

Suffolk Guild of Ringers

Belfry Advisory Committee Minutes (as signed Oct 2015)

Elmsett 3rd June 2015 at 19.30 hrs

Attendees - W.Girling (Chair) , C. McArthur(Secretary) , C. Davies , N. Whittle , R. Coe , M. Steggles , J.Taylor , C Nunn , J.Stevens , M.Croucher , M.Rose , and P.Rose. Apologies – C.Girling. Penny Rose was welcomed to the meeting and accepted as a member of the BAC

All enjoyed ringing on Elmsett bells before the meeting and thanks were passed to Crawford A. for welcoming us at his tower.

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 3.2.2015 at Stowmarket had been circulated. These were agreed and signed as a true record.
2. South East District Technical Advisor position was still vacant although it was hoped that the post would be filled in the near future.
3. **Grant Applications** - BAC members had been doing work at Stoke Ash where frame support beams are badly rotten around the wall entry. Ringing has been stopped temporarily. The cost of repairs is in the order of £1350 although BAC generous assistance will help with the costs. The meeting discussed the detail of repairs that will be in the form of metal supports under each beam and these will tie the beams into the walls and approx four feet out from the face. It was agreed that our recommendation would be a guild grant of £300 for the materials involved. All felt this was a fine ring worthy of saving, in a very small parish with limited resources. Proposed and seconded by Chris Mc and Jonathan S.
4. **Training** - An event at Long Melford church on Saturday 4th July is planned between 10.00 and 15.00 for hands on training on all aspects of bell maintenance. D and P Rose are organising catering. Winston asked for names of four BAC members who can help, and it will also be put in July "What's On" by John T.
5. **Technical Advisors Report** – Stoke Ash work has been ongoing and includes beam repairs and rope new top ends, including one tail end. At Eye the chiming hammer has been completely rebuilt with help from Nathan C., this will be refitted shortly. At Otley problems with fraying on one rope will be auctioned by Winston in the near future. Halesworth has been inspected for the sound proofing grant work. Winston commented that it was a first class piece of design and construction work by Jonathan S. At Lavenham an inspection has revealed worn clapper bushes and this work will be undertaken in autumn 2015.
6. **District Reports** - *North East*, Jonathan detailed inspection work at Metfield and the single bell at Dunwich , recommendations have been made to the parishes. At Beccles listed building consent is being sort for a comprehensive sound management system. *North West*, At Ixworth work is planned for turning the tenor by 180 degrees, Whites are likely to do the work. *South East*, Work is ongoing at Wickham Market for new headstocks and fittings. A visit to view the casting of the headstocks at Taylors had been very successful and BAC members/locals are helping with rehanging later in June. Building work is commencing at St.Mary at Quay, Ipswich for redevelopment and the changes mean that the ringing chamber will now be used for alternative purposes and ringing will permanently end. No plan for lowering of the bells has been proposed currently. *South West*, Little Cornard scheme is progressing with a new frame below the old being agreed, after considerable discussions helped by John T. At Monks Eleigh Neville W. has found the tenor bearings worn and causing bad "go", he will be adjusting end float in the near future. A scheme for rehanging Combes is being progressed by the parish, although the BAC has been little involved at this stage.
7. **Next Meeting** - Tuesday 6th October 2015 at Wickham Market (or Campse Ash as a reserve). Agenda items to Chris Mc by 1st October please.

