



MINUTES of the General Committee Meeting held at Downswood Community Centre, ME15 8XG  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022 10:00-12:27

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT 10:-

Association Chairman	NJ	Neil Jones		
General Secretary	SB	Susan Bassett	CC Rep.	DD Doug Davis
Treasurer	PJ	Peter Joyce	<u>District Reps.</u>	
Training Officer	RC	Rupert Cheeseman	Ashford	EN Edward Neate
Youth Officer & CC Rep.	JT	Jen Thomas	Canterbury	BL Ben Legg
Bell Restoration Officer	BB	Brian Butcher	Lewisham	RC Rupert Cheeseman
CC Rep.	PB	Phil Barnes	Maidstone	DD Doug Davis
CC Rep.	CS	Caroline Stockmann	Rochester	SF Steve Fitton
CC Rep.	DL	Dickon Love	Tonbridge	ET Emma Tamkin

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE 1:-

Handbook Editor	DD	Doug Davis	Quarter Peal Secretary	AL	Anthony Leeves
Health & Safety Officer	BW	Becky Winter	Publicity Officer		VACANT
Librarian	PR	Philippa Rooke	Safeguarding Officer	EJ	Emma Jarvis
Peal Secretary	PB	Phil Barnes	Webmaster	DD	Doug Davis

**ACTION**

- 2022/11/1      **Welcome, Apologies for Absence and Substitutions** – Chairman NJ welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were noted; Peter Joyce (Treasurer), Caroline Stockmann (CC Rep.), Malcolm Barden (Canterbury Rep.) substituted by Ben Legg, Steve Newlands (Tonbridge Rep.) substituted by Emma Tamkin, Philippa Rooke (Librarian).
- 2022/11/2      **Minutes of meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2022** – The Minutes were approved nem con and signed by the Chairman.
- 2022/11/3      **Matters arising**
- 2022/11/3.1      2022/07/3.2 eBells Loan Scheme Video – Deferred. PB
- 2022/11/3.2      2022/07/3.5 Madams Court Mini-Ring – DD reported that two visits to the ring at Frinsted had been made to familiarise the team (BB, NJ & DD) with the construction and to take photographs. The ring was to be used at Rochester the next week and would then be stored in the rented secure compound. Emphasised that it needed to be advertised well and used often. It takes 1hr to erect/dismantle and copes with uneven ground. Agreed that it be insured for Fire & Theft at a nominal value of £3,000. DD
- 2022/11/4      **Safeguarding Updates** – NJ commented that this had been added to the Agenda after discussion with EJ and was an opportunity for members to flag up potential risks in districts (not appropriate to mention names or details here, which should always be notified direct to EJ). It is the General Committee’s duty to keep an eye on issues and to address them quickly. SB

EJ commented that emails about training in safeguarding issues had been raised from Districts. The Website Safeguarding Policy is up to date with a drop down tab of who to contact and where to go with such issues. Difficulties giving advice exist because Rochester and Canterbury Dioceses differ on issues such as whether Tower Captains need to do the Leadership Course or not. EJ advised talking to one's own Parish Safeguarding Adviser. There is no bespoke training for Tower Captains. DBS Certificates can be transferrable within a Diocese if the "update" box is ticked online.

