

Meeting of the Management Committee held on Saturday 20 February 1999
at Buxhall Village Hall

Present:- B Whiting (Chairman), P Stannard, Mrs S Girt, J Girt, M Rose, W Girling, Mrs C Girling, Mrs A M Webb, R Whiting, D Webb, A Mayle R Gates, Dr B Wakefield (Secretary).

Apologies for absence:- R Clouston, A Smith, S Pettman, Rev L Pizzey, Mrs C Colman, T Hughes, R Knight.

Minutes:- The minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 1998 were read and approved.

Matters arising:-

- (i) Calendars and Xmas cards
No progress with regards to calendars, but Xmas cards for 1999 progressing. Christmas cards for 1998 had been produced and sold.
- (ii) Health and Safety Guidelines
Not yet ready.
- (iii) Collection of subs by Direct Debit.
The bank has informed the treasurer that the Guild is not a suitable organisation for this means of collection of subs.
- (iv) Offer of a Grant to Troston.
No reply to the secretary's letter has been received. Therefore it was agreed that the grant offer should be withdrawn.
- (v) Special meeting to discuss Rule changes
This had taken place on 12 December at Buxhall. The outcome of a 3 hour meeting was that the Guild Executive be asked to meet to consider the matter further. The Executive had subsequently met 3 times and had drawn up proposals. These would be put before a special meeting of the Management Committee at 2:30pm prior to the next Management Committee meeting on 19 June.

Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 12 December 1998.

These were read and approved.

There were no matters rising.

Financial Statement:- The financial statement for 1998 was distributed to members by the treasurer. The treasurer was pleased to report that this year the General ^{Fund} had broken even. Thanks to some generous donations the fund now stood at £970. There had been fewer calls on the Restoration fund during 1998, and so the balance in this fund had increased and now stood at £8052.

Mr J Girt, seconded by Mr M Rose, proposed the adoption of the treasurer's report and recommended it be presented to the AGM. This was agreed.

Subscriptions and Fees for 2000.

The treasurer proposed that the AGM be asked to approve the following subscriptions and fees for 2000.

Full Ringing Member	£11.00	
Student Member	£5.50	
Associate Member	£5.50	
NRLM	£6.00	
Peal Fee	£0.75	
Donation to Friends of the Cathedral		£30
Donation to Suffolk Historic Churches Trust		£30
Donation to Friends of St Peters, Sudbury		£30
Donations in lieu of wreaths		£20

This was agreed.

Recruitment and Training Budget

The treasurer proposed that this remain at £300pa.

This was agreed.

Ringing Master's Report.

Because of the absence of the Ringing Master there was no report.

Sub Committee Reports

Belfry Advisory. Winston Girling presented a report of the last meeting of the sub-committee. All members had attended. He detailed work/problems/queries etc. which had been dealt with for some 21 towers in all four Districts. He reported that Michael Rolph would not be standing for re-election as Technical Adviser at the 1999 AGM, although he did wish to remain a member of the team, as a representative for the NE District.

The committee had discussed the conditions under which grants were offered. It was agreed that all applications for grants be forwarded by the General Secretary to the Belfry Advisory Committee immediately upon receipt. The committee could then give the application careful consideration, so as to be in a position to make a recommendation to the next Management Committee meeting.

Recruitment and Training. The Master was not present, so was not able to give a formal report of the last meeting. However, Mr J Girt gave the meeting a summary of the meeting from notes he had made.

Two new members had attended the meeting on 27 January.

The 3rd simulator kit had been delivered, and was for the NE District. 20 beginners were now being taught using it at Laxfield.

There had been no progress with regards to the lapsed members list.

The Health and Safety policy had not been discussed.

It had been agreed that the Guild should support "Ring in 2000" when asked, and when appropriate.

Plans for the 1999 Training Day were underway.

The 1999 seminar would deal with the use of computers and simulators in ringing.

A Plain Bob teaching session at Stutton had been very successful, and another was planned.

There was to be a Fun Striking Competition at Hollesley on 20 March.

Applications for Grants

No new applications had been received.

Winston Girling reported that there had been a change in the company chosen by Tostock to rehang their bells. The work was now to be done by Baines, rather than by Whites of Appleton. As the cost would be lower the parish were wondering what difference this would make to the grant offer. The meeting agreed that as the reduction in price was small there was no need to amend the grant. Mr Girling said he would inform the parish.

Arrangements for the 1999 AGM

The Chairman reminded the meeting that the AGM would be at Woodbridge.

The secretary reported that it would be an afternoon event. There would be a service at 2pm. The meeting would commence at 2:45pm and would be followed by a tea. The tower would be open for ringing after tea.

The Chairman said he had suggested to the Master that there should be 3 ringing routes leading to Woodbridge, as there used to be in the past, and that the Master was looking into this.

It was reported that Stephen Pettman was planning a Press Release to publicise the event.

Finally, the Chairman reminded the meeting that the Ringing Master, Secretary and Technical Adviser would be retiring at the AGM. The Districts should give serious thought to nominating persons prepared to be proposed at the AGM to fill these important posts.

Preparation of Annual Report

It was agreed that 850 copies be printed. The cost would be £23 more than last year. Several members commented that the Library was a valuable asset of the Guild, and were pleased to have heard that it was becoming more widely used. They wondered whether from time to time the Library Catalogue be printed in the annual report. It was too late to include it in the 1998 Report, but it was agreed to consider it for next year. In the meantime the Newsletter Editor offered to include a notice publicising the Library in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Any Other Business.

Alan Mayle reported a problem concerning a peal in which one member of the band had not paid his subscription by 31 ~~March~~ *December*.

A 25% response to the questionnaire and Data Base Form, sent out by Andrew Stone, had so far been received.

A draft "Membership Application Form" drawn up by Andrew Stone, was circulated for consideration.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

B. Whiting

19 June 1999.