

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS.  
WESTERN DIVISION**

**ANNUAL DIVISIONAL MEETING**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at Westbourne.**

**MINUTES OF MEETING.**

Paragraph numbers refer to the item numbers on the meeting agenda.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Simon Kelly, Stella Knight, Ruth Brown, John Bentley and Simon King.
2. The minutes of the last ADM (Goring-by-Sea, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2011) had been distributed to members by e-mail, with the agenda and some reports, prior to the meeting. Additional hard copies were available at the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the chairman.
3. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last ADM.
4. The minutes of the last business meeting (8<sup>th</sup> October 2011) were also reviewed for actions. There were none.
5. The Chairman announced that the Michael Palmer Award had been awarded by the Committee this year to Jack Walker of Goring-by-Sea. Margaret Grundy was invited by the Chairman to read her submission, which had resulted in his selection, by the committee. (A copy is held on file for future reference). The award was then presented by the Ringing Master.
6. Reports of Officers.
  - a. In his report, the Ringing Master observed that this was the end of his first year and thanked all the members of the committee and all the other helpers, who run the different practices in the Division throughout the year, for all their assistance. He had also noticed in his travels around the division how many ringers helped in their neighbouring towers and also how ringers now moved from their own to other towers on practice nights to gain experience. This must all help to improve the overall standard of ringing in the Division. He went on to report how well donations from the BRF had been received and the work of the BRF throughout the year. (A full copy of his report is on file for future reference).
  - b. The Secretary's report had been circulated before the meeting. It outlined how this last year had been more traditional compared to the previous one which had been the busy 125 celebration year. The monthly practices in a wide variety of towers had taken place as usual, including the now annual 'walk and ring'. By request more services had been held at these practices. The Secretary also reported on the development and consolidation of the new database. (A full copy of this report is held on file for reference and will appear as the formal Secretary's Report in the next Annual Report).
  - c. The Treasurer, Moya Hills reported what monies she had received and passed on to the Association Treasurer. These included money collected in the 'bell' and raffles for

the BRF, during the year. (A full copy of this statement is held on file for future reference). During this item on the agenda, the Chairman took the opportunity to outline the function of the Reg. Johnson Fund and how it can be used to contribute to the costs of junior members attending ringing courses.

d. The Publicity Officers reported on the new Association Website, which was noted from the floor to have gone live that day. There was still much work to be done on the website. They went on to report that there will be a 'Big Ring Day' on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012 which is hoped to increase the public awareness of ringing and link with the following day which is 'Return to Church Sunday'. In their work with Sally Forth, they reported that for most of the editions they had been hard pressed to find sufficient space. Mike and Sheila Foster finally expressed a wish to step down as Publicity Officers for which the Chairman then made a formal vote of thanks for all their hard work over the past years.

e. The Education Officer reported that the Saturday practices had returned to a more normal and regular pattern. She also reported on the special courses that had been run such as the Kaleidoscope Course and the usual two day course in October. Members were invited to let the Training Officer have any suggestions or requests for additional courses. (A copy of the full report is held on file for future reference).

f. The Bell Restoration Officer gave the meeting the details of work carried out over the year and referred to South Harting, Milland and the other towers he had visited during the year. He also reported progress in the application for a faculty to correct the cracked 6<sup>th</sup> at Pulborough. There was also some hopeful news about the bells at Bury which have been out of action for over 100 years. (A full copy of this report is held on file for reference).

7. The chairman outlined the programme for the coming year as follows:-

10 March	Kirdford	Call Change Competition
14 April	Steyning	Practice with service
12 May	Turners Hill	SCACR AGM
26 May	tba	Divisional Outing
9 June	Milland	Evening practice
14 July	Walk & Ring	tbc (Could be Bosham/Chichester area)
11 August	tba	(Could be a ring and picnic)
8 September	Funtington	Practice, service & business meeting
29 September	All towers	Big Ring Day

8. Due to the use of both the new and old forms for proposing new members, some candidates required to be seconded at the meeting. On the new form a seconder is already noted. The Secretary read through the list of new members noting those who required to be seconded and then called for this to be done. Ken Knight seconded the noted candidates. The chairman then asked the meeting for the list of member as a whole to be accepted. They were elected by acclamation. They were as follows:-

Amberley	Alexander Briggs	John Bentley	Moya Hills
Bosham	Kezzia Winter	David Hanwell	Mandy Rodgers
	June Hughes	Mandy Rodgers	Jane West
Goring-by-Sea	Joanne Cheng	Moya Hills	Ken Knight (at ADM)
Graffham	Elsa Barden	Hilary Major	Carole Kirke
	Aurea Dyer	Hilary Major	Carole Kirke
	Karin Skanberg	Hilary Major	Carole Kirke

