

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at St. John's Sidcup on Saturday, 12th July 2003

The Chairman, David Holdridge, welcomed everyone to the meeting and went on to thank Mark Jones for chairing the April meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Sara Hardy from Beckenham, Louise and Monica Hanscomb from Biggin Hill, Nicholas Wilkins from Chelsfield, Roger Long from St. Nicholas, Chislehurst, Andrew Sinclair from Crayford, Brenda Barton, Esther Correia, Deryck Jones, Peter Rose and Marian Wansbury from Dartford, Mark, Rachel, Christopher and Robert Backhouse from Christ Church Erith, and Freda Cannon and the Greenwich band.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting, which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed on the proposition of Jeremy Byers, seconded by James Hardy.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Website

James Hardy said that the website had been updated and would be updated again shortly.

Annual General Meeting

It was reported that the motion regarding attendance at County Committee Meetings, which had originated as a request from this District, had been discussed at the Annual General Meeting. The main part had been passed, although a second motion, which would have reduced still further the size of the Committee, had been rejected.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Shoreham

Since the last meeting there had been some discussion of the situation at Shoreham, arising from an e-mail from Catherine Lewis of the Tonbridge District, who had been helping out with the newly-formed band, along with Frank Rogers of Eynsford. Frank was having to reduce his commitment and, as she was unable to help out on a more regular basis, Catherine suggested that experienced help was needed for the band to make progress. She also wondered whether the tower would be better served by transferring to the Tonbridge District. James Hardy did not think that this would necessarily assist them. He felt that since the tower was in our District we should help and asked if there was anyone who would be prepared to do so regularly, but not necessarily every week, to get in touch with him. It was felt that if we were able to provide regular help then we would be allowed to run the practice and it was agreed that efforts should be made to make suitable arrangements.

Quarter Peal Day at Dover - 16th August

The District had been invited to send a band to Dover to take part in the Quarter Peal Day there on 16th August to mark the completion of work on the bells. James Hardy agreed to make the arrangements.

5. ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS

There were no new members but some of those elected in April and had not been able to attend that meeting, were welcomed.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

E-mails

Nancy Gay complained about the huge amount of 'rubbish' on the District "Yahoo" mailing list and made a fervent plea that the mailing list should be reserved for information which is of interest to everyone. It was agreed that individual e-mail addresses should be used for everything else.

Training Sub-Committee

Philippa Rooke drew attention to the Training Sub-Committee poster. Copies of this were available for each tower from the Secretary.

Dartford Show

Andrew Boyd-Bell wondered if any members would be interested in a District presence at the Dartford Show in 2004, which was held each year at the end of July. It was agreed that anyone who was interested in this venture should get in touch with Andrew.

County Committee Meeting

Len Morley said that someone had pointed out that the County website refers at one point to "Conditions of Membership", but these do not exist. This would be one of the topics for discussion at the forthcoming County Committee Meeting. Members felt that 'Conditions of Membership' were the same as 'Rules' - and, if necessary, the website should be amended to refer to these. Also, under this heading, it was mentioned that funding was available for training but that it was necessary to bid for it.

Other matters concerned the need for ringers for a wedding at The Annunciation, Chislehurst, on 19th July and details were given of a practice at Beckenham on the same day. Venues for practices were asked for and Sidcup was offered.

Eight-Bell Striking Competition

The District offered its warm congratulations to the team that had won the County Eight-Bell Striking Competition, at Benenden, by a comfortable margin.

Vote of Thanks

The Chairman offered a warm vote of thanks to the Vicar of Sidcup, Canon Paul Wright, for the use of the bells, to the Curate, Gareth Beresford-Jones, for taking the service, to Lynton Cope for playing the organ and to the Sidcup ringers for making the local arrangements.