David Everett	Maureen Gardiner
Treasurer	Ruth Young	Kim Rutter-Moye	Ruth Young	David Steed
Ringin Master	Joshua Watkins	Joshua Watkins	Lesley Steed	Chris Davies
R&T Reps	Maureen Gardiner Joshua Watkins	Maureen Gardiner Joshua Watkins	Maurice Rose	Mary Oliver-Barratt
Deanery Guild Report Distributors				
Hartismere		Chris Davies		
Ixworth		Ruth Young		
Mildenhall		David Everett		
Stowmarket		Lesley Steed		
Thingoe		Rowan Wilson		
GMC District Reps				
	Mark Steggles	Mark Steggles	En bloc: Proposed by Josh Watkins and seconded by Carl Mumford (with 1 vacancy)	
	Neal Dodge	Neal Dodge		
	David Everett	David Everett		
	Vacancy	Vacancy		
	David Steed	David Steed		