



**MINUTES of the General Committee Meeting held by ZOOM on**  
**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2022 10:00-12:35**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT 16:-**

Association Chairman	NJ	Neil Jones	Central Council Rep 3	CS	Caroline Stockmann
General Secretary	SB	Sue Bassett	Central Council Rep 5	DL	Dickon Love
Association Treasurer	PJ	Peter Joyce	Ashford District Rep	MCP	Mark Chittenden-Pile
Training Officer	RD	Rupert Cheeseman	Canterbury District Rep	JH	Jo Horton
Youth Officer (& CC Rep 4)	JT	Jen Thomas	Lewisham District Rep	NS	Natalie Slator
Bell Restoration Officer	BB	Brian Butcher	Maidstone District Rep	DD	Doug Davis
Central Council Rep 1 (& Peal Sec)	PB	Phillip Barnes	Rochester District Rep	RB	Richard Bushell
Central Council Rep 2	DD	Doug Davis	Tonbridge District Rep	CL	Catherine Lewis
<b>ALSO IN ATTENDANCE 1:-</b>					
Handbook Editor	DD	Doug Davis			
Health & Safety Officer	BW	Becky Winter	Quarter Peal Secretary	AL	Anthony Leeves
Librarian	PR	Philippa Rooke	Safeguarding Officer	EJ	Emma Jarvis
Publicity Officer		VACANT	Webmaster	DD	Doug Davis

**ACTION**

2022/07/1	<b>Welcome, Apologies for Absence and Substitutions</b> – Chairman NJ welcomed all to the meeting. Phil Barnes' apologies were noted. No substitutions.	
2022/07/2	<b>Minutes of meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022</b> – The Minutes were approved nem con and signed by the Chairman.	
2022/07/3	<b>Matters arising</b>	
2022/07/3.1	2022/04/3.1 <u>KCACR Governance &amp; Structure Review Results</u> – PB had agreed to draft a written report for circulation to the General Committee. Carried forward in PB's absence.	PB
2022/07/3.2	2022/04/3.2 <u>eBells Loan Scheme Video</u> – In PB's absence, this item to be carried forward.	PB
2022/07/3.3	2022/04/3.4 <u>Ringling recruitment equipment project</u> – DD confirmed that the project was up and running. Trial run at Boxley, used by Cheriton in June and at the Ringing Festival at Goudhurst. Information is on the Website and consists of a 43" TV screen, laptop, 2 wireless cameras and a full set of instructions. Agreed to advertise this resource widely.	DD
2022/07/3.4	2022/04/11.1 <u>Membership Certificates reprint costs</u> – Item to be carried forward. SB suggested also that new certificates for Striking Competitions are needed – perhaps using a similar background/edging as the Membership Certificates. JH volunteered one of her ringers to design these for the Association, including Young Ringers.	SB JH
2022/07/3.5	2022/04/11.2 <u>Madams Court Mini-Ring</u> – NJ had circulated a detailed written report which was taken as read. There was general agreement in support of the Association taking ownership of this Mini-ring (kindly donated by the owner, Martin Hooker). BB agreed to make available the existing BRF Trailer to transport the Mini-Ring and store them together in the compound (inaccessible on Sundays). The trailer would need new tyres soon. SB mentioned that insurance could be needed. If the mini-ring was promoted well, it could have huge potential. A clear set of "Lego-type" instructions would be needed even though it was understood to be fairly easy to put up. DD & BB to work on this. A pool of volunteers would be useful to assist hirers if needed.	NJ DD BB

DD agreed to co-ordinate volunteers, maintenance and bookings for the mini-ring and liaise with BB regarding access. PJ mentioned that additions would be needed to include this in the expenses policy too. DD agreed to look into this. There was no one against the proposal to accept ownership of the Madams Court Mini-ring so NJ agreed to liaise with MH, DD & BB to move the project forward. There was understood to be a potential booking for November/December. NJ also agreed to check whether MH had any objection to changing the name of the mini-ring (raised later at AOB).

2022/07/4 **Finance & Grant applications**

2022/07/4.1 The Treasurer's Report was noted without comment. PJ & CS discussed how to account for the mini-ring expenses. Suggested it best to have a separate fund (not training, possibly promotion?) as a sub-section of the General Fund. Expenses Policy may need to be amended to include the mini-ring.

PJ

2022/07/4.2 BRF Investment Account – PB would shortly be handing over to the Chairman and Treasurer, the findings and recommendations following research with the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Carried forward in PB's absence.

PB

2022/07/4.3 Marden Project & Funding proposal – A proposal and grant funding request was expected but not yet received from Marden. SB explained about a Company Charity Giving Scheme for its employees to access, but the company concerned would not donate for religious purposes. The BRF Charity objects reference religion but understood this could be changed by the Trustees. CS & DL agreed to assist NJ, PJ & SB to achieve this. SB to forward existing BRF objects to CS & DL.

