

Suffolk Guild of Ringers

Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on 20th October 2001

Present: Brian Whiting, Stephen Pettman, Sandra Pereira, Trevor Hughes, Alan Moulton, Rolie Whiting, John Pereira, Alan Mayle, Winston Girling, Eric Bull, Robert Scase, Peta Luckily,

Apologies for absence were received from Hav Wilkins, Richard Gates, Isabel Rivers, Anne Brechin, Jonathan Stevens, and Brian Aldous

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been previously circulated, were accepted as a true record with the minor alteration of the date of the AGM from 2001 to 2002.

Matters arising

Web site. John Pereira was having problems accessing the web site. Winston agreed to supply Phil Day's email address, so that he may be contacted to solve this problem. Philip originally set this site up.

Database. Secretary still has in hand. Further work to be done by the end of the year.

AGM 2002. Horringer had been confirmed as the venue.

Poster competition. Three youngsters had entered, with a total of six entries. It was decided to produce a poster based on one of the designs, from Katie Beck, with some added information. Winner to receive £15, the other two £5 each.

St Edmund Clapper. Four towers had entered; the winners were Sproughton with £163 raised.

Correspondence

A letter had been received from John Girt, requesting that the Committee consider marking Queen Elizabeth's Golden Jubilee in 2002 in some way. After some discussion it was decided that all towers would be asked to ring in celebration, and a project would be launched to ring a quarter peal in all ringable towers, between February 6th, Accession date, and June 3rd, celebration date. Ringing master to arrange this. Secretary agreed to arrange that all towers participating would get a certificate recording the event. Secretary to contact John Girt.

Ian Holland had written to advise the Ridgman trophy competition for 2002 would be on June 8th at the Norman Tower.

East Bergholt had sent a request for handbell ringers to perform at their opening day on January 1st. No ringers had been found who were available on that day.

Secretary distributed leaflets from Rendham for a talk on Suffolk Ringing jugs. This is one of their fundraising activities.

Financial Statement

Eric Bull presented a report of the current situation. Statement attached.

George Pipe had contacted the Chairman concerning the proceeds from the sale of some old Ringing Worlds which had belonged to his parents. He wished to give £750 to the Guild Restoration fund, and £500 to set up a trust fund, The Pipe Family Trust Fund, **for the encouragement of beginners in the art of change ringing in the Suffolk Guild**, which would fund courses and assist training days, outings, and the purchase of books. George hoped that the family would add to this from time to time. The Guild executive would administer the fund. Secretary to write a letter of thanks to the family.

Stephen Pettman mentioned the R & T budget, which at the moment does not feature as a separate fund in the accounts. The outgoings for the past few years have only amounted to production of What's On. Stephen proposed and Robert Scase seconded that £200 from this budget be added to the Pipe Family Trust fund, thus focussing the need for training of new ringers. This was agreed nem con.

Child Protection

PC Terry Broome from the Suffolk Police Child Protection unit gave a brief talk on the issue of child protection when working with minors. He stresses the desirability of adopting a policy and guidelines for those working with children, and stressed that we should also be on the lookout for problems. A pack produced by Suffolk Child Protection committee was purchased. Secretary agreed to study the pack, write a report for the next newsletter. The issue to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting with a view to drawing up a policy and guidelines for all towers who wish to adopt them.

Ringing Master's Report

The ringing Master had nothing to add from the last meeting, which was not included in the R & T report.

Sub Committee Reports

Belfry Advisory

A meeting had taken place in September. Report attached.

Recruitment and Training

A meeting had been held in June. Two events which had been mooted did not take place. Time ran out on planning the training day. After last year's experience, when only very few people applied the format of the event needs looking at. Three districts had organised successful training events for improving ringers and practices aimed at specific methods had been held. The fun striking competition clashed with Alan and Margaret Moults wedding, which meant that organisers and judges were unable to be present.

The meeting had looked at the splitting of the striking competition. The ringing Master suggested that whilst the eight bell competition had been well attended, the change had not affected the entry for the six bell competition. He proposed putting them back onto one day (May 18th), with the six bell competition in the afternoon and the eight bell in the evening. He also proposed a change to the rules relating to the striking competition. The first to delete Rule 9 altogether, and the second to amend 4.1 to allow a greater flexibility of teams. This could allow ringers with a bona fide connection with a tower or benefice teams to participate. Stephen Pettman will bring a possible wording for this rule to the next meeting for the GMC to agree.

Winston Girling reported that he had received requests for a training day.

Applications for Grants

Campsea Ashe

Campsea Ashe required some extra work to be done following recent restoration. This involved replacing plain bearings with ball bearings on three bells. The total cost of this was estimated at £2621.45. Alan Moulton proposed, seconded by John Pereira, that £300 be granted. This was agreed by all.

Mendham

Mendham are undertaking a total restoration of frame and bell fittings. The estimated cost to be £42,000. £24,000 had already been promised. Stephen Pettman proposed, seconded by Alan Moulton, that £6375 be given to the project. This was agreed by all.

East Bergholt

East Bergholt had started work to comply with the Health and Safety requirements to ring the bells. The total cost of the project, including work on the bell cage was £35,000. Following a discussion about the uniqueness of the bells, it was proposed by Alan Moulton, seconded by John Pereira, that £2000 be given to the project. Winston Girling proposed an amendment, following the decision of the Belfry Advisory Committee, that £250 be given. This was not seconded and the £2000 was agreed by the meeting.

Easton

A request had been received from Easton for work on headstocks and clappers. The work was being undertaken by Alan Moulton and other Guild members on a DIY basis. The estimate given was £12,869, although this could be reduced. Alan Moulton proposed, seconded by Stephen Pettman, that £1000 be awarded. This was agreed.

Ratification of Non-resident Life Members

The election of Stuart C W Hutchieson, from Abbots Bromley, Staffs and Ian K Bushell, of Carshalton, Surrey, at St Mary le Tower on 14th July 2001 were ratified. Reservations were expressed about the latter following some unsatisfactory activities in the county some years ago.

Guild Library Insurance

Nothing more had been heard.

Dates of meetings and events 2002

Annual General Meeting	Horringer	April 6 th (NB SE District to host in 2003)
GMC	Buxhall	February 16 th June 15 th October 19 th
Striking Competition	SE District	May 18 th

Other possible events to be arranged: Veterans Day, Young People's Day (Easter), Young peoples Outing (May).

Any Other Business

The Chairman noted that the Guild would celebrate its 80th anniversary in 2003. It was suggested that this be marked by a Dinner. Stephen Pettman suggested a suitable venue might be the Martlesham Police Headquarters. He volunteered to investigate costs etc. for the next meeting.

Stephen Pettman announced that the next R & T meeting would be held on 5th December and encouraged all members to attend.

Alan Mayle asked if any progress had been made towards replacing Stephen Young as Report editor. No-one has shown interest to date.

The Chairman reported that George Pipe was in hospital with a heart problem. Secretary agreed to pass on the best wishes of the Guild.

Date of next meeting: February 16th 2002 at 6.00pm at Buxhall Village Hall

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.11 pm.

B Whiting
16 February 2002