

Minutes of the South East District Quarterly Meeting held at Sproughton 7th September 2013

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed the meeting to Sproughton. The Chairman thanked Ralph Earey and his parents for organising and taking the service, and the ringers at Sproughton for the tea. Particular thanks were given to the young ringers for their delicious cupcakes! The collection came to £41, and will be donated to the Guild Restoration Fund. The Chairman also noted that it was wonderful to see George Pipe at the meeting, and glad to see he is making good progress following his illness.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Kate Eagle, David Potts, David Stanford, Alan and Micky McBurnie, Muriel Page, Alex Scase, Ian Imrie and the ringers from Stutton.

Remembrances: John Girt spoke of his memories of Alan Smith, who died at the beginning of August. The meeting stood in a moments silence in his memory.

Minutes from the Meeting at Coddendenham: The Chairman presented the minutes to the meeting, stating that the committee had agreed on a final structure from discussions at the committee's meeting held the previous week. The minutes were proposed by John Girt and seconded by Robert Scase. The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising from the Minutes: There were no matters arising, aside from the committee structure previously noted by The Chairman.

Election of New Members: There were 3 new members proposed for election;

Claire Last, Rebecca Last and Clara Gostling (Junior Members) for Sproughton were proposed by Ralph Earey and Seconded by Ellie Earey.

The new members were duly elected by the meeting.

Reports:

- i) **Ringing Master:** The Ringing Master spoke about the practices since the previous meeting held in June. Monewden and Cretingham were not as well supported as hoped, but there was still some good ringing achieved. The Quarter Peal evening in August was a great success, with 5 Quarters being scored involving 30 ringers, followed by a good meal afterwards at The Three Tuns at Pettistree. The Ringing Master thanked Kate Eagle for organising the pub and The Secretary for organising the towers.
- ii) **Treasurer:** The Treasurer stated that there was £20.44 in the District funds. It was brought to the attention of the meeting that there still 28 subscriptions outstanding for 2013. The Treasurer also asked that people check their donations for foreign coins, as some had been put into the funds.

- iii) **R & T:** There has not been a meeting since June. There is still ongoing discussion regarding updating R & T notes and driving recruitment. The ITTS scheme continues to progress across the Guild.
- iv) **GMC:** There were no representatives from the South East at the GMC. The Chairman discussed the minutes of the GMC meeting, and stated that a further grant of £500 had been awarded to Clopton for welding work. The Guild Striking competitions were discussed at the GMC, in particular whether to hold them on different days. The role of Report Editor still needs filling following this year's Guild AGM.
- v) **BAC:** The BAC has reported that Clopton is now finished. The dedication service will be held at Clopton on September 8th at 3pm.
- vi) **Young Ringers:** George Salter spoke about the Young Ringers trip to York to compete in the National Youth Striking Competition. They came 3rd in the method category, and had a thoroughly enjoyable day of ringing around York. The events for the forthcoming months were presented to the meeting. The Chairman took the opportunity to thank George and Katharine Salter for their work in organising the events.

Quarter Peal Fortnight: The Ringing Master asked the meeting to think about whether they wanted to ring quarters during the two week period (19th October – 3rd November), and said it would be great to get as many towers ringing as possible. The Master said that people could contact him to help complete bands for quarters, or to offer help to fill bands if required.

South East District Outing 2nd November: The Ringing Master detailed the preliminary itinerary for the outing to Essex, and hoped that it would be as well supported as last year's outing to Norfolk.

Magazine Correspondent: George Pipe has decided to step down from his role as Magazine Correspondent, and The Chairman thanked him on behalf of the meeting for his work over the years. Elaine Townsend has volunteered to take on the position, and will be formally elected at the ADM in December.

September 2014 Meeting: The Chairman stated that the Ringing Roadshow next year will be held on the first Saturday in September. It has been proposed that our meeting be moved to 30th August to accommodate those who wish to go to the Roadshow. The meeting agreed with this proposal.

Bishop Nigel Stock: The Chairman brought it to the attention of the meeting that the farewell service of Bishop Nigel was to be held at The Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds on October 20th at 3.30pm. It was felt by the Committee that a presentation to the Bishop would be appropriate to acknowledge his support for the Guild over the past six years. The meeting agreed, and this proposal would be forwarded to the Guild Chairman.

Service of Thanksgiving at Clopton 8th September: The Chairman had been to Clopton, and all arrangements were in place for the service. David Stanford has been approached to help teach a band along with new recruits from Burgh.

Any Other Business: George Pipe stood and thanked the meeting for their kindness and support through his period of ill health. It has been a great help through his time in hospital and recovering at home.

George Pipe noted that it was disappointing that so many subscriptions were still outstanding, and that they are due on the 1st January each year.

Next year marks the centenary of the Diocese, and there will be events happening throughout the year, with George Pipe displaying his collection of 519 postcards of Suffolk Churches in the Cathedral.

The meeting was asked to remember Rosemary Palmer, of Fordham, Cambridgeshire, and George Pipe spoke of some of his memories of her time in the South West District.

The meeting closed at 6.58pm. Ringing at Bramford will be until 8.30pm.