- 2022/11/5 **Finance & Grant applications**
- 2022/11/5.1 Treasurer's report – noted. NJ commented that a bequest from the estate of Brian Law (Canterbury District) was anticipated to be in the region of £6,400. Members were asked to think about what could be done with this. ALL
- 2022/11/5.2 BRF Investment Account research & recommendations – deferred. PB & NJ
- 2022/11/5.3 BRF Charity Objects proposed amendments – Members noted the removal of the words "to advance the Christian religion" in clause 2 and to add "tower and" before churches in clauses 2 and 6. These changes to be notified to ADMs September 2023 for ratification at the AGM 2024 (unless by EGM). SB
- 2022/11/5.4 BRF Grant Applications
- 2022/11/5.4.1 Bethersden – BB reported that work was long overdue to replace the fame, fittings and new clappers. A new band was being taught. Project £80,000. All agreed the maximum grant of £10,000. BB
- 2022/11/5.4.2 Marden – BB reported on the proposed revamp of existing fittings estimated at £54,000. There remained a query over this being a maiden Alfred Bowell ring, but BB considered two bells had been tuned previously so recommended they be tuned as part of this project. All agreed a grant of £8,000. BB
- 2022/11/6 **Feedback from Events**
- 2022/11/6.1 Central Council AGM & Roadshow – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Nottingham. DD commented that it had been a good weekend. Training sessions were held at various local towers. The meeting on Saturday was good to be held in person. Talks on the 2030 plan were at an early stage. The Sunday Roadshow included more local ringing with the CC Mobile ring tested and tweaked.
- 2022/11/6.2 Essex Trophy – 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Bletchingley. NJ commented that there was a single judge and Kent were unfortunately drawn first. A very respectable course of Yorkshire Royal was rung but the Kent band was placed fourth out of six. A good effort but the trophy was won by Essex who rang well too.
- 2022/11/6.3 Annual District Meetings –  
 Ashford - BB was now Chairman and EN as Secretary and District Rep.  
 Canterbury - District Rep was Malcolm Barden (represented by BL today).  
 Lewisham – RC commented that they had managed to fill all officer posts. He queried what should be done with 120 Club winnings when a member had died. SB advised that the Lotteries & Gaming Act should be checked first with a suitable clause added to the District 120 Club rules.  
 Maidstone – DD advised no changes in officers or vacancies. Mal Williams had wanted to give up the 120 Club but was carrying on for another year.  
 Rochester – SF reported some changes in officers with two new District Reps. Discussed how to spread training events. Suggested questionnaires be sent to towers.  
 Tonbridge – ET commented there was currently no Chairman and several older members had been co-opted onto the committee to advise newbies.

2022/11/6.4	<u>Association 6-bell Competitions</u> – NJ expressed disappointment that the competition had ultimately been cancelled following the initial postponement due to the demise of HM Queen Elizabeth II. The event had lacked support. General discussion ensued around the purpose of both a Call Change and Change Ringing Competition being held on the same day. There was a lot of confusion amongst districts who considered there were contradictory objectives of inclusivity and high performance. Was it intended to encourage greater participation and engagement or to raise achievements? ET expressed concern for learners who could be put off by more experienced ringers. After much discussion NJ requested District Reps. to ask their members what they want e.g., 2 or 3 competitions such as Novice Call Changes, Elite Call Changes and Change Ringing competitions in Districts/Towers feeding into a selected District Band to compete in the County Competition? Feedback in February.	ALL Dist. Reps.
2022/11/6.5	<u>KCACR Choral Evensong of Remembrance</u> – 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 NJ commented that this had not been so well attended this year (perhaps due to less publicity with no personal email alerts). Understood that Rochester Cathedral would like us to come again. Alternative dates 29 <sup>th</sup> October or 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 may encourage greater participation. SB to liaise with Rochester Cathedral.	SB
2022/11/7	<b>Association Archive</b> – Deferred	PR
2022/11/8	<b>Training</b>	
2022/11/8.1	<u>Training Overview</u> – No training events were planned but RC hoped to organise an ART M1 course in the Lewisham District at some future point. A weekend training event was mooted.	RC
2022/11/8.2	<u>Application to Training Fund</u> – Frittenden Simulator proposal details had been circulated. All agreed to grant £743 from the Training Fund. DD offered to update the Handbook with information on tower simulators.	DD
2022/11/8.3	<u>Training of new ringers</u> – DD reported that he had advertised and now had a dozen people who wished to learn to ring. He considered it would be helpful to have some regular Association-level training sessions with plenty of volunteer help. DD to work with RC to encourage people to sign up and set dates with venues. ET and NJ also offered to put heads together on this.	DD RC NJ ET
2022/11/9	<b>Annual Reviews</b> of policies, rules and guidelines	
2022/11/9.1	<u>Expenses Policy</u> – The proposed amendments were noted & agreed nem con. In addition, DD explained that for CC weekends away a subsistence payment for meals in addition to breakfast was needed and suggested this be £30. All agreed and to use the wording from the KYR expenses.	SB
2022/11/9.2	<u>Youth Striking Competition Rules</u> – These had been uploaded to the Website and the amendments were ratified.	
2022/11/6.4	<u>Fund-raising guidance</u> – All agreed to the additional Clause 11 as circulated. To be uploaded to the website.	DD
2022/11/9.4	<u>Data Protection &amp; Privacy policy</u> – Agreed without changes.	
2022/11/10	<b>Forthcoming Events</b>	
2022/11/10.1	<u>Kent Young Ringers Striking Competition</u> – 18/02/2023 13:45-17:00 JT hoped that it would be at Stansted but was unable yet to confirm the venue.	JT
2022/11/10.2	<u>Annual Dinner</u> – DD had conducted an email survey but people were generally not interested. Agreed to drop the idea.	
2022/11/10.3	<u>Commonwealth Charter 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</u> – The “National Ring of Queens” was noted at 8pm on 13/03/2023. Link for details on the CCBR Website.	