Rogate	Patricia Bateman	Sara Tupper	Hilare-Ann Buell
Shipley	Andrew Meyer	Sue Meyer	Simon Meyer
	Jacqueline Gordon	Sue Meyer	Simon Meyer
Stedham	Tina Fenwick Smith	Barry Cooper	Moya Hills
	Tony Douglas	Barry Cooper	Moya Hills
Storrington	Steve Swyer	Mike Foster	Ken Knight (at ADM)
Stoughton	Peter Hughes	Tim Wright	Ken Knight (at ADM)
	Joanne Woodcock	Tim Wright	Ken Knight (at ADM)
Westbourne	Cearan Papworth	Peter Wilkinson	Sheila Ingram
	Makaela Papworth	Peter Wilkinson	Sheila Ingram

9. Election of Officers.

a. For the election of the Ringing Master, the Secretary took the chair of the meeting. Graham Hills was willing to continue as Divisional Ringing Master and as there were no other nominations, was therefore duly elected.

b.& c. Both the Secretary, Jack Burton and Treasurer, Moya Hills were re-elected unopposed.

d. The present Publicity Officers had expressed a wish to step down and in the chairman's call for nominations, Margaret Grundy and Liz. Beadle jointly were proposed by Moya Hills and seconded by Liz. Potter. They were elected by acclamation.

e. & f. Both the Education Officer, Christine Butterworth and the BRF Representative, Geoff. Rix were re-elected unopposed.

g. The current Central Council Rep, Ian Hastilow had now moved away from the area and was unable to continue with the remaining year of his three year tenure so the Chairman called for nominations to replace him. Andrew Barnsdale was proposed by Geoff Rix and seconded by Peter Wilkinson. Also Stella Bianco was proposed by Mike Foster and seconded by Roger Watts. A secret ballot was therefore declared by the Chairman who asked Mike Wade and the Rector of Westbourne, who was attending the meeting, to act as scrutineers. The result of the ballot was 42 votes for Andrew Barnsdale and 14 votes for Stella Bianco. There was one spoilt paper. Andrew Barnsdale was duly appointed as the Western Division Representative to the Central Council with immediate effect.

h. Although taken at a later point in the meeting, both Committee Members, John Taylor and Roger Watts were both unopposed and re-elected. The Chairman asked if there was any young member wishing to serve on the Committee as it was felt that this group of the membership was under represented. After some discussion and persuasion, Jack Walker was proposed by Liz Beadle and seconded by Margaret Grundy. He was elected to the committee by acclamation.

10. Over recent months there has been discussion in ringing circles about the use of simulators on bells and if peals on simulators should be recorded as such. The General Committee had passed down a request for Divisions to sound out the feelings of their membership about the subject and report back. To this end John Norris had been asked to attend the ADM and explain the present situation and to indicate what was being proposed as a motion to the Central Council. The views expressed at Division level would be represented at the centre by the various Council Reps. John explained how the number of simulators being fitted was steadily increasing and more peals were being rung on them. This included both on church bells and dumb-bells fitted with simulators. There followed considerable discussion about the ringing and hearing of peals by the general public. Because of the noted short timescale to report the thoughts of members, it was decided to take a non-binding straw poll of the members present. There were three options on which a show of hands was asked. The motions were:- 1. Peals on open rung bells only should continue to be recorded.

2. Peals rung on muffled bells fitted with simulators should be recorded as peals
3. Peals rung on simulators should be recorded as a totally separate activity.

The result of the straw poll was follows:- Motion 1: 21 votes,  
motion 2: 3 votes and  
motion 3: 34 votes.

Motion 3 was considered to reflect the feeling of the meeting.

11. The following nominations were made for General Officers of the Association.
  - a. Master: David Kirkcaldy, by Stella Bianco and Ian Woodhams.
  - b. General Secretary: No nomination.
  - c. Treasurer: Valerie Burgess, by Ken Knight and Geoff Rix.
  - d. BRF Secretary: Graham Hills, by Kathy Howard and Ken Knight.
  - e. General Publicity Officer: Kathy Howard, by Adele Potton and Brenda Cox.
  - f. Education Officer: Anne Franklin, by Peter Blackman and Andrew Barnsdale.
  - g. Peal Secretary: Alan Baldock, by Geoff Rix and Roger Watts.
  - h. Librarian: Stella Bianco, by Andrew Barnsdale and Ken Knight.
  - i. No nominee was offered for the post of Trustee
  - j. Safeguarding Officer: Sue Elrick, by Stella Bianco and Moya Hills.
12.
  - a. Under "A.O.B.", the Secretary explained the need to use the new Proposal Form for Membership proposals and its various other uses in providing information for the database.
  - b. The Association Ringing Master reported that the book on the history of ringing in Sussex was now published
  - c. He also reported that there would be training courses for tower representatives, one per division, for the instruction of "Safeguarding" in connection with bellringing.
13. The date of the next ADM will be 9<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at Storrington (tbc).

Jack Burton  
Secretary.

These minutes are accepted as a true record.

Chairman.  
9<sup>th</sup> February 2013.