CS  
DL  
NJ  
PJ  
SB

2022/07/5 **Feedback from Events**

2022/07/5.1 Combined Festival of Ringing & Inter-District 8-bell Striking Competition – NJ felt that congratulations were due to the Tonbridge District for hosting the event. It was a good idea but the turn-out was disappointing with few ringers other than competitors taking part. Two districts had been unable to raise a band. Discussion ensued about whether or not to run it again next year. Agreed that it should be run again and MCP agreed to liaise with Ashford Chairman, Charles Sinden. Suggested date 17<sup>th</sup> June 2023. Agreed that better publicity was needed to encourage competitors, casual ringers and public participation.

MCP


2022/07/5.2 Ringling World National Youth Competition – JT reported that it had been a fantastic weekend. Exeter Cathedral had been a wonderful venue with several mini-rings, displays and public participation. The Young Ringers had enjoyed the ringing tour around the city. Slight disappointment at the Kent Team's placement but the body of experience within the team is not there at present (post covid). Competition was tough and the Judges had found very little difference amongst the standard of the top teams. NJ added that the sound of bells in the Cathedral was everywhere and the atmosphere during the day was fantastic. It was brilliant publicity for our art.

2022/07/6 **Association Archive** – PR reported no progress (due to Covid, holidays and her Church Warden duties) but temporary storage had been found. Assistance was now needed to transport 50+ boxes of material from Canterbury to Orpington, so that work could begin sifting and sorting. BB offered the Association box trailer. SB offered her campervan. PR to liaise with BB & SB. PR advised that she had been contacted by a person who had bought lots of old photographs of ringers on e-bay for a degree project, but had now donated them to KCACR. PR would scan and ask for assistance from ringers in identifying the photographs. Some were thought to date back to 1913 when York Minster bells were installed, others were thought to be of 1977 Jubilee Handbell ringers and a 1971 Annual Dinner Card. DL had been contacted by the Dobbie family (non-ringers) who had some ringing paraphernalia to pass onto the KCACR archive if wanted. PR agreed to receive this in due course.

PR  
DL

2022/07/7	<b>Training overview</b> – RC had not yet met with the District Ringing Masters to assess any training needs. SB reported that an ART M1 Training Course would be taking place at Marden shortly and agreed to co-ordinate the KCACR member delegates' details for the reimbursement of the course fees from the Training Fund.	RC SB
2022/07/8	<b>Annual Reviews</b> –Policies, Rules and Guidelines for review	
2022/07/8.1	<u>Expenses Policy</u> - <a href="#">Microsoft Word - KCACR Expenses Policy ADOPTED April 2021.docx</a> After much discussion, it was agreed nem con to link the rate per mile to the Government approved rate (currently 45p per mile). PJ to make suitable amendments to the Expenses Policy and SB to circulate a draft for approval. JT asked if this could be retrospectively applied to cover the recent RWNYS at Exeter (3 drivers). All agreed yes, to pay mileage for the Exeter competition at 45p per mile.	PJ SB
2022/07/8.2	<u>Youth Striking Competition Rules</u> – JT explained that changes to the rules had been thought necessary as not every district could field a complete team and how to deal with amalgamated district teams. After discussion it was agreed to remove reference to the Youth Trophy and permit the Youth Officer to use his/her discretion. Suggested that the trophy should be awarded to the best complete District band with Certificates to each of the actual winning band members (if different).	JT
2022/07/8.3	<u>Draft Fund-raising guidance</u> – No feedback was available from the Districts. General discussion ensued and it was emphasised that for larger events (e.g., AGM, Festival, Dinners) full details of income and expenditure should be provided to the Treasurer but receipts kept by the organiser in case of audit query. If someone asks for reimbursement, a receipt should be provided. Clarity was needed regarding AGMs as in the past the Association paid the hall hire rental direct and any food expenses were covered by ticket sales. Agreed that more clarity was needed in the written guidance. PJ and CS to liaise and report back at the November meeting.	PJ CS
2022/07/8.4	<u>Association Safeguarding Policy</u> – EJ commented that the Policy as it stood was fine (SB to update the review date and DD to upload a copy to the website). EJ requested DD to remove the out of date website pages still appearing from the former Safeguarding Officer, Nigel Spencer and to update the 4 Diocesan contact details for the Safeguarding Leads. JT requested that the Young Ringers' Parental Consent Form be updated to show the date as August 2022 and posted on the website. NJ commented that the Central Council was currently working with the House of Bishops to make its Safeguarding Policies more relevant to ringers and to get Dioceses to understand how itinerant ringers are. There is a need to make sure that flexibility is included within the guidelines. CS commented that she had done the leadership training and had given feedback that the guidance for ringers was weak. JT had requested that a camera for dedicated use by the Youth Officer/Youth Leaders be considered. SB had a digital camera to donate. General discussion ensued around the publication, storage and archive of material relating to young ringers. Various points around GDPR, Instagram use (considered private to members only), online tagging and various grey areas were raised. JT agreed to investigate this further and report back, but wished to prevent any "odd" adults taking photos of young people (eventhough they thought they were trying to be helpful).	SB DD  JT
2022/07/9	<b>Forthcoming Events</b>	
2022/07/9.1	<u>Central Council AGM &amp; Roadshow</u> – 4 <sup>th</sup> September Nottingham. Full details had been circulated and would be added to the Association Website. Although KCACR CC Reps will be there, the Roadshow is open to all at £10 per adult, free to under 18's.	
2022/07/9.2	<u>Association 6-bell Call Change &amp; Change Ringing Striking Competition 2022</u> –Saltwood 10/09/2022 – NJ had liaised with Charles Sinden and local arrangements are in place. Method competition to begin at 10 a.m., Call Change competition to start at 2 p.m., although this may be subject to change if few teams enter. JH advised that a Call Change Trophy was being made by John Haynes in the form of a bell wheel with six bells around the edge. It would have a wooden plinth added for the winner's shields. SB agreed to email all Districts to get confirmation about entrants to the competition.	JH SB

