

**MINUTES OF THE SURREY ASSOCIATION OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS SOUTHERN DISTRICT
AUTUMN BUSINESS MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY, 26th NOVEMBER 2016
AT ST KATHARINE, MERSTHAM**

The meeting commenced at 5.39 p.m. The District Master, Andrew Howell, welcomed everybody and thanked Merstham band for the use of the tower and an amazing afternoon tea as well as the Reverend Ben Brown for taking the service.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Sandie Hooper (Bletchingley), Jack Pease and David St Marcus (Merstham), Vicky Williams (Nutfield), John Verity (Redhill) and Hilary Brooks (Walton on Thames).

2. Minutes of the Autumn Business Meeting Held at St Mary Magdalene, Reigate, on 28th November 2015

The Minutes were approved after one amendment: Patrick Will corrected to Patrick Wills and signed and dated by Andrew Howell.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Election of New Members

The following applications for Membership had been received:-

Sandie Hooper, (Bletchingley)

Helena Rueff, Junior, (Redhill)

Dr John Williams, Senior, (Limpsfield Chart)

The election of these new members was proposed, seconded and duly confirmed by those present.

5. Forthcoming Events

Andrew informed the meeting of the following:

27th December Winter Outing to West Sussex, limited to 20.

28th January 10 bell Practice at Bletchingley 6-8pm

25th February Annual District Meeting at Godstone (8 bell)

28th January Open General Committee Meeting, Robin Hood, Sutton 10am - 1.30pm

General Master, Kate Flavell, thanked Andrew for moving the 10 bell practice to facilitate this open meeting intended to discuss general issues affecting the Association, covering but not limited to

Libby LeBihan's legacy

Recruitment and Retention

Changing General Practices to focussed methods

Persistent poor handling and how to deal with it

6. Committee Updates

Training Committee

Bletchingley Training Day; There had been over 60 students, 60 helpers and 9 leaders, a third of our membership had taken part! The training programme for the coming year had been agreed

7th January: Bletchingley Booster – 6 towers, 6 students per tower

4th February: ART module 1 refresher – teaching bell handling

4th March: Wimbledon Training Day

1st Apr: Recruitment Seminar at Caterham

6th May: Wimbledon follow up

3rd Jun: Up and Down Course

5th Aug: Grandsire Triples

2nd Sep: Foundation skills

4th Nov: Bletchingley Training Day

Belfry Repair Fund Committee

Southwark Cathedral will receive a £20,000 grant to be paid when works are complete.

£36.22 was collected during today's ABM

Kate Flavell asked whether guidance should be provided on funding new ropes as a tower that could not afford their own had asked for help

The BRF Committee will prepare a report on the rules of appointment of committee members.

There has been an enquiry about sound control which may result in a grant.

7. 2017/2018 Programme

Andrew went through the events planned in the forthcoming year which are, in summary:

28th January 10 bell Allcomers Practice at Bletchingley 6-8pm

25th February Annual District Meeting at Godstone (8 bell)

25th March Quarter Peal Day

22nd April Joint Practice with Northern District visiting Guildford Cathedral

27th May Beginners Outing, open to those ringing for less than 2 years, with experienced helpers.

24th June Summer Business Meeting with barbeque and chocolate brownie competition

22nd July Association call change striking competition at Ashted

26th Aug Allcomers Practice, 6 or 8 bell

23rd Sep Summer Outing

28th Oct Allcomers Practice at East Grinstead, 12 bell

25th Nov Autumn Business Meeting at Nutfield

27th Dec Winter Outing

27th Jan Allcomers Practice at Reigate, 10 bell

8. Nominations for 2018/2019 District Committee

The current officers, Andrew Howell (District Master), Sue Dixon (Secretary), Simon Beirne (Assistant Secretary) and committee members, Noel Gibbin, and Jan Herd have all agreed to continue to act.

There were no nominations from the floor.

9. Any Other Business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.12pm and members were invited to ring until 8pm.