



Maidstone District

The Kent County Association of Change Ringers

Maidstone District

Master: David Grimwood
Secretary: Betsy Piercey
<https://kacr.org.uk>

MINUTES

Quarterly District Meeting
Saturday 11 January 2020 at 4.00 pm
St Lawrence, Mereworth

2020/QMA01 Apologies for absence:
Heather Knowler (Chart Sutton), Nigel Baker (Hollingbourne),
Tom and Jacqui Barlow (Maidstone St Michael & All Angels), Dot Hooker (Otham),
Charles Tassell (Ulcombe), Nick Crutchfield (West Malling),
Liz and Phil Barnes (Wrotham)

2020/QMA02 Minutes and Matters arising: ADM Otham 12 October 2019:
Minutes proposed by the Master, seconded by Chris Bassett.
The Minutes were accepted and there were no matters arising.

2020/QMA03 Election of new members:
Henrik Hansen (Yalding) – present at Meeting
Proposed: Richard Young, Seconded: Margaret Prevett
Barbara Meacham (Staplehurst)
Proposed: Sue Bassett, Seconded: Roy Barclay
Judith Robinson (Ightham)
Proposed: Elizabeth Harland, Seconded: Elizabeth Barnes

The proposed new Members were unanimously elected. The Master welcomed them to the Association and presented Henrik Hansen with his Membership Certificate.

2020/QMA04 August Summer Activity:
After general discussion of ideas put forward at the Meeting, it was agreed that holding a summer activity in August was not feasible, mainly due to the numbers of ringers who would not be available in August to help provide the activities. The Master suggested having an activity session following the District Quarterly Meeting on 11 July at Birling. Sue Bassett suggested having a raise and lower in peal session in the church and other activities such as a picnic or similar, and maybe a rounders match, nearby. These suggestions met with approval from the Meeting.
ACTION: Activity Session to be moved to 11 July, to follow the DQM.
No Summer Activity to take place in August.

2020/QMA05 Forthcoming events:

- (a) **District Practice Aylesford 8 February.**
- (b) **District 6 bell Call Change/Striking Competition Hunton 14 March:**
The Master encouraged **all** towers to enter and asked that the event be regarded as a Display rather than a Competition. This suggestion met with approval from the Meeting.
- (c) **Review arrangements for the 2020 Carol Service:**
The venue for this year's Carol Service is currently West Farleigh but the bells have no stays or sliders and the church wants the bells to be chimed only. The Master asked if there is any desire to continue to use 3-bell towers. The general consensus was that this was desirable as it meant that all the towers in Kent with ringable 3 bells upwards are kept involved within the KCACR. Terry Barnard pointed out that Addington, which has 4 bells, is a particularly suitable venue as it has excellent facilities on site. The Master said we will continue to try to have West Farleigh for the Carol Service. Brian Butcher is involved in looking at this matter.
IT WAS AGREED THAT 3 and 4-bell towers should remain included in District events.

2020/QMA06 Any Other Business:

- (a) **Training:** The Master said that the KCACR Training Fund can be used for training equipment, e.g. simulators, and well as for Courses.
Terry Barnard, Ringing Master, reminded the Meeting that at the ADM last October (ADM Minutes 2019/ADM04 para. 2(b)) he welcomed requests for specific instruction, eg.in raising and lowering in peal, a special method or areas of a method, to be included in a half-hour training session beginning at 9.30am before the District Practice.
ACTION: Attendees at the forthcoming District Practice at Aylesford on 8 February to contact Terry in advance with their training request, which can be emailed to Members prior to the District Practice.
- (b) **Salient Points from KCA Committee Meeting on 30 November 2019:**
Chris Bassett, District Representative, reported the salient points from the Meeting. The full Minutes can be found on the Document Library section of the Association website.
Chris asked for a representative from the District to attend the General Committee Meeting to take notes on 2nd May at Maginford Hall, Egremont Road, Bearsted as he cannot attend. There were no volunteers.
- (c) The Master reported that **Taylor's of Loughborough** have launched an Appeal for funds to maintain their building. Leaflets were available at the Meeting.
- (d) **KCACR AGM 2021** - Maidstone District will be hosting this AGM and three towers have offered to host it. It has been decided reluctantly that Maidstone All Saints is not a logistically feasible venue as it is a long walk from the church to the school which has offered to host the Meeting and provide the refreshments. Also the cost and problems with parking in the

town centre were factors in this decision. Therefore the event will be at either Wrotham or Leeds, the other two churches who have offered to host the AGM. The date is likely to be Saturday 8th May 2021.

- (e) **Risk Assessments for Young Ringers** - Chris Bassett asked anyone with queries on risk assessment matters relating to young ringers to contact Jen Thomas, Association Youth Officer. Risk Assessment documents are in the Document Library section on the Association website.
- (f) **120 Club** – Mal Williams would like to encourage subs to be paid directly into the Bank. However, subs can still be paid by cheque if preferred. An email will be sent out shortly. Members should please remember to state their ID Number.

The Master thanked the Ringing Master for his sterling work, Betsy for her work behind the scenes, Robert Earl, Churchwarden, for his welcome and ensuring the church was heated, the tea providers for the excellent refreshments, and everyone for attending the Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 4.50 pm.

Betsy Piercey
District Secretary
15 January 2020

Signed as a true record by the Master

On _____