

AGM

5.00pm Sat 9th March 1985

Rowan opened meeting at 5.00

Apologies

Miss E. Agg

MDV. Simmonds

Secretary read the minutes of last year's AGM.

Matters arising:

1. Master board – still not done. In the process of being done by Sue Haslam
2. R.W.S – 1983 copies have been bound. Now in Music Library, Barber Institute
3. Dinner – venue has this year been booked in advance.

Minutes acceptance proposed: Heather. Seconded: Andy H

Amendments to constitution

Replace deputy ringing master with social secretary.

Would be expected to fill in in organising events where master and treasurer can't/haven't time.

Paul in explaining reasons behind his proposal said he saw Dep ringing master and social secretary as not necessarily synonymous, so one person shouldn't fill both roles. So ditch deputy master totally.

Deputy master's only task is to deputise for master.

Richard pointed out that in ideal situation, dep master should be training ground for position of master.

Rowan proposed acceptance of change in constitution which was carried and duly accepted.

Election of officers

Rowan [] their duties.

5 positions.

Committee is to coordinate not run the society.

Master – general dogsbody

Secretary – sending Q peals to RW, writing them in book, taking minutes

Treasurer – obvious

Social Secretary – social side of ringing

President:

Rev Coombes

Proposed Rowan seconded Richard Knights.

Thanked us for ringing and Rowan for her work

Master:

Candidate	Proposer	Secunder
Fiona Brocklehurst	Rowan	Andy
Rosey Cleave	Sammy	John

Fiona was elected.

Social secretary:

Ruth elected unopposed, proposed by Andy and seconded by Heather.

Secretary:

Rosey elected unopposed, proposed by Rowan and seconded by Adrian

Treasurer:

Adrian Shanples, proposed by Andy and seconded by Rowan

General secretary:

Peter Oldfield

Sue Falconer

Sue elected.

Masters report

See separate sheet

Treasurers report

See short account

Grant cut – seems general trend of all societies

NUA gain –

Officers expenses – large because includes expenses of last years officers (see 1984 minutes)

Dinner [loss?] – in fact gain (Paul hasn't paid for dinner ticket)

Camping weekend – loss due to minibus

7) Annual Dinner

New Imperial booked provisionally – Grand was booked in summer '84 but £100 foorm charge for under 50 people. Since unlikely we can get 50 people this would make the ticket price excessive so booking was cancelled.

Rowan acknowledged that service at New Imperial was not brilliant but we were welcomed and were better treated. Possibly if we made a definite booking at the New Imperial we may be able to ask for better service.

Paul expressed the opinion that he was disappointed and felt that Life members may have been disappointed – he also felt that not enough was done on the weekend for Life members. Paul wants more of a “weekend than a dinner.” He said that the attendance had gone down since he first came.

Rowan:- Ticket price may exclude student members if the event was made better.

Paul:- it should be kept a special event at a hotel and kept special.

Rowan:- had asked for Life member's ideas on the dinner in the newsletter.

Chris:- are there any definite proposals for the dinner or are we going to the New Imperial

John:- student members must come first in ticket pricing

Rowan:- making whole weekend more attractive to Life members would take emphasis off dinner

Paul:- if we consider dinner costs too high we should question whether having hotel dinner or not.

Rowan:- other places have been looked into e.g. the catholic chaplaincy with external caterers.

John:- past members do like to feel part of the university society – perhaps the dinner should be held within the university.

Paul:- In his time in the committee a definite effort to move away from the university was made since the quality at the university catering was poor.

Andrew:- we should investigate further why past members no longer come in the same numbers as before.

John:- should the committee investigate the costs at university centre, the costs at New Imperial and one other variable. Also ticket marketing should be improved.

Paul:- perhaps a non-committee “dinner secretary” should be nominated to do some of the work for the dinner.

Paul: Proposes that post of “dinner secretary” be created

Chris: Seconder

This position will be selected by the committee and responsible to the committee.

Paul:- would Sue make special effort to find what Life members want

8) Camping Weekend

Rowan:- as reported last year’s was a bit of a wash out. Is there anybody who could offer a venue for the weekend.

Rosie:- Kent, but the distance may be prohibitive.

Paul:- Newbury.

Alan:- Bridgwater area.

Rowan:- preferably we need a field or garden with facilities. Could we leave this for next committee. This weekend will be the 14-16th June 1985.

9) Tower maintenance

Rowan:- Andrew, who does our maintenance, will be leaving in June/July. We need to make provision for somebody to check the tower and to maintenance.

Andrew:- job entails just checking that tower is in good order and is mainly one of inspection and in the event of any breakages we could get help from St. Martin’s Guild etc.

Alan volunteered to be steeple keeper.

Thanks to Andrew for past work.

10a) Canal Holiday

Rowan:- was not run again this year. A person with enthusiasm is needed to organise the event. It is now going to be a difficult thing to start again. Again this will be left to the new committee.

Paul:- the social secretary should organise this.

John:- if we combine with the ringer’s at Harborne the problem of numbers may be alleviated.

10b) Binding of Ringing Worlds

John:- cost about £12 per volume to bind.

Rowan:- can we afford to bind some of our Ringing Worlds.

Sammy (Peter Oldfield):- is it worth binding them since St. Martin’s Guild keep all copies.

Andrew:- propose 1984 copies be bound out of society funds

Rowan:- seconder

Official proposal:

Society should bind each of the future year's copies provided that finances allow.

Carried Unanimously

10c) Handbells

Rowan:- nothing has come of the handbells this year since nobody seems to have shown much enthusiasm. The handbells are available for method ringing and also for tune ringing if people wish to. The main thing is that all members of the society know of the existence of the handbells and that they are available. A member of the committee should have possession of them.

10d) Beginners

Rowan:- many beginner's approached us at Fresher's Fayre and though some of these left others took their place meaning we now have a large number of learners who encroach on practice time. It should be decided how many beginner's should be taken on and how those should be chosen if a larger number apply

Sue:- you cannot filter people out.

Rowan: no, but the decision is how many we should have and how we should select that number.

Sammy (Peter Oldfield):- their enthusiasm will cut down the number of Fresher's.

Rowan:- the mistake this year is that we now have too many beginner's and that they take up a large amount of time

Paul:- we have lost a lot of people who turned up to Fresher's Fayre who could ring basics. We should devote more time to these people instead of concentrating on the beginner's.

Sue:- perhaps the higher quality of ringing at Edgbaston that most people's home towers does discourage some people.

Paul:- we should concentrate in bringing the people who can ring the basics along very quickly and integrating more into the society social life to keep their interest. We should not have too many people at the same level at the same time.

Rowan: the new committee must encourage the social side of the society and make sure that they keep people's interest.

11) A.O.B.

Rowan was presented with a card on behalf of the society.

Rowan thanked us.

Meeting ends 7.12 pm.