

## Minutes of the Suffolk Guild AGM Stradbroke 6<sup>th</sup> April 2013

### **Welcome, Thanks and Apologies**

The Chairman Philip Gorrod welcomed 90 members to the meeting and expressed his gratitude to the NE team of Julie Rapior, Julie Hughes and all their helpers who organised the meeting and the splendid tea. He also expressed thanks to Tamsin Earthy and Basil Jenkyns, speakers at the fringe meeting and Jonathan Stevens for organising it, and the organist and Roger Smith for the service.

Apologies from 63 members were recorded separately

### **Obituaries**

The meeting stood in silence in remembrance of the following members who have passed away.

Barry Pickup, Pat Bailey, Leslie Carter, Bob Gowan, Tinker Lockwood, Alan Rogers and Phil Willis.

NRLM – Ray Addington, Roy Duesbury, Jack Dear, Alison Regan and Harold Rogers

### **Election of New Members**

The following were all elected as new members of the Guild

Joy Brandon Proposed by Peter Brasier and seconded by Carol Milligan

Rachel Kellett Proposed by Philip Gorrod seconded by Peter Lock

Sarah Jenkinson Proposed by Hugh Spink seconded by Philip Gorrod

### **Minutes of the 2012 AGM**

The minutes of the 2012 AGM were proposed for adoption by John Girt and seconded by Alan Stanley

### **Officers Reports**

All the officer reports appeared in the Annual Report and were approved without exception.

Peal Secretary Christine Knight added a note of thanks to everyone who contributed to the peal reports and especially to Ruth Suggett for her meticulous attention to detail. Trevor Hughes asked if handbell quarters could be included in future years' reports.

### **Vestey Ring/Hand Bell Trustee Report**

Hand Bell Trustee, Brian Whiting reported that all 4 sets are in good order; 2 sets have been used for the most of the time but he reminded members that another two sets were available for use. The Vestey ring was used 12 times last year and was booked for 6 slots so far this year.

**Guild Accounts** prepared by Gordon Slack, Treasurer were approved, proposed by Peter Harper and seconded by Chris Davies

## Trustees Report. - Page 3 of Annual Report

Approval of the trustee's report was proposed by Gordon Slack and seconded by Philip Gorrod

### CCCBR Report

Our CCCBR representative David Salter attended the meeting at Chester and had published a report on the Guild website.

### Subscriptions and Peal Fees for 2014

The GMC recommended to the meeting that no change be made to the level of subscriptions and peal fees for 2014. Rates therefore will be:-

Ringing Member	£15.00	Associate Member	£7.00
Ringing Member 65-74	£10.00	NRLM	£7.00
Members 75 and over	Free	Peal fee	£1.00
Ringing member in full time education			£7.00

Maurice Rose stood to express his thanks to all officers of the Guild and especially to PJG for his 5 years of service.

**Election of Officers for 2013/2014.** The following were elected as Officers for 2013-14

Office	Elected	Proposed	Seconded
Chairman	Alan Stanley	Philip Gorrod	Jonathan Stevens
Ringing Master	Jed Flatters	Joan Garrett	Stephen Cheek
Secretary	Mandy Shedden	Marion Turner	Brian Hale
Treasurer	Gordon Slack	David Steed	Lesley Steed
BAC Chairman	Jonathan Stevens	Suzanne Stevens	Derek Rose
Technical Advisor	Jonathan Stevens	Suzanne Stevens	Derek Rose
Public Relations Officer	Richard Munnings	Jonathan Stevens	Maurice Rose
Report Editor	David Salter	Philip Gorrod	Jed Flatters
Magazine Editor	Sue Freeman	Alan Stanley	Richard Gates
Librarian	Abby Antrobus	Janet Sheldrake	Joan Garrett
Peal Secretary	Christine Knight	Maurice Rose	Brian Whiting
Handbells Trustee	Brian Whiting	Jonathan Stevens	Maggie Ross
Mini-ring Trustee	Brian Whiting	Richard Knight	Janet Sheldrake
Webmaster	Chris Garner	Kate Eagle	Richard Munnings

### Election of CC Representatives

Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
Veronica Downing	Chris Garner	Ruth Munnings
Peter Harper	Alan McBurnie	Anne Buswell
Stephen Pettman	Joan Garrett	Abby Antrobus
George Salter	Ruth Munnings	David Salter

## **Election of Trustees**

The trustees are currently the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Philip Gorrod proposed and Jonathan Stevens seconded that these officers should continue to remain as trustees. Alan Stanley, Mandy Shedden and Gordon Slack were elected

## **Appointment of Independent Examiner**

Larking Gowen were proposed to continue as independent examiners of the accounts by Gordon Slack and Philip Gorrod seconded this.

