

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

CENTRAL BUCKS BRANCH

Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 13th February 2010 at 5pm in QUINTON

The meeting was held in Church of the Holy Cross and St Mary Quainton and was attended by 25 CBB members representing 12 branches and the ODG Deputy Master, North Bucks Branch Chairman and 2 NBB visitors (list available on request)

Chairman's Opening Remarks

Acting chairman Jan Robinson opened the meeting welcoming all present. She reported on the deaths of four well known and respected ringers during the year. Bill Thatcher- long term tower captain of Padbury and honorary ODG member; Maurice Jamieson - founder member of the branch and tower captain of Gt Horwood; Reg Darvill - branch vice president and ODG honorary member; Katrina Dalton of Quainton. The meeting observed a minute's silence in their memory.

1. Apologies for absence

Greeba Cochrane, Caroline & James Stonham, Robert Newton, Kate Edgar, Geoff Aldridge, Margaret Lowrey & other Winslow ringers, James, Marika, Julie & Andrew Haseldine, Jeremy & Anne Pratt

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting held at Wing on 14th Feb 2009

No amendments were made. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Jane Vowles, seconded by Mary Lee and carried nem con..

3. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda - none

4.Reports: Written reports were received from the Vice Chairman, Joint Secretaries, Treasurer (accounts), Ringing Master and Training Officer. (copies available on request)

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by David Body seconded by Paul Bagni and carried nem con.

5. Membership

a) Distribution of Certificates - noted that most of the new members certificates from the 09 AGM had already been distributed by Andrzej. One corrected one was handed out.

b) Election of New Members: the following new members were elected, subject to payment of the annual subscription:

Stewkley: Madeleine Knightley, Caroline Luxford, Kirsty Anya Shefford, Sally Shefford, Jonathan Sheldon

Proposed by Bunt Scott and seconded by Ailsa Knightley

Wingrave: Carline de Gribaldi

Proposed by Alan Frost and seconded by Geoffrey Aldridge

Winslow: Robin Rhodes, Oliver Rhodes

Proposed by Diana Slevin and seconded by Mandy Cliffe

Aylesbury: Emma Wells

Proposed by Mike Dodd and seconded by Peter Fay

Gt Horwood James Samways (re-election)

Proposed by Ryan Noble and seconded by Paul Bagni

c) Nominations for Distinguished Members

The meeting noted the revised rules and categories of membership for acknowledging long service in active members. Jan Robinson proposed and Diana Slevin seconded that Terry Wagstaff of Whitchurch be put forward by the Branch for the new category of Distinguished member. This was carried. Jan will now prepare a citation outlining Terry's extensive service as Tower Captain, on the CBB committee and on Guild business and forward this, with the proposal to the Honorary Secretary of the Guild for approval and ratification at the Guild AGM.

6. Election of Officers

Chairman: Jan Robinson, proposed by Peter Fay seconded by David Body
(Diana Slevin took the chair for this item)
Vice Chairman: no nominations received - *vacant*
Secretary: Diana Slevin, proposed by David Body seconded by Paul Bagni
Treasurer: John Lomas, proposed by Terry Wagstaff seconded by Paul Bagni
Ringing Master: Heather Dobson, proposed by Jane Vowles seconded by Phil Roberts
Deputy Ringing Master: Jane Vowles, proposed by Heather Dobson seconded by Peter Fay
Training Officer: Hal Drysdale, proposed by Paul Bagni seconded by Ailsa Knightley
Branch Reps (2): Heather Dobson, proposed by Terry Wagstaff seconded by and
Hal Drysdale, proposed by Ryan Noble seconded by Paul Bagni
Branch Stewards(2): Paul Bagni, proposed by Phil Roberts , seconded by Hal Drysdale
no second nomination - *vacant*
Independent Examiner: Kate Edgar, proposed by Phil Roberts seconded by Heather Dobson
All nominations were elected nem con

7. Branch Matters

a) Transfer of towers to N Bucks Branch

The following resolution from the committee was considered and put to the vote:
"Following representations made at the 2009 AGM by the North Bucks branch and a unanimous petition from the ringers at Padbury and Hillesden, the Central Bucks Branch of the ODG resolves to recommend to the ODG General Committee that Padbury and Hillesden be transferred from the remit of the Central Bucks Branch to the North Bucks Branch" Carried nem con.

