

Sunday 23 September 2018, 19.30 hrs
Bournville Community Hub
27 Sycamore Road
B30 2AA

Officers present:

Simon Linford (Master), Arthur Reeves (Ringing Master), Clare McArdle (Secretary), Tracy Stevens (Treasurer), Mark Eccleston (Archivist) Jenny Sunter (HJ Dinner Secretary).

Fifteen members attended, including the above-mentioned Officers.

The meeting started at 19.30

Minutes

	Actions
<p>1. Apologies for absence (Officers) Trish Everett.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the General Meeting held on 15 July 2018 The members present agreed the minutes.</p>	
<p>3. Matters arising not on the agenda 3.1 Coleshill application to BRF No formal request had been received for financial assistance with the installation of rope guides. The trustees of the BRF had agreed in principle to the request, subject to satisfactory completion of the project. Application for a faculty has not yet been made.</p> <p>3.2 Towers listed on website Simon had not yet contacted towers such as, Walsall, Great Barr, Lichfield and Tamworth to discuss adding them to the Guild website but agreed to do so</p> <p>3.3 Tower Maintenance Workshop 10 November had been fixed with Jennie Higson for the Tower Maintenance Workshop in Northampton. Nine Guild members had expressed an interest. Now that the date had been agreed, Clare reported that she would post to the Guild e-list inviting further take-up.</p>	<p>Simon Linford</p> <p>Clare McArdle</p>
<p>4. Election of new members 4.1 Full members: Max Earthquake (Harborne) Holly Pyke (Kings Norton)</p> <p>4.2 Associate members: Lex Earthquake (Harborne) Henry Cartwright (BSoBR) Davey Manuel (BSoBR)</p>	

<p>Kay Davies (BSoBR) Annette Seeley (BSoBR) Pat Newton (BSoBR) Jan Chambers (BSoBR) Lesley Price (BSoBR) Alex Ross (BSoBR) Elaine Cheeseman (BSoBR) Rachel Oakes (BSoBR)</p>	
<p>5. Bell Restoration Fund 5.1 BRF total The BRF total currently stands at £9,835, with £250 committed to Knowle.</p> <p>5.2 Harborne An application had been received from Harborne for help with funding a Sound Management system and maintenance to two clappers (re-bushing and crown staples). Their request for £500 towards the total of circa £5,000 was being put to the Trustees.</p> <p>5.2 Castle Bromwich It was reported that the Castle Bromwich ringers are unhappy with the situation that they find themselves in regarding their augmentation and restoration project. Taylor's have been assisting them and working on improvements, however there is a risk that their efforts will come to nothing as their faculty will shortly run out. Unfortunately the work was paid for on completion before any problems were identified. Simon agreed to visit Castle Bromwich and talk to Bill Dargue.</p>	<p>Simon Linford</p>
<p>6. Membership Issues arising concerning members' election prior to peals are covered in item 14.1</p>	
<p>7. Tower contact information Towers had been contacted (in some cases several times) for up-to-date tower contact information for the website. Ten responses were still outstanding. The website had been updated with the information received. It was agreed that the form to collect updated information would be sent out annually.</p>	
<p>8. Website Tracy had received an offer of help from Ros Martin to assist with the Guild website; in particular the Google Calendar. Ros proposed that she could crosslink the calendar with the events page. It was acknowledged that Ros was an accomplished social media user with experience of other websites and that she had considerable expertise in dealing with their foibles.</p> <p>Concern was expressed that she would require full access to the website. It was felt that control of the website content should rest with the officers of the Guild. It was suggested that prior to any delegation of the webmaster's duties a clear brief should be drawn up and formalised at the AGM.</p> <p>Tracy stated that she would check the access to the website that Ros would need and would contact her to discuss her plans.</p>	<p>Tracy Stevens</p>
<p>9. Review of Guild organised practices Arthur reported that the current drive was to support and encourage members in organising their own practices. He stated that the new "x-</p>	

