

**CASTOR RINGING SCHOOL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SATURDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2018
Held at 12.00 noon in the Cedar Centre, Castor**

In attendance:

Officers and Committee Members:

David Teall (DT), Chairman
Mrs Hilary Hardie (HH), Treasurer
Chris Burgess (CB), Administrator & Protection Officer
Stuart Weston (SW), Safety Officer
Mrs Pat Teall (PT)
Terry Wright (TW)
Miss Angela Whiteway (AW)

Rev David Ridgeway (DR), Alan Ellis (AE), Ronnie Fraser (RF), Ms Julie Nicholson (JN), Mrs Jane Robinson (JR), Mrs Jean Tinsley (JT), Mrs Jane Webb (JW), Janet Firminger

1. WELCOME

DT opened the meeting and welcomed members of the Ringing School.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from:

Edward Baxter, William Baxter, Mrs Helen Cornford, Mrs Pat Dale, Alex Dyer, Miss Araminta Mathias, Mrs Anne Russell

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 4TH MARCH 2017

It was noted that RF's surname was mis-spelled and would be corrected for future minutes. PT proposed the minutes be approved. This was seconded by TW and agreed by the Attendees.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES BUT NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA

No matters were raised from the minutes.

5. ANNUAL REPORTS

(Printed Copies of the reports to be held with the minutes)

Attendance Report

CB reported that 44 sessions had taken place in the last 12 months. The number of attendees had been continually changing but the average was 6 students 6 tutors each week. He stated that the use of "Sign Up Genius" helped immensely with organising sessions, particularly when a large number of students has signed up, however it was still not absolutely accurate as it was reliant on people having access to IT and being able to use the system.

It was felt that session registers were also necessary as a record of attendance with particular reference to Junior and safeguarding. It was discussed and agreed that a that a log book would be available each week for both students and tutors to sign on arrival and that their tower donations would be made at the same time.

Stewards Report

CB reported that the stock of stays was becoming low and that William Baxter was looking into sourcing wood for replenishing stocks.

CB reported problems with the simulator and that a good redundant system had been obtained without cost from Malton. He stated that the system was working well but needed some fine tuning for striking accuracy. There had been an offer of a laptop in the event that the computer breaks down.

DT thanked CB and RF for their work on installation of the simulator system.

Head Tutor's Report

DT reported a busy 2018 with a steady stream of new students, some of whom were travelling fairly long distances to attend. He thanked the Rector, PCC and Steeple Keeper of St Kyneburgha's church for the continued use of the bells. He also thanked tutors, helpers and other experienced ringers who had offered their help throughout the year.

DT reported that HH, TW and AW had attended training courses and passes assessments with the Association of Ringing Teachers. This meant that there were now 5 tutors available which made the running of sessions much easier with options to have multiple activities running at the same time.

Treasurer's Report

HH circulated and summarised the accounts. A small balance remained after payment of tower fees, stays and booklets. St Kyneburgha's had given a grant of £100 towards the simulator system. Though there were still some payments still to be made for the simulator, the bank account was healthy.

DT stated that new tutors had funded their own ART courses and asked attendees what they thought about such courses being funded by the Ringing School. It was agreed that the Ringing School could help cover the cost up to £20 per tutor for future courses. It was noted that tutors and helpers made the same weekly donation as students.

DT thanked HH for her report and for keeping the accounts.

6. ADOPTION OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR 2017/18

CB proposed that the accounts be adopted. This was seconded by JT and agreed by the Attendees.

7. ELECTION OF ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

DT explained the criteria required for Committee members and that the Officers DT, CB, and SW were appointed by St Kyneburgha's PCC and the remaining Committee members were elected. RF, HH, PT, AW and TW were eligible for the 4 available vacancies. PT stated that she was not keen to stand because she felt that having a husband/wife members would potentially bring duplicate opinions to discussions. JT proposed that the remaining four candidates be elected en bloc. This was seconded by JR and agreed by the Attendees.

8. RECOGNITION BY CENTRAL COUNCIL AND ART

DT explained that when the school was originally set up it was with approval from the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CC), under the guidance of their Ringing Centres and Education Committees. He explained that CC was undergoing some restructuring which mean that all the CC Committees would be absorbed into 5 working groups which would be unlikely to continue recognising ringing centres. The Association of Ringing Teachers (ART) now exists and is recognised by CC. Graham Nabb, Chairman of ART has approached the ringing school with a suggestion of becoming either an ART Teaching Centre or and ART Teaching Hub. DT explained that as a Teaching Centre, all tutors must be ART tutors and all teaching is done through the ART Learning the Ropes scheme (LRT). A Teaching Hub operated under the supervision of an ART Tutor and works to ART guidelines, but allows the flexibility for students not to take up LTR if that is their preference.

DT read the requirements for ART Teaching Hubs and noted that the school meets them easily and exceeds the number of required tutors.

Attendees felt that it is important to be recognised by an outside body and following discussion a vote was taken. 14 voted in favour of becoming an ART Teaching Hub. There were no objections, though 1 person was not in complete agreement with having to pay £25 per annum to ART.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

JN thanked tutors and helpers and stated that their patience, encouragement and professionalism are outstanding.

It was noted that sessions would resume after Christmas on 5th January.

The Peterborough Branch AGM would be held on 19th January and therefore there would be no session that day. HH stated that it was an opportunity for those who are eligible to be elected as members of the Branch.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 1.10pm.