



**MINUTES of the General Committee Meeting held by ZOOM on  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2021 10.00-12.30**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:-**

Association Chairman (& CC Rep 1)	PB	Phillip Barnes			
General Secretary	SB	Sue Bassett	Central Council Rep 5	NW	Nicholas Wilkins
Association Treasurer	MP	Maureen Poole	Ashford District Rep	PCS	P. Charles Sinden
Training Officer	DG	David Grimwood	Canterbury District Rep	JH	Jo Horton
Youth Officer (& CC Rep 2)	JT	Jen Thomas	Lewisham District Rep	NS	Natalie Slator and
Bell Restoration Officer	BB	Brian Butcher		SS	Svetlana Sokolova
Central Council Rep 3	DD	Doug Davis	Maidstone District Rep	CB	Chris Bassett
Central Council Rep 4	CS	Caroline Stockmann	Rochester District Rep	RB	Richard Bushell
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:-</b>					
Handbook Editor	DD	Doug Davis	Public Relations Officer	CS	Caroline Stockmann
Health & Safety Officer	PS	Peter Simms	Safeguarding Officer	EJ	Emma Jarvis
Peal Secretary	PB	Phillip Barnes	Webmaster	DD	Doug Davis

2021/04/1      **Apologies for Absence and Substitutions** - Tonbridge District Rep, Louise Nightingale (no substitution).

2021/04/2      **Minutes of meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021** – Minutes were proposed for approval by CB, seconded by PCS and carried nem con. They were later signed digitally by the Chairman and uploaded to the website.

2021/04/3      **Matters arising/updates from minutes**      **ACTION BY**  
 2021/04/3.1      Forthcoming Events – A festival of ringing had been suggested at previous meetings and various venues were considered in relation to suitability for good ventilation, parking, facilities, space, etc. Benenden appeared to be the most suitable in terms of space and PCS offered to make enquiries for 25<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Careful planning will be needed with an intensive risk assessment to ensure covid-security. Maypole bells could be available and Handbells were also suggested.      PCS & MP to explore Benenden as a venue for 25<sup>th</sup> September Festival of Ringing

A Memorial Day or Service to remember those who had died in the past year was raised again by PCS. PB considered that a service at one of the Kent Cathedrals would be good, but timing would be important, particularly as the virus may return in the autumn. The end of October was suggested, DG to liaise with Stephen Taylor.      A Memorial Day to be arranged by DG & PB at end of October

Striking competitions this year were unlikely but for a bit of fun, PB offered to organise an online Ringing Room competition. There was a mixed response. If the Young Ringer’s competition in November could be organised safely, then it should go ahead.

2021/04/3.2      KCACR Governance & Structure Review – PB had been underwhelmed by the number of people suggested to take part in this review. PB floated the idea that if KCACR wished to do the best for ringing, then we need first to find out what members think and want. JT advised that young people would need approaching differently to older members. There was general agreement that we need to look and listen to the membership then think how we organise this quickly.      PB to select people to help with an online and paper survey of members.

2021/04/3.3      eBells Loan Scheme – PB confirmed that the first 10 pairs had been delivered and a pair had already been requested. A refundable £20 deposit was agreed to be held into the Maidstone District account. The Loan Agreement would state that if the bells were damaged they would be replaced by the borrower.      PB to progress the launch of the eBells Loan Scheme.

2021/04/3.4      Tom Barlow Memorial KYR Handbells – PB had been liaising with all parties concerned about the proposal to refurbish a set of handbells and create carrying

