

## Birmingham University Society of Change Ringers

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in Committee Room 3, The Union, at 5.15pm on Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup> 1957.

### 1) Apologies for absence

Three were received, including one from the President, the Revd. J. Newport, who regretted that he would be late arriving.

### 2) Minutes

The minutes of the Special General Meeting held on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 1956 were read. The Chairman drew attention to one item of business that had been omitted. The secretary undertook to rewrite the minutes for the next General Meeting.

### 3) Matters arising

The Secretary, M. Gilbert, proposed, and the Ringing Master G.A. Hughes, seconded a motion "that Clause \_\_\_\_\_ in the Constitution of the Society should be amended to read:

'(a) President, (b) Vice-Presidents, (c) Chairman, (d) Ringing Master, (e) Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. These to serve for one (1) year from the last day of the Spring Term.'" The motion was carried.

The Ringing Master then proposed, and Miss D. Jacques seconded a motion "That Fr. Morton, Rector of Northfield, be asked to accept the post of Vice-President at such a time as the Committee should deem suitable." The motion was carried unanimously.

### 4) Chairman's Report

The Chairman, D. J. Trumper, reviewed the past year in the life of the Society and compared it with the previous struggle to keep the society alive. He wished the members "all the best" for the future years.

### 5) Ringing Master's Report

The Ringing Master first mentioned the peals attempted by the Society, (two major and one minor), all of which failed; also the failure of the quarter peal attempted at Northfield to welcome the new Rector, this failure being due, not to the ringers, but to the tail end of the tenor rope coming loose.

He went on to comment on the standard of ringing at practice, and gave a brief resumé of the attempts to obtain the use of a tower for the society.

The report continued with a vote of thanks to Miss D. Jacques for the loan of the set of hand-bells, enabling the society to meet on Thursdays in the Union each week.

The Ringing Master concluded by mentioning the tune-ringing activities of the society, which, while not strictly covered by the title and aims of the society, played a large part in its spreading "fame".

### 6) Treasurer's Report

A balance sheet for the year had been circulated when the Treasurer, M. Gilbert, asked if anyone had any queries about this sheet, he came in for some gentle leg-pulling about the items marked "phone calls" and "postage, etc.". After a bit of quick thinking and even quicker talking, he managed to get the report adopted. He concluded by stating that, since the balance was 12/6<sup>d</sup> higher than the previous year (i.e., he owed the society 12/6<sup>d</sup> he would like to recommend that the subscription for

the session 1956/7 should be the same as in previous years, i.e., nothing. This was greeted with loud cheers.

7) Election of Officers

(a) President

The Revd. J. Newport was proposed by G.A. Hughes and second by W.W. Rich. The motion was carried unanimously.

(b) Chairman

Miss D. Jacques was proposed by G.A. Hughes and seconded by A.G. Davis.  
G. A. Hughes was proposed by D.J. Trumper and seconded by Miss H. Lawler-Wilson.  
On a show of hands Miss D. Jacques was elected.

(c) Ringling Master

G.A. Hughes, proposed by A.G. Davis and seconded by A. Crump.  
P. Webb, proposed by D.J. Trumper and seconded by H. Lawler-Wilson.  
On a show of hands P. Webb was elected.

(d) Hon. Secretary and Treasurer

W.W. Rich was proposed by A.G. Davis and seconded by H. Lawler-Wilson. This was carried unanimously.

The society adjourned at 5.50pm for an address by the President, who gave a short talk on various aspects of ringing, making mention of "the various queer noises which proceed from the men's basement from time to time." The address was greatly enjoyed by all present.

The business meeting was resumed at 6.00pm.

Any Other Business

Miss D. Jacques stated that she had been thinking over the election to the post of chairman, and had come to the conclusion that she would rather not take this post. Her resignation was regretfully accepted by the members present.

G.A. Hughes was elected to the post unopposed. G.A. Hughes then gave a short report on the activities of the Society during "CARNIVAL 1956", and congratulated the society on coming second in the inter-society competition. He said he thought the Society could come first this year. To a request that the Society should enter a float for "CARNIVAL 1957", he stated that he did not think that the Society had a large enough membership to warrant this, but he would look into the matter.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 6.20pm.

Signed  
M. Gilbert.  
(Hon. Sec.)

Typed up by James Mundy, July 2023.