



Maidstone District

The Kent County Association of Change Ringers

Maidstone District

Secretary: Doug Davis
<https://kcr.org.uk>

MINUTES

Quarterly District Meeting

Saturday 14 January 2023 at 11.00am

Barming

2023/QMA01 – Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Doug Davis (Boxley), Tony Adams (Boughton Monchelsea), Jacqui Barlow (Maidstone, St Michael & AA), Debbie Jewsbury & Catherine Pearce (Loose), Lavinia Kingsley (Hunton), Sue Brooks (Snodland)

2023/QMA02 - Minutes and any matters arising from previous meeting

Minutes from the ADM in October 2022 had been circulated. No comments or corrections, so the Secretary signed them as a true record. No matters arising.

2023/QMA03 – Election of new members

Polly Williamson (Boxley), Anna Francolini Davies (Loose), Jenny Liu (Loose) and Debbie Jewsbury (Loose) were all proposed. All those present were in favour of electing them as new members.

2023/QMA04 – Membership Renewal / Handbook Data / Handbook Requests

The meeting was advised that subscriptions and tower updates for the handbook are now due, and that printed copies of handbook can now be requested.

2023/QMA05 – Upcoming events/activities

11th February – District Practice, Linton 10am

11th March – Competitions, Nettlestead 9.30am (please notify Sec or RM of teams entering ASAP)

8th April – Quarterly Meeting, Harrietsham (TBC)

Mal Williams provided a brief update on the 120 Club, stating that we have been running with fewer shares recently and that it would be good to get it back up to 120.

2023/QMA06 – Any other business

Association 6-bell Call Change competitions – Mal Williams commented that it appears to be difficult to get people interested in competitions in general, and wondered why that might be. Could it be that rules are complicated, perhaps something simpler could be devised. Others commented that it always seems to be the same towers and the same ringers that win every year in District competitions which may put others off entering. Graham Heath asked if there is any need for it to be tower-related – perhaps names of people interested in ringing could go into a hat and the band derived from that? The only issue with that is that there wouldn't have been any opportunity to practice together. Robin Hughes asked if perhaps there could be both – some tower-based bands, and some 'scratch' bands of people that are interested? Another suggestion was that bands could come from tower 'clusters' i.e. groups of towers putting in a band together. What about a Most Improved award? Richard Young commented that there is one already, currently

held by Yalding. The consensus was that the competitions don't work in their current form and something different needs to be tried.

A question was raised around how/who to pay donations for the BRF to, Tom agreed to check with Doug about this.

The subject of a Tower Captain's meeting was raised and the fact that there hasn't been one for several years (pre-Covid), usually held ahead of the January quarterly meeting each year. This would be investigated.

Graham Heath advised that he had put something about Ring for the King on Facebook and within half a day had 5 new recruits, so it would appear to be a good idea for others to do on their local Facebook groups as well.

Tom thanked everyone for coming, and the meeting closed at 11.27am.

Doug Davis
District Secretary
16 March 2023