

**THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN  
GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS**

Founded 20 June 1879 as the Winchester Diocesan Guild

*Presidents:* THE RIGHT REVD THE LORD BISHOP OF WINCHESTER  
THE RIGHT REVD THE LORD BISHOP OF PORTSMOUTH

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th MARCH 2013  
AT ST. BARNABAS' CHURCH HALL, LODGE ROAD, SOUTHAMPTON**

**1. Opening Prayer & Master's Welcome**

The Master David Strong, supported by the Honorary General Secretary Clare Griffiths, the Honorary General Treasurer Michael Bubb and Minute Secretary Pam Thompson, opened the meeting by leading in prayer.

The other members attending were Andy Banks, Roger Barber, Diana Bishop, Edd Colliss, John Davey, David Forder, Barry Fry, Madeline King, Simon King, Peter Niblett, John Palk, Ian Rees, Maureen Routh, Tony Smith, Mary Tester, Lucy Hopkins Till, Mike Hopkins Till and Matthew Wilks.

**2. Apologies for absence**

Alan Barsby, Michael Church, Keith Gillings, Nigel Herriott, Christine Knights-Whittome, Jane LeConte, Janet McCoy, Viv Nobbs, Bruce Purvis and Barbara Townsend.

**3. Loss of Members from death since the last Meeting**

Jean Blacklaws	Clatfords
Sidney Bull	Romsey Abbey
Barbara (Burple) Carey	Vale
Jim Jones	Christchurch
Rev Norman Smith	Buriton

**4. Minutes of the last Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2012 had been distributed with the agenda for this meeting. They were signed as a true record by the Master with no amendments.

## **5. Matters arising from the minutes**

### **i) Guild Service Books**

The situation with the Guild Service Books was the same as reported in paragraph 5 ii of the previous minutes.

### **ii) Ringing for the Jubilee**

Bruce Purvis had carried out an analysis of the Jubilee ringing and 850 Guild members had been involved in the ringing (not 800 as stated in paragraph 5 iii of the previous minutes).

### **iii) Proposal to update and publicise the Bishopstoke Ringing Centre**

The Abel simulator software had now been upgraded and details had been included in the Guild Report and on the Guild website.

### **iv) Discussion paper on Change Ringing for the Future**

David Strong had completed the CCCBR survey and sent it to Chris Mew and a copy was available on request. Feedback from the Districts on the question of what members would like to see in the future by way of recruitment and training resources had not taken place because the ambit had been too wide. David Strong indicated that he would be happy to write a paper but was not sure of the exact brief.

## **6. Honorary Life Membership Proposals – 50 years membership**

Leonard T Perrins from Ringwood had achieved 50 years membership and would be presented with a certificate at the AGM.

## **7. Reports and Accounts for 2012**

### **i. Honorary General Secretary**

Clare Griffiths' report had been circulated with the agenda.

### **ii. Honorary General Treasurer**

Mike Bubb's revised accounts had been circulated at the meeting. The funds were in a healthy state. The report and accounts were seconded by Mike Hopkins Till and carried.

### **iii. Honorary Librarian & Archivist**

Bruce Purvis' report and accounts had been circulated with the agenda. The reports and accounts were seconded by John Davey and carried.

### **iv. Honorary Peal Recorder**

Edd Colliss' report had been circulated with the agenda. The report was seconded by Roger Barber and carried.

### **v. Belfry Stewardship Committee**

Roger Barber's Belfry Stewardship Committee's report and accounts had been circulated with the agenda. Although Whitechapel was the official sub-contractor for the restoration work at West Tytherley, the problem had been sorted by Matthew Higby. John Palk would make an appropriate amendment before the report was published. The report and accounts were seconded by Diana Bishop and carried.

