

Coventry Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting,

Held on 27th April 2019 at Ryton Church Room.

1. President's welcome.

Andrew Alldrick (AA) opened the meeting by welcoming 48 members from across the Guild. He highlighted the extensive agenda but drew attention to the legal obligations that befell the Trustees of Charities. He asked members to be brief when raising issues and to choose their comments wisely. He also asked members to consider taking on positions of responsibility within the Guild. The need to adapt what and how we ring is an important factor in keeping the Guild relevant and attractive to members.

Mark Sayers had proposed a vote of the thanks to the Rev David Wintle, Rector of Ryton, for such a brief and uplifting service; to John Newbold for playing the organ and to Lyndsey Brett and her team for such a wonderful tea.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Isobel and Keith Murphy; Clarke Walters; Chris and Sally Idle; Audrey Alldrick; Sammi Brett; Lyndsey Brett; Christine Homer; Geoff Pratt; Tracey Newbold; Keith Chambers; Sue and Steve Roderick and Doug Kempton.

3. Obituaries

Three members had passed away since the last meeting and moving tributes were paid to them.

Robin Guy

Kate Moir

Angela Elliott

The meeting stood in silence as a sign of respect.

4. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held at Leamington in October 2018, had been published on the Guild webpage, Mike Chester proposed and Gerald Trevor seconded the adoption of the minutes which were signed as a true record of the meeting.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

- a. The first aid course has been arranged for 12th October. It is being run by Mark Butler, a member of the Guild who is a trainer with the St John's Ambulance. Members, who attend, will receive a certificate of attendance from the Guild.

- b. Safety notice were obtained from Dunchurch which could be used as a template at towers for visiting ringers to sign to show they understand their responsibility under health and safety regulations.

6. Adoption of Accounts

Copies of the accounts for 2018 had been distributed before the meeting and also printed in the annual report. Simon Rogers (SR) Treasurer reported the drop in income was due to late payment of subs for 2016 which had boosted income in **2017 and also a reduction in the number of members paying subs in 2018**. Overall there is a surplus of £189.

The surplus for the BRF is much larger in 2018 as there was only 1 claim. Also, the additional £5625 from the Philip Faulks memorial fund is very encouraging. The Guild may receive over £20,000 per year from this source. It was proposed by Chris Mew and seconded by Chris Worley the accounts be adopted and this was agreed by the meeting.

SR presented the budget for 2019 (See App 1). SR reminded the meeting the Guild rules require a budget to be published.

7. Receipt and ratification of Report

The annual report had been distributed to all towers prior to the meeting and also published on the Guild Website. AA thanked everyone who had written a section of the report. Joy Pluckrose proposed and Peter Hollings seconded the report be accepted. The number of ANO listed under towers was a reflection of the number of members who had still not returned their GDPR forms.

8. Rule change regarding Central Council representation.

Owing to the new structure of the Central Council, there is now no triennium in terms of Council cycle. CC reps can be elected at any time. Even though there is no need to change the Guild rules, it might be prudent to do so. SR proposed the following change:

- i. Central Council Representatives may be elected at any General meeting of the Guild and to be confirmed at the following AGM.

MC raised the point this was too open ended and did not give members the power to change reps. John Newbold agreed and the following rule change was proposed:

- ii. Central Council Representatives may be elected at any General meeting of the Guild and be confirmed annually at the following AGM.

This was proposed by Simon Rogers and seconded by John Newbold and the meeting agreed.

9. Notification of members elected at District meetings

Name	Tower	Name	Tower
Michael Bleby	Henley in Arden	David Aherns	Lillington
David Hudson	Shipston on Stour	Susan Stevenson	Aston Cantlow
Niels Benatar	Tysoe	Linda Kelly	Walsgrave
Theo Pundsack	Napton on the Hill	William Kelly	Walsgrave
John Rolfe	Monks Kirby	Kevin Foxon	Walsgrave

Len Morley	Shipston on Stour	Janet Bates	Berkswell
Ingrid Rushton	Bidford on Avon	Jackie Taylor	Stoneleigh
Hannah Rushton	Bidford on Avon	Ria Koshi	Kenilworth
Mathew Cooke	Lighthorne	Jennifer Roberts	Kenilworth
Amanda Dowson	Claverdon	Sophie Grigg	Kenilworth
Thomas Westbury	Lillington	Catherine Weir	Kenilworth
Penny Shearman	Aston Cantlow	Lucy Weir	Kenilworth
Oliver Poulton	Stoke	Zack Poulton	Stoke
Noah Poulton	Stoke	Susan Foalks	Arley
Sheila Cooke	Lighthorne		

10. Notification of new members elected at the meeting.

Name	Tower	Name	Tower
Janet Kennedy	Stretton on Dunsmore	Spencer Wadsworth	Stretton on Dunsmore
Katie Waterworth	Stretton on Dunsmore	Karen Bannister	Stretton on Dunsmore
Margaret Curtis	Stretton on Dunsmore	Jeff Payne	Monks Kirby
Pauline Bowles	Monks Kirby		

10b Notification of Non Resident Life Members elected.

Name	Tower	Name	Tower
Linda Lazzerini	Whatton in the Vale	Michael Probert	Freeland

11. Notification of District officers

Coventry District	Rugby District	Warwick District
Chris Worley, Chairman	Lyndsey Brett, Secretary	Sue Roderick, Secretary
Clare Gould, Secretary	Nicholas Brett, Ringing Master. Mark Chaplin Ringing Master	Barbara Howes, John Newbold, Ringing Co-ordinators.
Ray Sheasby Ringing Master	Sally Idle, Finance	George Wrycroft Membership secretary John Newbold Guild Committee member
Gerald Trevor, Membership Secretary	Chris Idle Committee member	Emma Hooper, Committee member. John and Tracey Newbold

12. Election of Officers

A presentation was made to Barbara Howes to thank her for her service in coordinating the Guild outfits.

