



Kent County Association of Change Ringers

Ashford District

Draft Minutes of the District Quarterly Meeting held at Hythe on 21st January 2023

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed 20 Ashford District members to the meeting held in the church. There were no visitors or principle KCACR officers attending.

Apologies for Absence: These were received from Karen and Rod Lebon (Beneden), Graham Epps (Warehorne), Janet Lockyer (Great Chart) and Rebecca Steele (Frittenden).

Minutes of the ADM held on Saturday 15th October 2022: The secretary explained a few minor typos had been corrected. No other comments were raised. The minutes were accepted and signed by the chairman.

The district treasurer, Sue Atkinson, pointed out that there was an incorrect year on the interim treasurer's report, but was otherwise correct.

Future Events: The following district and county events were discussed:

County Eight-Bell Striking Competition: The secretary explained that the Ashford District is responsible for organising this year's county eight-bell striking competition, to be held on the 17th of June. As last year, this is likely to take the form of the striking competition and an accompanying festival of ringing. The District Committee discussed this and Lypne was selected as a suitable venue, with preparations under way. The secretary also explained that the District Committee had decided that the district Ringing Masters would organise the entry from the Ashford District. The test piece is to be 224 changes of St. Clements Bob Major.

District Outing: This is planned to be held on the 25th June. The secretary explained that the original date circulated, the 17th June, clashes with the county eight bell striking competition, so the outing has been moved a week later, the same last year. The outing is to be planned around East Sussex.

County Six-Bell Striking Competition: This year's county six-bell striking competition is being hosted by the Canterbury District on the 30th of September. The District Rep, explained there had been some discussion at the last association committee meeting about how to encourage participation, both at the district and association level. One idea was to split the call change competition into a novice and elite competition, to encourage less experienced ringers to participate. Although the Ashford District was able to field a band for both six-bell competitions, members expressed that allowing composite bands would be one way to encourage more interest.

At a district level, it was suggested that there may not be enough interest to organise a competition, but members present indicated they would like one to be held. This was proposed as a more informal district level striking competition, for example with composite bands. The secretary suggested this could be held at the May meeting, if there was enough interest from members not present. The secretary would ask towers if there is interest and discuss this at the next meeting.

District Carol Service: The secretary explained that the carol service last year was cancelled due to a lack of interest. Members expressed an interest in holding a carol service and social event this year, so an event will be planned this year.

120 Club: Charles Sinden, the current 120 Club Promotor, explained that the last draw of the current 120 club would be next month. This current year has raised £200. Charles expressed that it was better of the 120 club was run over a calendar year, but suggested this was discussed at the next district committee meeting. The December and January draws were taken at the end of the meeting.

A.O.B. The following matters were raised:

Ring for the King: Graham Epps asked about the 'Ring for the King' campaign. The secretary explained that there was no guidance at a district level and pointed towards the CCCBR guidance.

KCACR Subscriptions: The district treasurer explained that subscriptions were now overdue, with about 40% of the district still to pay. Anyone who needed help paying their subscription should get in touch.

John Wright: The chairman circulated details of the upcoming memorial service at Hythe for the late John Wright.

Vote of Thanks: The chairman thanked those from Hythe for making the local arrangements and providing refreshments.

..... Chairman

E. Neate
Ashford District Secretary