## **13. Amendments to the Constitution and Rules.**

The GMC had proposed the following changes

The following changes to take effect immediately:

### **Constitution**

Clause 5 to be deleted and replaced with:

5. There shall be four Districts, North East, North West, South East and South West. Towers may move from one District to another with the agreement of both Districts and subject to approval by the Guild Management Committee (GMC).

Clause 7 to be amended by replacing “Guild Management Committee (GMC)” with “GMC”

Clause 26.1 to be deleted and replaced with:

Fourteen days’ notice of any proposed change to the Constitution and Rules of the Guild must have been provided to members through the Ringing World and the Guild website.

### **Guild Rules**

Rule 3 to be amended by the insertion of “after their nomination has been approved by the GMC” after “at a Guild AGM”.

Rule 9 to be deleted and replaced with:

9. The Guild Management Committee (GMC) shall consist of the Guild Chairman, Ringing Master, Secretary, Treasurer and Chairman of the Belfry Advisory Committee, and up to five members from each District, elected in accordance with Rule 20.

Rule 10 to be amended by replacing “representatives” with “members”

Rule 22 to be amended by replacing the word “Newsletter” with “Magazine” on both occasions.

The following changes to take effect for each District from the next Annual District Meeting:

Rule 20 to be deleted and replaced with:

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20. The following Officers shall be elected annually: Chairman, Ringing Master, Secretary/Treasurer, Magazine Correspondent, two members to serve on the RTC and up to five members to serve on the GMC.

20.1 A District may elect additional Officers as required to assist in the running of the District.

20.2 The District Officers shall form the District Committee, which shall be responsible for the efficient management of the District's affairs and shall report to the Annual District Meeting on the year's work.

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Trevor Hughes raised an objection. Graham Downing would like the wording to be clearer and approval of GMC must be clarified. PJG reinforced that GMC would always oversee proposed changes and are not likely to approve unworkable changes.

John Girt stood to explain the reason for the current organisation. There used to be 5 districts and it was proposed that each district should have the same number of deaneries (C.1972) These were set out to divide the Guild into equal parts for representation of members on GMC.

PJG explained the reason for the changes to the rules to cover future events such as collapse of RW etc.

He also explained the reason for change to Election of LHM This was to ensure that inappropriate proposals for LHM could no longer be made, although a GMC refusal could always be overturned by the members at an AGM.

GMC Deanery Representation. The idea behind this was that each district may elect up to 5 members to sit on the GMC. It is hoped that the new system will encourage members who are interested in being part of the GMC to opt into being elected. Trevor Hughes said that he thought it was important that people interested in moving the Guild on should be taking part on the GMC.

PJG went on to further explain the reasons for changes to the rules. Essentially the districts should elect to the GMC those people that they feel would best serve the Guild.

Changes to Constitutions - Majority in favour one abstention

Changes to Rules - Overwhelming Majority 3 abstentions.

#### **14. Election of LHM.**

Maggie Ross explained that Helen Price of Southwold and Reydon has been a loyal and hard-working member of the NE District. She has taught many to ring, she undertook the new installation fundraising for Reydon. A member since 1979, she is always happy to try new things and goes the extra mile to encourage others. She has been district RM, and she has had a hand in all events including tower maintenance. She leads by example well worth following.

Helen Price stood to thank you to the meeting and to everyone who has supported her. She was unanimously elected as LHM.

#### **15. ITTS**

3 courses have been held in the county, two at level 1 which have progressed 15 new ringers, and 5 into membership of the Guild. There is a level 1 course being started at Mildenhall, and one in the SE District in conjunction with the Essex Association.

## **16. Mini Ring**

The Vestey ring continues to appear at events both within and outside the county and promotes good publicity for the Guild.

**17.** Both the Guild Dinner at Woolpit and the barn dance at and Sproughton were very successful.

**18.** George Salter is leading a band to take part in the Young Ringers Striking competition being held at York.

**19.** A memorial weekend is being arranged to commemorate the life of Rod Pipe, a former Suffolk Ringer and brother to George Pipe. All Suffolk Guild members are invited and details will follow It is the weekend of 12<sup>th</sup> October

**20.** There were no matters arising from the minutes of the 2012 AGM

**21.** St Edmunds Clapper Competition was won yet again by Offton with a splendid effort in raising £385 for the BRF.

**22.** The 2014 AGM will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2014 in Stowmarket at the invitation of the NW District.

## **23. Any other Business**

On the 12<sup>th</sup> October ringing has been arranged in several towers in Ipswich and the NE District is organising a walking tour in Ipswich on that day so collaboration will be required.

A card is being circulated to send to George Pipe who is in Papworth awaiting heart surgery on Monday.

Mr Girt asked for a collection for the BRF from the meeting.£118.31 was raised and a further surplus of tea donations of £60.25 was also given to the BRF.

Brian Whiting asked if members were able to put names to all 140 members in the 1974 photo at BSE in the Ringing World as part of Harold Egglestone's obituary.

Chris Garner asked for email addresses from any members wishing to receive information.