Note: This will take effect from the date of the ODG General Committee at which it is accepted.

b) CBB Website: Hal Drysdale reported on the progress on the new site www.bellringing.biz/cbb
This has recently gone live and will shortly be linked from the ODG website as the official site. Ryan Noble is assisting with the site.

c) Newsletter: Jan appealed for a volunteer to take over the newsletter and Diana Slevin offered to take it into the secretary's duties. In order to expedite delivery and avoid postal charges, the newsletter will be distributed by email where possible and posted on the website, but print copies will also continue be sent to those not able to have access via the internet. A schedule of dates will be provided starting with an immediate edition that will include a report on the AGM.

d) Other communications: the circulation system for items such as Odd Bob will be re-examined

e) Recruitment: some ideas for recruitment were discussed. Diana Slevin reported that the committee had been pleased with the response at the events where a mini ring was present e.g. at the Deanery stand at the Bucks Show but had decided not to book one for events unless a third party was bearing the cost. In this case we could offer to run it on the day. Ongoing contacts with Bucks CC might result in a ringing stand possibly with a mini ring at some events in 2010. Alan Marchbank recommended that contact be made with the ODG Education Committee which might be able to offer some forms of assistance. It was suggested that we pool ideas from various

towers to develop a recruitment strategy.

8. Branch programme.

a)Practices: Branch, Progress and Advanced - provisional list of activities was available. It was reported that the idea of varying the timing of the regular branch practices would be tried to see if it proved popular with members. E.g. the Mursley practice, rescheduled for April 10th will be held in the morning 10-12am

b)Striking Competitions

The June 6 Bell striking competition is due to be held on June 12th at East Claydon (tbc) and Chiltern Branch are due to host the Orchard Cup 3rd Sat in October. Members were urged to encourage more teams to enter as turnout had been disappointing in 2009..

c)Branch Outings

Hal Drysdale reported that he was planning another family based outing this time centred on the GWR steam railway near Cheltenham for June 26th.

Jan Robinson offered to organise the traditional outing on September 11th and invited suggestions for areas to go to e.g. David Body suggested a trip to North London similar to the previous Wing outing which had used an historic bus.

d) Christmas Dinner

Ideas were invited for a pub able to cope with a large party probably in January 2011, preferably in the Bierton area.

e)Guild Events

The AGM is scheduled for May 15th at a Newbury Branch tower. Alan Marchbank reminded the meeting of the call for special ringing events to mark the 100th anniversary of the death of the Rev Robinson, the first Master of the guild. Anything taking place should be reported to the current Master.

9. Any Other Business

a) Vote of thanks: Ailsa Knightley proposed a vote of thanks be recorded to Heather Dobson and Hal Drysdale for their work helping towers such as hers ie Stewkley, to progress ringers.

b) The Branch 'Swindle': for various reasons this Branch Practice raffle had not been held at all practices in 2009. It was agreed that the outstanding monies from 2009 subscriptions be donated to the Bell Fund. Jane Vowles offered to help Phil Roberts run this in 2010.

c) Guild Bell Funds: it was reported that CBB's contributions to the Bell Fund over the last few years totalled less than the benefit received from it, and that in general CBB donated less than other branches. It was agreed to encourage towers to think of ways to raise more money for the funds and publish a list of suggestions. One idea for all members was to offer them the opportunity to add a sum to their annual subscription. Jane Vowles reported that the collection at this AGM and half the money contributed for teas would be donated to the fund

d) Meeting thanks: from the Chair, Jan Robinson offered the meeting's thanks to all at Quainton for their hard work in enabling the AGM notably the Vicar Rev Phillip Mears, Organist June Hanson, Tower Captains Jane Vowles and Phil Roberts.

Date of Next AGM Saturday February 12th 2011 venue Winslow

The meeting closed at 6pm