

**Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers
Winchester District**

Minutes of the Annual District Meeting held on Saturday 13th February 2010 at Bishopstoke

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman, Peter Hill, opened the meeting at 6.00pm. He thanked Roy LeMarechal and the Bishopstoke ringers for hosting the meeting and providing an excellent tea, the Rev Richard Wise for taking the service and David Strong for playing the organ. He welcomed 4 visitors (Edd & Charlotte Colliss, Chris Caryer, Liz Thornton) and 32 members.

Loss of Members through Death

The meeting stood in memory of Charles Blackham, who was a Winchester College member, and Peter Davies, a Director of Ringing World Ltd.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Joyce & John Croft, David & Anne Strong, Peter & Julia Clarke, Andrew Glover, Jonathon & Lizzie Hetherington, Wendy Ling.

Election of New Members

Confirmation of Probationary Members

Crawley	24th November 2009	David Campbell and Clare Campbell
		Proposed by Edmund J Wratten and seconded by Amanda Bayford
Romsey Abbey	27th January 2010	Rachel Edmonds
		Proposed by Tim Edmonds and seconded by Andrew Glover

New Ringing Members

Avington	Diana Wilson and Sarah Bullen
	Proposed by Sara Janssen, seconded by Judy Bishop
Hursley	Andy Green
	Proposed by Christine Hill, seconded by Katy Hill
Kings Somborne	Jack Lane
	Proposed by Sue Spurling, seconded by Anne Taylor
Old Alresford	Elizabeth Kirk
	Proposed by Heather Galley, seconded by Ian Redway

The members were elected unanimously en bloc.

Minutes of Nov 14 2009 QDM

Acceptance proposed by John Palk, seconded by Sue Spurling; passed unanimously.

Matters arising from minutes of Nov 14 2009 and ADM of Feb 2009

Best kept tower competition: list of items checked will be circulated.

Advertising in the Ringing World: has been done, Phil Watts suggested we might consider sponsoring a page.

Sponsoring education students: has been implemented; one student was sponsored.

Oddstruckness measurer: was not thought worthwhile.

Carol service: was a success.

Officers' Reports

Clare Griffiths presented the treasurer's report. Adoption was proposed by Jen Churchill, seconded by Elizabeth Johnson, and passed unanimously.

A combined officers' report and secretary's report had been circulated. Andrew Johnson reminded towers of the requirement to submit a report; next year the secretary will circulate a list of suggested items to include.

Election of Officers

The chairman, treasurer and ringing masters resigned. Richard Thompson took the chair for the election of the Chairman, after which Peter Hill resumed the chair (John Palk having declined an offer to let him take over).

Chairman	John Palk	proposed Peter Hill	seconded John Colliss
Secretary	Rosemary Oakeshott	proposed Elizabeth Johnson	seconded Jen Churchill
Treasurer	No nominations		
Ringing Master	No nominations		
Exec Comm Rep	No nominations		
PR Officer	John Palk	proposed Elizabeth Johnson	seconded Sue Spurling
Acc's Examiner	John Colliss	proposed Clare Griffiths	seconded Jen Churchill

The officers were empowered to co-opt a treasurer and ringing masters, subject to ratification at the next business meeting. The chairman and secretary will act as joint treasurers temporarily. The retiring officers were all thanked for their contributions, especially Clare Griffiths for her 3 years as treasurer and Jen Churchill for her 5 years as ringing master.

Future Timing and Location of Business Meetings and Communications

Peter Hill suggested that we should have just one business meeting (in August combined with the Cathedral practice) in addition to the Annual District meeting. As there was little support for the idea, the suggestion was withdrawn.

To improve communication with members, John Palk will produce a district newsletter and we will consider a district email group.

Future Events

These were listed on the agenda. It was noted that:

The carol service will be on the first Saturday in December.

A host is needed for the May striking competitions.

The walking outing to Oxford on Sept 11th is organised.

The August Cathedral practice has not been booked.

The next ADM will be Feb 12th 2011 at New Alresford.

Chris Caryer outlined the arrangements for the 2010 striking competitions and stressed the need for early planning of teams. Chris Hill queried whether there was spare shield on the trophy – Chris Caryer will check this.

AOB

Guild Dinner: Sue Craddock reminded members about the dinner on May 15th and encouraged them to buy tickets.

Ringing for England: members were encouraged to make a noise at 6.pm on April 23rd.

Guild AGM: Pam Thompson asked whether a move to April or May would increase attendance and asked members what they wanted during the day.

North Stoneham: Phil Watts reported that the bells would be out of action from March 16th to the beginning of May. A proposal to give £500 towards the £20,000 needed for the project was proposed by Andrew Craddock, seconded by Jacqui Downham and passed overwhelmingly. It was suggested that towers might consider fund raising events to help towers needing help.

BRF Collection: raised £25.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm.