

# OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

## CENTRAL BUCKS BRANCH

### Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2011 at 5pm in WINSLOW

The meeting was held in the St Laurence Room and was attended by 27 CBB members representing 14 branches and the ODG Secretary (list available on request)

#### Chairman's Opening Remarks

Chairman Jan Robinson opened the meeting welcoming all present.

#### 1. Apologies for absence

ODG Master, Bunt Scott, Jeremy Pratt, Hal Drysdale, Caroline & James Stoneham, Caroline & James Stonham, Jo Anderson & other Winslow ringers, James & Marika Haseldine, June Hanson, Judy Marshall, Jane Shrimpton, MJ Fowler,

#### 2. Minutes of the Last Meeting held at Quinton on 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010

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

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

**4.Reports:** Written reports were received from the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer (accounts), Ringing Master, Branch Rep, Training Officer and Webmaster. (copies available on request)

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by John Lomas seconded by Caroline Luxford and carried nem con.

#### 5. Membership

a) *Certificates* – noted the new members certificates from the 10 AGM had already been distributed. John Lomas asked for names to be accurately recorded and signed off by the towers as there had been some problems with incorrect spellings last year..

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

Gt Horwood – **Giles Martin** Proposed by David Moore Seconded by Diana Slevin

Nether Winchenden **Charlotte, Rosanna and Sarah Evans; Edward, James and Matthew Hall;**

**Daniel, Oliver and Rebecca Porteous** Proposed by Anne Pratt Seconded by Andrew Haseldine

Chearsley **Helen Pratt** Proposed by Anne Pratt Seconded by Andrew Haseldine

Long Crendon **Lily Hawkes and Anna Miller** Proposed by Julie Haseldine Seconded by Andrew Haseldine

Quinton **Christina Galatanu** Proposed by Jane Vowles Seconded by Philip Roberts

Marsh Gibbon **Arthur Slaymaker and Graham Gulliver** Proposed by Edwin Herring Seconded by Diane Wood

#### c) Nominations for Distinguished Members –none

## 6. Election of Officers

Chairman: Jan Robinson, proposed by Ailsa Knightley seconded by David Body  
( Diana Slevin took the chair for this item)

Vice Chairman: no nominations received – *vacant*

Secretary: Diana Slevin, proposed by Paul Bagni seconded by Caroline Luxford

Treasurer: John Lomas, proposed by Kate Edgar seconded by Jane Vowles

Ringling Master: Heather Dobson, proposed by Ryan Noble seconded by Paul Bagni

Deputy Ringling Master: no nominations received – *vacant*

Thanks to Jane Vowles who stood down after several years

Training Officer: Hal Drysdale, proposed by Ailsa Knightley seconded by Heather Dobson

Branch Reps (2): Heather Dobson, proposed by Jane Vowles seconded by Paul Bagni and

Caroline Luxford proposed by Ryan Noble seconded by Paul Bagni

Branch Stewards(2): Paul Bagni, proposed by Ailsa Knightley , seconded by Heather Dobson

Ryan Noble proposed by Caroline Luxford seconded by Ailsa Knightley

Independent Examiner: Kate Edgar, proposed by Philip Roberts seconded by Jane Vowles

All nominations were elected nem con

## 7. Branch Matters

a) *Bell maintenance expertise* : Jan Robinson proposed that a register of people be established who can help with issues like broken ropes, stays etc. Andrew Haseldine offered to be the point of contact for this both to hold the list of volunteers and to deal with queries. Paul Bagni offered to assist him. Heather Dobson urged that more people be encouraged to go on Bell Maintenance Courses.

b) *Ringers Availability* – with increase demand for wedding and funeral ringing, often mid week it was agreed to establish a list of people willing to be called on by other towers. Dian Slevin agreed to set this up and run it. Minimum ringing requirement to be good basic ringing even if only rounds and call changes.

c) *Mid Week Ringers group* – Jan proposed the establishment of a social group to meet up to ring at a few towers and maybe lunch together probably monthly and on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. It was agreed to pursue the idea.

d) *Website* – referring to his report, Ryan Noble underlined that he was having problems pursuing the establishment of good emailing lists by the Guild. Anne Pratt offered to assist him with following this up. Ryan appealed for information to be sent to him for the website and also for the updating of contacts etc.

e) *Communications* – Diana Slevin apologised for not having mastered the circulation of print material such as Odd Bob yet and will be addressing this. The ODG are asking for feedback on whether we will accept just .pdf ie electronic copies of the Annual Report. For the 2010 report, enough print copies have been ordered for one per tower and some extra and the pdf will be made available for those who want it.. The 2011 CBB newsletter formats will be change to be easier to print at home and possibly with short e versions with 'click throughs' to the information on the cbb website.

f) *Young Ringers and Recruitment* – with considerable progress being made in recruiting and supporting young ringers, members were invited to share some ideas. These included: Open Days, Junior school initiatives, speaking at Family Services, working with other branches, involving parents, making it fun, forming a social group, giving a Bell tuition course as a raffle prize....

## **8. Branch programme.**

a) *Practices*: Branch, Progress and Advanced - provisional list of activities was distributed. The towers for the traditional Saturday practices are again being chosen a 3yr cycle looking at geographic spread, numbers of bells and other considerations when planning.

The idea of Saturday practices being in the morning had been tried at one tower with limited success. It was suggested that perhaps one of the practices in the winter months could be planned for a morning to mitigate against weather and travel difficulties.

### *b) Striking Competitions*

The June 6 Bell striking competition is due to be held on June 11<sup>th</sup> at North Marston

CBB is hosting the Orchard Cup on October 8<sup>th</sup> at East Claydon.

Members were urged to encourage more teams to enter. In June 2010 at Whitchurch, the inclusion of a youth team and other scratch teams had made the completion more fun in addition to choosing the team for the Guild 6 bell competition. A BBQ afterwards had added to the occasion. It was hope to build on this success in 2011.

### *c) September Branch Outing*

Ryan Noble offered to organise the towers for this outing with Kate Edgar sorting the transport.

### *d) Christmas Dinner*

The last dinner had taken place in Berton in January and had been very successful with 33 people attending. The next one will be on January 14<sup>th</sup> 2012 at a venue to be decided

e) *Guild Events* were noted on the Diary of Events sheet including the AGM 21<sup>st</sup> May in Bicester Branch

f) *Ringing World Centenary* March 26<sup>th</sup> London. Ryan reported that this will include features such as Whitechapel Foundry open, Towers open, City Walks, Exhibitions and mini rings, Young Ringers striking competition, Westminster Abbey activities, etc and that some tickets were still available

## **9. Any Other Business**

a) *Grandsire Quarter Peal by Grandparent ringers* – Richard Goldson reported that Edmund Waller was seeking to set this up this year and called for volunteers.-

d) *Meeting thanks*: from the Chair, Jan Robinson offered the meeting's thanks to all at Winslow for their hard work in enabling the AGM notably the Rector Belinda Searle-Barnes, Tower Captains Diana Slevin and Mandy Cliffe and Winslow ringers for the teas.

**Date of Next AGM**      Saturday February 11<sup>th</sup> 2012 venue to be decided

The meeting closed at 6pm

*Note – subsequent to the meeting it was realised that, in accordance with the rules, an item on Bell Funds should have been included. This will be rectified in 2012. In the meantime the Funds will be promoted through the Newsletters and Website.*