

SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS BELFRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Committee meeting held at St. Mary's, Parham, on Friday, 6th October, 2006.

Present: Winston Girling, Alan Moulton, Chris Nunn, Bruce Wakefield, Neville Whittell, Carol Girling, Simon Cottrell.

The Chairman thanked Simon Cottrell for allowing us to have a ring on the bells and for the use of the Church to hold the Meeting..

Apologies for absence: Julian Colman

Confirming Minutes: the Minutes of the Meeting held at Kersey on 10th, June 2006 were confirmed and signed.

Matters arising: Chris Nunn asked about the tuning advice given by Alan Moulton re the Ixworth restoration. Alan said he would go to Ixworth and explain.

Bruce Wakefield asked about the grants which were offered at the last GMC Meeting. These were Ixworth - £8,000 + £6,000 for new trebles. Stradishall - £2,000. Bardwell - £6,000. Chediston - £6,000. No decision was taken on Fressingfield where a final report from the bellhangers has not been received. Neville Whittell asked if any of the restorations had started, and was informed that no work has been started on any of them so far.

District Reports.

North East: Gislingham – Bruce Wakefield asked about progress. Expected to be ringing by Christmas. He also asked about **Laxfield**. Here a proposed restoration has come to a halt, and the lack of a vicar is not helping.

North West: Stowmarket – Winston Girling said that bellhangers reports were with PCC and the proposed restoration and augmentation to 10 has been included in the capital programme for the Church. It would no doubt be some time before sufficient money became available. **Bardwell** – Alan Moulton said that English Heritage are happy with the proposed work on these bells.

South East: Stonham Aspal – Winston Girling said that the architects had submitted a plan of work to stabilise the outer frame supports of 7 and 8 and these bells could not be rung because of excessive frame movement. The remaining bells could still be rung. **Wickham Market** – Bruce Wakefield said that cracks are once more appearing in the tower.

South West: Assington – Winston Girling spoke about a trial ring on these bells which had been held at the request of the Church authorities. Unfortunately local hostilities had flared as a result of the trial ring and the bells are once again silent. **Sudbury All Saints** – Neville Whittell asked about progress on rehangings the 7th. Unfortunately the talks proposed to expedite this project do not appear to have taken place yet.

Grants: Grant applications were discussed for **Rattlesden** and **Felsham**. Both had chosen Taylors/ Eayre & Smith and the proposed restorations met with the approval of the Committee, which will make recommendations to the next GMC.

Date and Place of next Meeting: Proposed **Gislingham**, 7.0p.m. Friday, 9th February, 2007 short ring before Meeting. Subject to 1) bells being available, 2) permission being granted.

Any other Business: none.

The Meeting closed at: 8.50p.m.

Winston S. Girling
Chairman

BAC Meeting – Gislingham, 7.0p.m. Friday, 9th February, 2007.

AGENDA

- 1) Apologies for absence
- 2) Confirming Minutes from 06.10.06
- 3) Matters arising
- 4) District reports – NE NW SE and SW
- 5) Technical Adv report
- 6) Grants
- 7) Date and place of next Meeting
- 8) AOB