The following officers were re-elected.

Office	Nominator	Seconded
Andrew Alldrick President	Steve Tibbetts	Joy Pluckrose
Annie Hall General Secretary	John Newbold	Mike Chester
Simon Rogers Guild Treasurer	Gerald Trevor	Barbara Howes
Simon Rogers Peal Secretary	Freda Bennett	Peter Spencer
Mark Sayers Ringing Master	John Newbold	Chris Worley
David Leafe Independent Examiner	Simon Rogers	Chris Mew
Web Master Mike Chester	Annie Hall	Freda Bennett
Mike Young Safeguarding officer	John Newbold	Chris Mew
Rosemary Spencer PR Officer	Roger Howes	Gerald Trevor
Andrew Alldrick Tower and Belfries Chair	Mark Sayers	Mark Chaplin
Central Council Reps Joy Pluckrose Annie Hall Becky Johnson Chris Mew		

David Leafe, the independent Examiner has indicated he would like to stand down from the post next year. AA thanked David and asked if anyone would like to take over the role?

After a number of years as CC rep, Chris Mew said he would like to stand down.

Mike Chester asked the CC reps to write a report on their visit to the council this year and to detail the change in role under the new structure. He queried the need for 4 and that changes to membership should be made at the October meeting. AA informed Mike the Guild had to pay for 4 whether they attended or not. Chris Mew commented it was up to each individual to decide how much or how little they wished to be involved in the Council business.

13. Applications to the Bell Repair Fund

SR informed the meeting that historically, the Guild had only granted between 10 and 15% towards the cost of repairs. However, owing to the increase in funds, we are now able to

offer up to 50%. SR informed the meeting 3 applications had been received. These had been discussed at the Guild committee meeting and they have made the following recommendations:

Kineton £2000. Proposed by SR seconded by Ray Sheasby
Warwick £360. Proposed by Mark Sayers seconded by Ray Sheasby
Stockton £1514.

AH indicated £500 of that amount had been raised, independently of the Guild committee, to secure a fourth bell which was being stored at Taylors. This should not be included as part of the grant in case the augmentation to 4 did not go ahead when the bells could be sold elsewhere.

The new amount was therefore £1014. This was proposed by SR and seconded by Ruth Border.

The meeting voted in favour of making the three grants.

Joy Pluckrose reminded the meeting, the Exec had agreed to discuss guidelines for a sliding scale of grants to provide guidance for future claims.

AH commented the advice received from the Independent Examiner was not to allow a build-up of funds in the BRF as the Charity Commission would query this approach.

14. General Data Protection Regulations

Joy Pluckrose informed the meeting that most people had completed their forms but, as reflected in the report, some areas had still not replied. These had been chased 4 times. The new members form includes the GDPR form now so hopefully, in time, all members will be covered.

15. Youth team.

The Guild has a team to enter the RWNYC. In preparation, practices will be held after school over the next few weeks. In addition, Alec Chaplin and Sammi Brett have been arranging monthly practices around the Guild for young people. These are open to members, not restricted by age.

16. Training

For the fourth year, Guild training sessions have been held on the fourth Saturday morning of the month. Numbers of learners are limited to maximise rope time. It is intended to continue these sessions for the next few months.

17. Dates for the Diary

There are no national events the Guild has been asked to ring for in 2019, but this can change as happened in the Ringing for Notre Dame on Maundy Thursday. Any events would be advertised through the District Secretaries.

The Ringing World National Youth Striking Competition will be in Liverpool on 6th July.

The next Guild Social meeting will be on 20th July when the Warwick District are organising an outing to Worcester. **NB note date change**

12th October a Guild First Aid course is being organised.

The Guild Meeting and 8 bell striking competition will be in the Coventry District on 19th October, in Allesley.

The Robert Kilby Memorial Peal, organised at the request of the Central Council, is being attempted on 26th October at Warwick.

The Carol service will be in the Rugby District, date to be agreed.

The next AGM will be held on 25th April 2020 in the Rugby Deanery.

18. AOB

Three members had achieved 50 years membership of the Guild: Linda Allen from Bilton; Jane Rogers from Warwick and Joy Pluckrose from Bulkington. After a short pause, Joy was presented with her certificate celebrating her achievement.

Copies of the Guild Newsletter were available.

Additional copies of the Guild Report were available from the Guild Secretary.

A request from the University of the Third Age had been received to borrow handbells to teach a band to ring. Joy Pluckrose said she knew of a peal of bells which could be used.

19. Next Meeting.

The next meeting will be held in Allesley on 19th October.

AA thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 6.35pm.

App 1

Coventry Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers Budget 2019

<u>Income</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Resident Subscriptions	4630	
Gift Aid	600	
Non Resident Subscriptions	30	
Other	40	
	5300	
<u>Expenditure</u>		
BRF Contribution	2300	
Officers Expenses	600	
Insurance	400	
Annual Report	320	

Newsletters	400
Central Council Subs	160
Education/Training	600
PR etc	150
Youth Team	300
Contingency/Surplus	70
	5300

Notes:

Income based on approx 460 adults at £10 plus juniors

Budget levels are indicative and expenditure can be reallocated if necessary.

Any surplus (contingency) will be discussed and allocated by the *General Committee*.

Should membership numbers fall funds will be taken from reserves to make up the shortfall.