	cases. He had also spoken with Jacqui Barlow who had offered to purchase a new set of Handbells in memory of Tom. This was considered an incredibly generous offer. PB agreed to speak again with both Catherine Lewis and Jacqui Barlow to ensure that a useful set of handbells is achieved in memory of Tom Barlow.	PB to liaise and ensure that a useful set of handbells is achieved in memory of Tom Barlow.
2021/04/4	<p><b>AGM 2021</b> – The draft minutes had been circulated and PB thanked everyone for their good humour during the meeting. Lots of positive feedback had been received. Three points arising from the AGM to take forward were highlighted; Peal Fees for 2021 to be zero and a rule change will be needed to make this a permanent state. Discussed whether we should go through the process to abolish the Peal Fee entirely or just for under 25's. DG suggested that Peal Ringers should be encouraged to contribute towards the towers they ring peals at, rather than pay a fee to KCACR. There was strong support to proceed with the rule change to abolish the Peal Fee entirely. PB agreed to bring back a proposal to the July meeting.</p> <p>Agreed that the Ellacombe Society Centenary publicity should be added to the KCACR weekly mailout for information and without endorsement.</p> <p>The issue raised at the AGM about the need for young ringers' Usernames within the membership database, would be worked upon by DD.</p> <p>CS commented that the work on safety advice and aerosols that PB had done was brilliant and needed to be circulated more widely to members. PB agreed to put the information online soon.</p>	<p>PB to bring proposed Rule Change to abolish Peal Fees from 2022 to the next meeting in July.</p> <p>DD to include Ellacombe Society info in KCACR weekly mailshot and sort Usernames problem.</p> <p>PB to put aerosol safety advice online.</p>
2021/04/5	<p><b>Safe Return to Ringing &amp; Recruitment</b> – Details of the ART Ringing Recovery network meeting had been circulated for information/participation and everyone was encouraged to attend. JT commented that parents of young ringers are thinking that it will be possible to go back to "normal" ringing from 21<sup>st</sup> June but people will need to make their own decisions. PB considered that any decisions needed to be as evidence-based as possible. KCACR or District events need to be managed in a safe manner using available guidance. Understood that not all District Secretaries were sending on such guidance to their District towers. PB asked that he or SB be made aware of these so that action could be taken as the material was relevant to towers as well as members, not just for Districts to keep to themselves. Agreed also to make such information part of the weekly mailshot to members.</p>	<p>District Reps to report back to PB or SB if District Secretaries were not passing on useful information to towers.</p> <p>DD to add such info to the weekly mailshot to members</p>
2021/04/6	<p><b>Finance</b> – MP spoke to her report, circulated in advance, and explained how funds had been moved amongst accounts, and the income and expenditure. New reports showed separately the KYR and General Training accounts. The Charity Commission annual return had been completed. Two insurance policies were due for renewal shortly. Agreed that the Lewisham District 120 Club Licence fee could be paid from Association funds. PB and MP were soon to speak with the Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund Chairman to discuss their capital investment of funds to give a better return than the banks, as this may be a more prudent investment for KCACR.</p>	<p>PB &amp; MP to report back with BRF Investment ideas.</p>
2021/04/7	<p><b>Policy Reviews and Insurance Policy renewals</b></p>	
2021/04/7.1	<p><u>Expenses Policy</u> – Amendments were circulated in advance and noted. DG proposed seconded by JT and agreed to the amendments.</p>	<p>SB to upload revised Policy to website</p>
2021/04/7.2	<p><u>Generic Risk Assessment</u> – The latest proposed version had been circulated. PB commented on the reference to the care of Young People and who might be harmed, should include vulnerable adults. There should also be cross-reference to the Safeguarding Policy and need for DBS checks.</p>	
2021/04/7.3	<p><u>AmTrust Personal Accident Policy</u> – SB advised that this had been renewed on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. Details of the cover had been circulated for information.</p>	
2021/04/7.4	<p><u>Ecclesiastical General Insurance Policy</u> – The renewal details had been circulated. MP raised concern that the premium had increased by over £150 from last year. PB raised queries about this insurance and whether KCACR had an insurance expert to look into this. CS commented that she had some experience in this and had conducted a review into insurances held by Associations on behalf of CCCBR. There were wide variations in costs and cover amongst Associations which bore little reflection to their size and activity. PB commented that in the CCCBR consultation about a direct membership organisation it was suggested that there could be</p>	

advantages in Associations organising insurance as a group to save costs. Meanwhile SB to liaise with Ecclesiastical to find out why the premium had increased so much and to agree the revised renewal with PB & MP.

2021/04/7.5 Ansvar Assets Insurance Policy – This policy was due for renewal on 29/05/2021 and SB had circulated the Asset Register for review. Discussed whether or not these items should remain insured. CS advised that many organisations self-insure and hold sufficient funds to replace any lost items if that should occur. The trailer would be insured by the towing vehicle's insurance when attached to it but not otherwise. There were a number of items such as the Association Badge of Office that had great historic value. An inventory of all items considered to belong to the Association should be drawn up even if they had been written-off in the accounts as having a zero value. After further discussion PB proposed, seconded by DD to discontinue the asset insurance and to self-insure in future. This was agreed by a majority. SB & PB to draw up an Inventory.

SB to cancel existing Asset Insurance and draw up an Inventory of all Association Assets, even if considered of nil value.

2021/04/8 **Forthcoming Events** (Covid-19 restrictions permitting)

2021/04/8.1 Association 8-Bell Competition 2021 – Cancelled.

2021/04/8.2 RWNYContest – 11/09/2021 – Worcester. A Ringing Festival is being considered in place of a competition but this was still envisaged to be in or around Worcester.

2021/04/8.3 Essex Trophy 2021 – 11/09/2021 – 09.45 draw. PB had been in contact with the organiser and had confirmed that we still wished to host this year, subject to a suitable venue and practicalities e.g., ventilation and space being appropriate. Ashford may not now be the best venue and a number of other towers were considered. After many suggestions it was agreed that CS should look closely at Wye and Ashford and CB would consider Staplehurst, with reports back to PB in two weeks. If none were considered feasible, we would have to advise the Essex Association to look elsewhere. PB offered to organise a band.

2021/04/8.4 Association 6-Bell Competition 2021 – 25/09/2021 – Cancelled but hopefully to become a local Ringing Festival instead.

2021/04/8.5 KYR Inter-District Striking Competition – 06/11/2021 – Lewisham District to host. Nominate a General Committee attendee as per Minute 2019/11/5.2.

2021/04/9 **Strategic Item** – Archbishop of Canterbury Patronage & Visitor Pack for 2022 had been received. No application was needed.

2021/04/10 **Youth Officer's Report** was noted.

2021/04/11 **Any Other Business**

2021/04/11.1 General Committee Meetings 2022 – 26/02/22, 30/04/22, 30/07/22 and 26/11/22. Agreed to continue with Zoom online meetings for the time being.

2021/04/11.2 Tolling for HRH Duke of Edinburgh – CS asked if the Association would supply certificates to towers had had rung for the Duke's funeral. This was considered a good idea and could be floated on the weekly mailout requesting an artist to design something suitable and in keeping with the event, e.g., dignified and respectful. Committee to decide a design at the July meeting.

2021/04/11.3 Farnborough – Noted that this was now an 8-bell tower and NW thanked everyone for their donations. He looked forward to welcoming everyone to ring there in due course.

2021/04/12 **Date of next meeting** – 24/07/21 then 27/11/21, 26/02/22, 23/04/22, 30/07/22.

Meeting closed at 12:30 after 1 hours 59 minutes and 48 seconds.

SIGNED as a true record by the Chairman, Phillip Barnes.....

DATE: 24<sup>th</sup> July 2021