2022/11/10.4	<u>SEECON</u> – 01/04/2023 at Caterham	JT
2022/11/10.5	<u>AGM Easter Monday 2023</u> – 10/04/2023 DD awaited confirmation that Wrotham would be the venue. Noted 2022 feedback requesting more ringing.	DD
2022/11/10.6	<u>Festival of Ringing &amp; Association 8-bell Striking competition</u> – 17/06/2023 Lympe was being considered with other towers open. Mini ring, display boards and TV screen set ups could be made available. SB to engage judges. Agreed the competition method should be 224 changes of St. Clements Bob Major. WHWH.	EN BB SB
2022/11/10.7	<u>RWNYC</u> -08/07/2023 in York.	
2022/11/10.8	<u>Central Council AGM &amp; Roadshow 2023</u> -02/09/2023 in Ipswich. DD commented that (on a strict interpretation of the Expenses Policy) this being 88 miles away there would be no right to claim overnight accommodation, but if attending both days, it may be more cost-effective to stay overnight than claim the extra round trip mileage. Delegates to discuss with Treasurer.	
2022/11/10.9	<u>Essex Trophy 2023</u> – 09/09/2023 St. Mary, Walthamstow (tbc). 09:45 draw. Grandsire Caters 2-3 courses.	
2022/11/10.10	<u>Association 6-bell competitions</u> – 30/09/2023 Canterbury District. Format of the competitions to be agreed in February following feedback from Districts.	ALL Dist.Reps.
2022/11/10.11	<u>Choral Evensong</u> – Date tba, 29 <sup>th</sup> October or 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 Rochester Cathedral. District Reps. were requested to publicise this widely when the date is confirmed.	ALL Dist.Reps.
2022/11/11	<b>Youth Officer Report</b> – Circulated and noted. JT commented that she has an influx of mini-ringers. Due to safeguarding, agreed that individual names be redacted if the report is to be put on the website.	
2022/11/12	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
2022/11/12.1	<u>Video Conference Equipment</u> – DD had circulated a costing for equipment to enable hybrid meetings to take place (in person and via zoom link). After a short discussion, all agreed the £200 expenditure would be a good investment and useful at the AGM too.	DD
2022/11/12.2	<u>District Website</u> – BL asked questions about how to set up a District Website. DD offered to assist. A question about KCACR emails and tracking data was put. DD confirmed that KCACR didn't use the data for anything and the Mailchimp provider had its own GDPR policy. Any further queries to DD.	
2022/11/12.3	<u>ART Awards</u> – JT suggested that Richard Steele be nominated for the Len Roberts Award for Promotion of Ringing. JT & SB to nominate asap.	
2022/11/12.4	<u>KYR Budget 2023</u> – JT had circulated the KYR Budget proposal for 2023 in the sum of £4,390. This was noted and agreed nem con.	
2022/11/13	<b>Date of next meeting</b> – 25/02/2023. Agreed to hold the next meeting in person with video Conference facility. Proposed following meeting dates:- 29/04/2023, 29/07/2023, 25/11/2023, 24/02/2024.	

The meeting closed at 12:27

SIGNED as a true record by ..........on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
Neil Jones, Chairman to KCACR