<p>practice” had had good take-up and the slots were booked up to the end of the year. Two towers had requested help with ringing up and down. He was grateful to Phil Ramsbottom, Jon Townsend and James Ramsbottom for their continuing help with organising practices.</p> <p>The Guild Challenge Day was to be postponed, as currently the calendar for October was over-full with the Adult Learners’ Event (ALE) on 6th and a Project Pickled Egg (PPE) series of practices on 20th.</p> <p>Arthur reminded the meeting that his stated aim at the AGM was to develop members’ ringing to their requirements. A number of members had shown interest in ringing peals and as a result of encouragement the number of Guild peals rung this year is significantly higher than in recent years and there has been a greater number of participants.</p> <p>Simon responded to a question concerning the PPE practices. Three 1½-hour practices covering the Surprise Major methods in the PPE repertoire as requested.</p>	
<p>10. Armistice Day ringing</p> <p>The Guild would be supporting the Government recommendation that towers ring “open” at 12.30 on 11 November. The Guild will encourage as many towers and members to ring as possible, but does not propose to micro-manage the event. Arthur agreed to contact members to encourage them to ring and to offer to co-ordinate a pool of surplus ringers who could be redistributed to towers where there are not enough ringers.</p> <p>Birmingham Cathedral and St Chad’s had already formally requested that their bells are rung at 12.30. It was unknown whether St Paul’s and St Martin’s would be doing so. It was agreed that the usual co-operation between city-centre towers would be required.</p> <p>It was noted that earlier in the year it had been suggested that quarter peals should be rung to remember the 5 Guild members killed in WWI. Rose Horton had agreed to co-ordinate this.</p>	<p>Arthur Reeves</p> <p>Rose Horton</p>
<p>11. 100 Club</p> <p>Tracy reported that there had been issues with the running of the 100 Club, to the point where some members had contacted her to express concern. There had been teething troubles at the beginning of the year, and although she had offered support on several occasions the situation had been very slow to improve. The outstanding draws have now taken place and it is to be hoped that the remaining draws for the year will happen at the correct time.</p> <p>A Gmail account has been set up from which to run the 100 Club from 2019. The account will be operated by the 100 Club Organiser. The treasurer will have password access for monitoring and support purposes.</p>	
<p>12. 2019 AGM agenda and programme</p> <p>It was felt that on balance the AGM in 2018 had been too long. Knowle had been booked for the 2019 AGM. It was agreed that the timetable would be:</p> <p>13.00 lunch 14.00–16.00 AGM 16.00–18.00 ringing activities (including theory session). Suggested towers: Knowle and Solihull. 18.00 onwards evening entertainment. Clare to liaise with the Shipleys about format and location.</p>	<p>Arthur Reeves</p> <p>Clare McArdle</p>

<p>It was not known whether there would be a charge for the hire of the hall. Tracy advised that the surplus from any catering should be used to pay for the hall.</p>	
<p>13. 2019 HJ Dinner programme Jenny Sunter reported that the Banqueting Suite at Birmingham Council House had been booked and the deposit paid. She advised that costs had changed. Booking the usual dinner package was likely to make the ticket price go over £50. The hot buffet option would keep costs down to around the usual expectation of a mid £40s ticket. Jenny was tasked with confirming that the buffet would be “served” and would include a starter and tea/coffee.</p> <p>Simon agreed to email the secretaries of the ASCY and SRCY to encourage ticket sales to their members.</p> <p>It was agreed that a separate sub-committee should meet to plan the programme before the end of the year. Two or three peal attempts would be booked, at St Paul’s, Northfield and the Cathedral.</p>	<p>Jenny Sunter</p> <p>Simon Linford</p> <p>Arthur Reeves</p>
<p>14. AOB</p> <p>14.1 Notice of Rule changes Simon gave notice that he would be proposing rule changes at the AGM:</p> <p>Amend rule 2.1 to say “Any bell ringer can become a Full Member, subject to submission of a completed application <i>or nomination by a Full Member prior to a peal attempt, agreement to pay the Annual Subscription on an ongoing basis, and ratification at the next Meeting.</i>”</p> <p>New rule 9: “For the purposes of interpretation of these Rules, a ‘Meeting’ refers to a General Meeting, Special General Meeting, or Annual General Meeting.”</p> <p>Amend rule 6.1.3 to add at the end ”or at least 50% of participants are Members of the Guild and acceptance of the peal as a Guild peal is agreed at the next Meeting.</p> <p>Simon also put forward a number of minor drafting corrections all of which are shown in ‘Track Changes’ on the attached copy of the current rules (which also includes the proposed rule changes above).</p> <p>14.2 Bell Restoration Fund Rules Simon reported that the rules of the Bell Restoration Fund required updating. He said that he would work on it with Andrew Stubbs in time to propose changes at the 2020 AGM.</p> <p>14.3 Margaret Hunt Clare reported that Margaret Hunt, tower captain at Erdington parish, died in August. Funeral details had been publicised to members and Simon had attended representing the Guild.</p> <p>14.3 Amazon Smile Tracy reported that she had registered the BRF with Amazon Smile. Members can nominate the charity and 0.5% of any amazon purchase they make will be donated.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 20.59</p>	<p>Simon Linford</p>