#### **vi. Communications Committee**

David Forder's report and accounts had been circulated with the agenda. David Forder asked the members whether they still wanted a printed Guild newsletter. After some discussion, Tony Smith proposed that Guild Newsletters should be freely available on the website. This was seconded by John Davey and carried. It was also agreed that all Districts should be asked to send copies of their newsletters to the Committee.

There was also a Guild Facebook Group. Reference to this group should be printed in the Guild Report and David Forder would liaise over the wording with John Palk.

The report and accounts were seconded by Diana Bishop and carried.

#### **vii. Education Committee**

Christine Knights-Whittome's report and accounts had been circulated with the agenda. They were seconded by Peter Niblett and carried.

#### **viii. Social Committee**

The Social Committee report and accounts had been prepared by Clare Griffiths and circulated with the agenda. These were seconded by John Davey and carried.

#### **ix. Striking Competition Committee**

The report and accounts had already been accepted at the November meeting.

#### **x. 2012 Quarter Peal Analysis**

Alan Buswell's quarter peal analysis and comments were discussed at the meeting. Tony Smith expressed reservations about including the number of quarter peals rung for each tower since 1960 in the Guild Report as these figures were not always accurate. After some discussion it was agreed that his report should be included in the Guild Report but not the number of tower quarter peals.

David Strong thanked all the committees for their work during the year.

### **8. Bell Restoration Fund**

Barry Fry reported that the BRF funds were in quite a healthy state and welcomed applications for bell restoration projects. He updated the members on the current projects. The bells at Heckfield would be back in place by Easter. The faculty had been received by Hinton Admiral and a start date for the work was planned for September 2013. A new bell had been cast by Taylors for Minstead and the work would be completed towards the end of the year.

An application for a grant had been received from Northington for the refurbishment of the bells. Two quotations had been received from Nicholsons and Matthew Higby. It was likely that the quotation from Matthew Higby would be accepted which was for £10,565 plus VAT. The Trustees would be recommending a grant of £1,000 for consideration at the AGM.

The accounts had been approved by the Trustees and final approval would take place at the AGM.

## **9. Education Committee Proposal – Finance for Projector**

David Strong had put forward a proposal for the Guild to purchase a projector and screen as the Education Committee currently had to borrow equipment from external organisations to run PowerPoint presentations. After some discussion, David agreed to amend his proposal “That the Guild purchase a projector and a 158 cm wide tripod screen at an expected cost of £400 plus a contingency of £100 for a projector stand and that this equipment be on permanent loan to the Education Committee but generally available for use within the Guild”. This was seconded by Tony Smith and carried.

## **10. Ringing World Calendar 2016**

Nigel Herriott proposed that the Guild provide a ringing calendar in the year of the CCCBR visit in 2016. This was agreed by members at the meeting and it was noted that a photographer would be required to take photographs.

## **11. Vacant Guild Posts**

- i. BRF Fund Raising Committee**
- ii Public Relations Officer**
- iii. Social Committee**

No proposals were put forward

## **12. Future Events and 2013 Meetings**

### **Striking Competitions**

Guild Inter-Tower 6-bell	6th April 2013	Abbots Ann
Guild Inter-Tower 8-bell	6th April 2013	Goodworth Clatford
Guild Inter-District 8-bell	6th July 2013	Jersey
Guild Inter-District 10-bell	7th September 2013	East Meon

Peter Niblett reported that the striking competitions on the 6th April 2013 were now all organised and information was now available.

### **Events and Meetings**

District Officers’ Forum	23rd March 2013	St Barnabas’ Church Hall
Annual General Meeting	6th July 2013	Jersey
Executive Committee	16th November 2013	St Barnabas’ Church Hall

## **13. Any Other Business**

### **i) Guild Badges**

Clare Griffiths reported that there were 25 Guild badges remaining since the last purchase in 2011. It was agreed that Clare would make enquiries as to cost for purchasing more badges and that the final decision as to whether to go ahead should be left to the principal Guild officers.

### **ii) Close**

The Master closed the meeting at 11.35 am.