2022/07/9.3	After much discussion it was agreed that amalgamated/united benefice bands would be acceptable in both competition bands. New Certificates would also be needed. RC commented that Districts need to be encouraged to hold Call Change Ringing Competitions to enable their best bands to be fed into the Association competition. <u>Essex Trophy 2022 – 24/09/2022 St Mary, Bletchingley. Yorkshire Surprise Royal.</u> DD confirmed that a KCACR band had been selected and would be holding two practises before the competition.	DD
2022/07/9.4	<u>KCACR Choral Evensong of Remembrance – 06/11/2022 Rochester Cathedral. 1515.</u> Districts to promote this event to encourage good attendance and remember those members who had died during the past year. PR emphasised that the date clashes with many other churches own services of remembrance. NJ agreed to consider an alternative date for 2023, perhaps the third Sunday in November? Feedback please.	NJ
2022/07/9.5	<u>Kent Young Ringers Striking Competition – 18/02/2023 Stansted? 13:45-17:00 tbc.</u>	JT
2022/07/9.6	<u>Annual Dinner – Whether or not to have an Association Annual Dinner had been passed out to Districts for consideration as to its viability and likely support, but feedback was awaited. CL requested that somewhere central in Kent be considered – a Maidstone Hotel? Noted that lunches were often cheaper than evening dinners. DD offered to create an electronic survey to request direct feedback from members.</u>	DD
2022/07/9.7	<u>AGM 2023 – After much discussion, it was agreed to stick with Easter Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Venue to be confirmed in due course but, following the user-friendly church venue for the AGM 2022, with sociable picnic lunch arrangements, there was support to repeat this in future.</u>	DD
2022/07/10	<b>Youth Officer Report</b> – JT had circulated a written report which was noted. She added that Handbell ringing was progressing and hoped that Callum would soon call his first handbell quarter peal. The Barlow bells are used at every mini and KYR event.	
2022/07/11	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
2022/07/11.1	<u>London Bellringers' Advent Carol Service – 29/11/2022 6.30pm St. John's Waterloo Road.</u> District Representatives were requested to circulate details within their area.	District Reps
2022/07/11.2	<u>Ringling Recovery Champions</u> – The report of the Central Council Working group was noted and that it would be soon wound up. Many seeds had been planted but NJ considered that the question remained as to where ringing goes next.	
2022/07/11.3	<u>Bobbing</u> – NJ mentioned that Bobbing Church authorities had requested evidence of ringer's insurance. BB had reported on the condition of the bells and recommended small repairs to bits of wheel flanges. Generally, though, BB considered the bells to be in reasonable order. Understood there was little support from the church and Bobbing was likely to become "unringable" until the current clergy and PCC changes.	
2022/07/11.4	<u>Association clothing</u> – NJ had been approached by the clothing representative as to whether a charge be added for profit and/or delivery. CL had always added a small amount to ensure that no loss was made to the Association. Agreed that the Association should cover its costs but not necessarily aim to make a profit on sales.	
2022/07/11.5	<u>Ding Dong Murder on High</u> – Noted that this murder mystery event is to be staged on 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2022. <a href="#">Murder Mystery Experiences at Mercure Tunbridge Wells Hotel - Mercure Tunbridge Wells Hotel</a>	
2022/07/12	<b>Date of next meeting</b> – 26/11/2022. Agreed to hold the November 2022 meeting at Madginford Hall, Maidstone (or nearby venue if not available). Proposed following dates: 25/02/2023, 29/04/2023, 29/07/2023, 25/11/2023.	SB

SIGNED as a true record by..........on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Neil Jones, Chairman to KCACR