

General Meeting

Sunday 24 February 2019, 19.00 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), Trish Everett (Safeguarding Officer).

Eleven members were present, including the above-mentioned Officers.

The meeting started at 19.00

Minutes

		Actions
I.	Apologies for absence (Officers)	
	None received.	
2.	Minutes of the AGM held on 12 January 2019	
	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record. It was noted that the AGM had not been quorate.	
3.	Matters arising not on the agenda 3.1 Missing striking competition trophy	
	In her audit and recording of Guild assets, Tracy Stevens had not been able	
	to locate one of the four striking contest trophies. After discussion, its	
	whereabouts were subsequently located.	
	3.2 Hand bells insurance	
	The insurance on the hand bells presented to BSoBR by Ian Campbell was	
	sue to transfer to BSoBR from I March. The policy states the hand bells are insured at any location in the UK.	
	Clare McArdle agreed that she would write a letter of thanks to lan for the gift.	Clare McArdle
	3.3 Peal for Andy Carr	
	It was agreed that a Guild peal in memory of Andy Carr should be organised.	
4.	Election of new members	
	Full members:	
	Anthea Edwards	
	Luke Groom	
	Associate members:	
	Richard Spink (Coleshill)	
	Beryl Pritchett (Brierley Hill)	

	Jeffrey Carr (Northfield)	
	Denise Carr (Northfield)	
5.	Bell Restoration Fund	
	5. I BRF total	
	The BRF total currently stands at £10838.23	
	The BRI total currently stands at £10030.23	
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	5.2 Payments	
	Payments had been made to Knowle (£250) and Harborne (£500).	
	5.3 Coleshill	
	A request for funding towards rope guides had been received from Coleshill.	
	The cost of the project was estimated at circa £2,000. A figure of £500 was	
	suggested from the BRF. Simon Linford agreed to liaise with the BRF	
	Trustees.	Simon Linford
	Trustees.	Simon Emilion d
	2020 ACM	
0.	2020 AGM	
	6.1 Date	
	It was agreed that the 2020 AGM would be held on Saturday 11 January. It	
	was suggested that timings should be broadly the same as this year, but	
	would be confirmed in due course.	
	6.2 Venue	
	Clare had contacted Don Finnemore in January to request Aston, but had as	
	yet received no reply. Simon agreed to chase this up when he speaks to Don	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Simona Linford
	about the National 12-bell contest eliminator (see item 9.2)	Simon Linford
	Back-up suggestions for venue – Boldmere or Erdington Parish.	
7.	Programme of events for 2019	
	Saturday 4 May – BSoBR away day (Warwick area)	
	Saturday 18 May – 6-bell striking contest and "bake off", St Paul's (tbc)	
	8/9 June – Stedman Triples Anniversary Celebrations (Richard Grimmett)	
	Saturday 13 July – Guild Walking Tour (Mike Dodson)	
	Saturday 12 October – Guild trip to York	
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	Saturday 7 December – Guild Challenge Day, Moseley	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	X-practices would be continuing at Sheldon in March and Tanworth in Arden	
	in April (tbc) already booked.	
	Swap week was agreed for the second week of the month. Suggestions	
	included a "particles" practice at Aston on Tuesday and enhancing the	Simon Linford
	existing Surprise Major practice at Shirley on Thursday.	Arthur Reeves
		1 1.00,00
Ω	Budget review	
0.	8.1 2018	
	There had been a shortfall of £70 to cover expenses. However ???	
	subscriptions had been outstanding.	
	8.2 2019	
	Tracy reported that she had already collected a large proportion of the	
	membership subscriptions and that currently only 32 members were in	
	arrears. She was confident that all of the Guild's expenses would be met.	
	arrears. The was confident that all of the Guild's expenses would be filet.	
	Tuesday agreed to local, at finances with a view to a Civil decreasitive in a constitution	
	Tracy agreed to look at finances with a view to a Guild contribution towards	T C.
	travel costs to get the Brumdingers to Liverpool for the RWNYC in July.	Tracy Stevens
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9. AOB

9.1 HJ Dinner

Tracy had emailed Jenny Sunter to congratulate her on the success of the HJ Dinner (her first as HJ Dinner Secretary). It was agreed that it had been an excellent event. A vote of thanks to Jenny was proposed and Clare agreed to convey this to Jenny.

Clare McArdle

Tracy and Clare had spoken to a number of the regular attenders asking their opinion on the buffet format as opposed to silver service. The overall impression had been positive, with some regret that silver service had been dropped, however it was felt that keeping the ticket price down was compensation for this.

A Facebook poll was suggested to gauge opinion more widely on the Guild's Facebook page.

It was agreed that the entertainment was a welcome addition to the programme.

It was agreed that timings could be looked at - the formal proceedings had begun at 21.00 and ended at 22.40. The later finish will have had an impact on the bar takings.

Simon was projecting a small loss on the bar takings. In addition to the length of time taken by the speeches and entertainment, the bar staff did not cope well with high demand at the start of the evening, the system of payment being chiefly to blame.

9.2 2020 12-bell eliminator

Aston had been approached to host one of the 2020 National 12-bell contest eliminators. Simon reported that concerns had been expressed to him about the state of the bells and that some maintenance would be necessary as a matter of urgency. Simon agreed to discuss issues with Nigel Cripps at Aston.

Simon Linford

9.2 Integration of BSoBR students in Guild towers

Clare reported that several of the School's current students were getting suboptimal experiences at their adopted towers, largely caused by ignorance of the types of ringing exercises that they were practicing at School. Students were being expected to perform at a considerably higher level than their current ability, causing loss of confidence. Clare requested that consideration be given to ideas to prevent this from happening.

Suggestions included a Foundation Skills taster session; inviting Guild members to a School 'Open Day'/drop in session; invitation to Tower Captains, by students, to attend a session with them; inviting other Guild members on the School away day on 4 May.

9.3 Handsworth ringing room

Clare reported that the ringing room at Handsworth was in very poor condition. In addition maintenance at the tower was very poor. As one of the School's towers, it is not an environment conducive to learning.

It was suggested that a working party could be formed to rejuvenate the ringing room. It was further suggested that leadership and volunteers might come from the students themselves – the ART publication '50 ringing Things' has several sections on making a wider contribution to ringing, including

cleaning and redecorating a ringing room. Clare said that she would consider '50 Ringing Things' as one of the resources given to students. It was further suggested that a social media driven leaderboard for 50 Ringing things could be created. Ros Martin was suggested as someone who might initiate it.

9.4 Guild website

Tracy reported that she had met with Ros Martin and had given her access to the Guild website as an editor/administrator. After consultation with Ros, Tracy had made some changes to the front page. Ros was going to look at some of the other pages, starting with the HJ Dinner page, for which she would be writing the report of the event.

The meeting ended at 20:32