

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHANGE RINGERS

CENTRAL BUCKS BRANCH

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Quainton on Saturday 11 September 2021

Chairman's Opening Remarks

The meeting was chaired by Katie Lane the ODG Master who introduced herself and explained that she was sitting in for our previous chairman who had resigned prior to leaving the area. She introduced the meeting to the Rose Bowl previously held by FE Robinson, Master of the Guild for many years. The bowl was found by the family and returned to the Guild.

Apologies for absence

Caroline and James Stonham, Andrew and Julie Haseldine, Reg Caldwell, Aylesbury tower due to them having their Heritage Day, Janet Pentony and all Winslow tower due to them ringing for a wedding, Peter Fay, David Body, Tony Hoskinson, Sally and Neil Shefferd, Maebh Fox, Simon Head, Eden Horwood, Richard Goldson, Terry and Carol Wagstaff, Peter Betts

Minutes of the Last Meeting held at Wingrave on 8th Feb 2020

The minutes were agreed and duly signed

Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda

None

Reports

Treasurer including adoption of accounts

I would like to start by thanking John Lomas for completing the accounts for 2020 before handing over to me. This was due to COVID and us not being able to change the mandate at the bank.

We would like to propose that this year no subs be collected as there has been little or no ringing. The branch has more than sufficient funds to pay our premium to the ODG.

Proposed by John Lomas, seconded by Ailsa Knightley, vote was all in favour

We have 3 accounts with HSBC who have decided to start charging for Community Accounts. I have done some investigating, and although all the major banks offer free banking for Community Accounts, they are using COVID as an excuse not to accept any new applications. I propose that we amalgamate our accounts into 1 in the first instance and in the meantime I will investigate further. Do I have the meetings approval to do this and may I move banks if I find somewhere I am able to move to for free?

Proposed Ailsa Knightley, vote was all in favour

Due to COVID there was nothing further to report.

Membership

Election of New Members 3 new members were proposed and elected, Eric Croker, Alex Croker and Karen Pile. Proposed by Katie Lane and seconded by Ailsa Knightley

Nominations for distinguished members None

Election of Officers Due to the resignation of all but a few members of the Committee and the reluctance of individuals to commit at the meeting it was decided that those positions agreed would be elected. All other names would be listed and the roles distributed at the next committee meeting.

Treasurer Ailsa Knightley

Deputy ringing masters Andrew Haseldine and Ailsa Knightley

Web master Ted Robinson

Independent Examiner John Lomas

Other names to be on the committee; Sherri Woodland, Maebh Fox, Janet Pentony, Oliver Rhodes, Rachel Sheppard, Jan Robinson, David Body, Graham Gulliver, Karen Pile, John Chantler, Cristina Galatanu

Branch Matters None

George Edmans Bell Fund Nothing to report

Recruitment & Training TBA

Communications Reminder that Tower representatives should share all emails coming from the ODG or branch with the rest of their members

Branch programme, Practices, Striking Competition, Branch Outing, Orchard Cup, Annual Dinner, Guild Events, Special events 2022 All TBA

Any Other Business Brief discussion regarding the Guild 6 bell striking competition. We will try to field a team but not sure if we can within the rules.

Date of Next Annual General Meeting To be held on Saturday 12 February 2022, hopefully at East Claydon

ADDENDUM TO THE MEETING

A further meeting of Committee members was held at the Carpenters Arms Pub in Stewkley on 17 October 2021.

Those present: Ailsa Knightley, David Body, Jan and Ted Robinson, John Lomas, Sherri Woodland, John Chantler, Cristina Galatanu, Janet Pentony, Oliver Rhodes, Maebh Fox, Barry Eggesfield.

This meeting was chaired by Ailsa Knightley.

In the light of having to have a completely new Committee and many towers are now struggling to return to full ringing after 18 months of COVID restrictions, we as a Committee want to concentrate on getting people back to ringing by supporting as much as possible.

We first discussed and elected Committee members.

Chairman	Sherri Woodland (Stewkley)
Vice Chairman	Oliver Rhodes (Winslow)
Secretary	Cristina Galatanu
Deputy Secretary	Karen Pile
Treasurer	Ailsa Knightley
Ringing Masters	Ailsa Knightley, Andrew Haseldine. However, where the resident ringing master of a tower feels able they will run practices.
Branch Rep	Kate Edgar
Web Master	Ted Robinson
Independent Examiner	John Lomas

The understanding we have come to is that we are all busy and ringing does not necessarily dominate our lives. Therefore everyone on the Committee should consider themselves deputies, and if a request is circulated and a member can help, they should volunteer in order that we share the load.

Other Business:

We would like to restore regular ringing in as many towers as possible and encourage support between towers. Due to the current rate of COVID infections we will not be running the normal monthly practices. However, we will encourage towers to get in touch with their urgent needs and Ailsa has volunteered to run a practice once a month until the next AGM for specific invited ringers in order to encourage learning. (The first of these was held on Saturday 23 October concentrating on Plain Hunt).

An email will be generally circulated asking towers to make requests for help.

We would also encourage towers to approach / support local towers to them where possible.