

Minutes of the Lent Term Business Meeting on Saturday 6th March 2021

Meeting Held over Zoom

Members Present

President: R A Smith

Master: S C Johnson

Secretary: G Chu

John Schofield

Chris Winkless-Clark

David Richards

Robin Shipp

Jonathan Shanklin

Jadd Virji

Frank King

Andrew Johnson

Thomas Haslam

Andrew Roberts

Dima Szamozvancev

Melissa Nash

Luke Smith

Sam Johnson

Jonathan Agg

John Harrison

Elizabeth Hopper

Ed Gardner

Stephen Burr

Jonny Nash

The President opened the meeting at 14:01.

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies received.

2. Minutes of the Michaelmas term business meeting 2020

There were no comments on the accuracy of the minutes, and they were accepted as a true record of the meeting. They were proposed by Chris Winkless-Clark and seconded by the Master. The motion was carried unanimously.

3. Matters Arising

3a. Ringing World Donations

The Master stated that it has been decided since the last meeting to make an annual donation to the Ringing World instead of a subscription, and announced the value discussed by the committee to be £50. It was a good solution as we would also be supporting the Ringing World in years where we do not do as much ringing. The motion was proposed by the Master and seconded by the Secretary and was carried unanimously.

3b. Update on Ropes at StAG

The Steeple Keeper, Chris Winkless-Clark, announced that the Guild was successful in its application to the Society's Syndicate and that they have decided to award us £800, which is half the quoted price from Avon. It was said that the price might be negotiable. In terms of funding, it would be possible to pay from the Guild accounts given the activity is vital to the Guild's operation, and it only occurs once every three decades. The President stated that since the ropes are used less than in the early 90s, they may last for 40 years, and that some of the members attending will not have to discuss this matter ever again. John Harrison suggested that

the old ropes be kept in a workable condition as spares. The Senior Treasurer, Dave Richards, thanked all who had contributed to the application, and welcomed donations from the Guild. The Secretary added that the Guild currently has roughly £3100 in the current account and £5500 in the reserve account and that the Guild is comfortable financially to support the activity. Jonathan Agg concluded the discussion by suggesting it is not necessary to negotiate too hard with Avon given the current circumstances and the fact that the Guild has already gotten the grant. The motion to fund the bells from the Guild accounts were proposed by the Steeple Keeper and seconded by the Master, and was carried unanimously.

4. New Members

There were no new members elected at this meeting.

5. Diary Dates

Diary dates: 20th March - Virtual Dinner

The Master described the main event will be a quiz on Cambridge and bell trivia and hopes to see many Guild members, especially those who don't normally come as it would be nice to catch up. She stated that advance notice is appreciated as she is organising bands this coming week. The Senior Treasurer suggested to set up towers with sounds from Cambridge bells in Ringing Room, and that we have recordings of StAG, Bene't's and GSM. The President also added the old 12 from GSM for nostalgia's sake. John Harrison stated that the Guild is welcome to use the sounds from All Saints Wokingham.

Cancelled Events: Cycle Outing and Joint Outing

The Secretary raised the potential to hold Guild Week following the roadmap announced by the Government. The President stated that this could be done on a much smaller scale as it will be easier to organise in a shorter time frame. He also believes that it will be more appropriate for his successor to organise the event, given it is not feasible to make plans at this time, though we should keep the options open. Jonathan Shanklin concurs with the President and states that he is not organising any residential meetings until getting clearance from the Government and the CCCBR. Stephen Burr asked for a potential location that could accommodate both tower bell and handbell ringing. Andrew Johnson suggested Cambridge as a good location. The President added that there hasn't been a Guild Week in Cambridge for at least 10 years.

For timings, Stephen suggested that it could be held during term time for students to join, albeit a departure from normal, with a possibility of an event in May Week. The Master raised the issues of the exam period and uncertainty around term dates. The Secretary concluded that we should postpone the discussion until the AGM when there is more clarity.

6. Any other business

Stephen Burr mentioned that, although it has not been common recently, junior officers can stay in the same position for more than one year. The President reminded the meeting that nominations for senior officers close in 13 days, 9 hours and 36 minutes. The Senior Treasurer asked whether the deadline for nomination submissions is in GMT or HKT, given that the Secretary is situated in Hong Kong at the moment. The Secretary reassured everyone that the deadline was in GMT. Queries were also raised whether the deadline was in GMT or Cambridge time, though it was mentioned that Frank King will be able to resolve any issues should there be any confusion on differences between the two.

With no other business, the President closed the meeting at 14:25 without the Gavel, the shortest meeting in memory.

G Chu