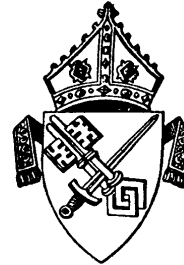


# WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

## PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT



## Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October at Purbrook

- 1 **Chairman's Welcome.** In the absence of Richard Harrison, Andrew Case kindly agreed to chair the meeting, proposed Roy Grayson, seconded David Atkins. Andrew Case then thanked the Vicar, Karen Schmidt, for leading the service and the organist Frank Pegg, also the team at Purbrook for a splendid tea.
- 2 **Apologies.** Had been received from Richard Harrison and Ian Carey.
- 3 **Loss of members though death.** None reported.
- 4 **Collection.** An amendment was proposed (p. Jan Allnutt, s. Roy Grayson) that this meeting's collection should go to the Purbrook tower restoration, as the church tower is leaking like a sieve. All in favour, nem con.
- 5 **Minutes of QDM at Netley, 12<sup>th</sup> July.** There were no corrections to be made.
- 6 **Matters arising.** Referring to item 12 of the minutes, Andrew Case said that towers should give careful consideration to adopting the Central Council (of Bellringers) guidelines if they hadn't already done so, rather than risk the possibility of being forced to follow the Diocese policy which requires all ringers to have CRB checks if there are any under-18s in the band. David Atkins drew everyone's attention to an article in the latest Guild News where it stated that once the new legislation comes into force in October 2009, there may no longer be a requirement for all ringers to be CRB. The minutes were then agreed as a correct record of the

meeting.

- 7 **Election of new members.** The following new members were duly elected:
  - Hugh JW Wilkinson (compounding member), Westbourne, p. Mark Esbester, s. Andrew Case
  - Lesley Blackburn, Titchfield, p. Brian Baverstock, s. Gail Robinson
  - Stephen Russ, unattached, p. Ed Colliss, s. John Colliss
  - Natasha Clements (probationary member), Upham
  - Jackie Thomas, Matilda Thomas and Florence Thomas (probationary members), Soberton.All confirmed at this meeting, nem con.
- 8 **Accounts.** Andrew Case said that all tower subs had been paid and that there was now a surplus of £300 in the fund. A decision would be required at the ADM in February as to what use it could be put.
- 9 **Calendar 2009/10.** DB invited towers to offer dates for next season's district ringing practices. Proposed dates would be needed by Christmas. If there were no offers, then there'd be no practices. DB would email towers at once (as so few were represented at meeting) to request dates.
- 10 **Future Events.** Andrew Case drew attention to the poster now available on the website containing all the events from now till February. Also mentioned was the **10-bell practice** at Portsmouth Cathedral on 1<sup>st</sup> November, and the **Guild Dinner** to be held on April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Royal Hotel in Winchester. DB urged all present to drum up support for the **Barn Dance** at the Cowplain Age Concern Hall on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.
- 11 **Recruitment and Retention seminar.** DB outlined the proposal for 7<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at Shedfield, from 9.30 till 1pm. The seminar would be open to any ringer keen to promote the ringing in their tower and will be in two parts – firstly recruitment and ret., and secondly how best to teach beginners and progress them quickly to being useful ringing members. Mike Winterbourne has kindly agreed to take this part of the seminar.
- 12 **Review of Quarter Peal Fortnight and District Practices.** As Ian Carey was not present at the meeting the review of QPF will be postponed until the ADM. The ringing masters felt that the District practices had been fairly well-attended except for the 12-bell at Bitterne Park in September. For this practice less than 12 district members turned up, with three or four visitors, so the turn-out was disappointing. Rachel Byford pointed out that it was the 'usual suspects' who came along, and we must do more to encourage those who don't usually attend these

practices. There was also a very low attendance at Purbrook in June.

13 **Developments on Child Protection.** This had been covered in item 5.

14 **A.O.B.**

- a. DB asked if anyone knew of any ringer who had been in the Guild for 50 years, as the Guild would like to know. Sarah Hutchinson thought Mavis Whitehead might be one, and would find out.
- b. Roy Grayson said that Purbrook had gained a new recruit through the tower's own website, and wondered whether other towers had their own website, which might in turn produce new interest.

After 25 minutes, Andrew Case thanked everyone and closed the meeting.

*Footnote:*

District Towers represented at the meeting:

Purbrook  
Titchfield  
Alverstoke  
P.Cathedral  
Shedfield  
Catherington  
Southwick

District Towers not represented at the meeting:

Bishop's Waltham  
Botley  
Curdrige  
Droxford  
Portsea  
Fareham  
Hambleton  
Havant  
Netley  
Soberton  
Swanmore  
Upham  
Wickham