

SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS BELFRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Committee meeting held at Rumburgh at 7.30p.m. on Friday February 11th 2005.

Present: Alan Moulton, John Pereira, David Salter, Bruce Wakefield, Chris Nunn, Chris McArthur, Sandra Pereira, David Webb.

In the absence of the Chairman, Alan Moulton chaired the meeting and welcomed Ian and Pam Harris from Rumburgh, congratulating them on the excellent restoration in their tower. He also thanked them for giving the committee the opportunity to ring the recently restored bells before the meeting.

Apologies for absence had been received from Winston Girling, Neville Whittell, Julian Colman.

The minutes of the previous meeting held in October were agreed.

Matters arising: **Thurston** - new clapper to be fitted on the 4th **Wickham Skeith** - more work necessary to correct odd striking **Mildenhall** - work currently under way, hoped to be completed within a week or so.

District Reports

NE

Rumburgh - work is complete on the 6. Chediston are looking to rehang the six in a new frame.

NW

Mildenhall – under way. John Pereira reported one or two problems which had been encountered during the work. Over four hours had been used to drill out a crown staple. It was reported that the tower at Mildenhall may pose some problems as it is not in a good state.

SE

Tattingstone – attempt being made to start practices, although minor work still needs to be done to prevent the 4th and 6th binding on the frame.

SW

Sudbury All Saints –no further news.

Haverhill – Neville Whittell had reported work on the 4th and 5th clappers

Withersfield – rector asked whether they could be rung for wedding later in the year. An attempt would be made to get them chiming again.

Woolpit –the village celebrates its 1000th anniversary this year. Plans to cast a new bell as chiming bell to later be one of two new trebles if augmented to eight in the future.

Technical Advisers Report

Alan Moulton reported that very little was going on at the moment., Work was planned or ongoing at Gislingham, Hopton, Parham, Laxfield, Rattlesden, All Saints Sudbury. A band for Wickham Skeith is being trained. Members were invited to join them on Saturday mornings (10 – 12 noon)

Applications for Grants

Hopton – had sent a detailed quote for £41, 890 + structural survey and fees giving £49,000.

This for bells work. No mention of sound control was made. It was agreed to recommend £4,500 for 6 bells in a 6 bell frame + £500 for sound control + £1,500 if they decide to go for eight bells in an 8 bell frame.

Fressingfield –a letter had been received but this was held over until more detail had been obtained. They have ignored advice from several quarters about the condition of the present bell frame and the need for a new one.

Any other business

A letter was read out with details of a bequest from Leonard Sharpe. It was anticipated that about £30,000 would be bequeathed to the restoration fund. Winston Girling and Alan Mould had both indicated their intention of resigning their positions as Chairman of the BAC and Technical Adviser respectively. Alan agreed to stay on for the time being if a volunteer could be found to take some of the load on recording. Bruce Wakefield agreed to do this.

Date of next meeting: June 10th at 10 Mitre Close, Woolpit, at 7.30p.m. John Pereira offered his apologies for this meeting.