

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held at Braunton on Saturday 17th June 2017

- A17/1 Alison Waterson (President) opened the meeting with a welcome to the 54 members present and confirmed the meeting was quorate. She thanked all at St Brannock's and in the North / North West Branch who were involved in organising the day's events; she also thanked the Revd John Thompson for leading the service and Martin Bosworth for playing the organ. Alison then invited Nigel Birt to lead the members in an opening prayer.
- A17/2 Apologies for absence were received from: Roger Avery, Anne Bailey, Donna Baker, Peter Bill, Michael Cannon, Lisa Clarke, Robert Corney, Alan Edwards, Ken Edwards, Robert Franklin, Amy and Gareth Gill, Clare Griffiths, Mo Hawkins, Lynne Hughes, Julian Jenkins, Kate Jennings, Jenny Jones, Roger King, Stuart MacDonald, Norman Mallett, Alison and Graham Milne, Richard Norman, Yvonne Porter, Matt Pym, Judith Reynolds, Don Roberts, Fiona Rock-Evans, John Steere, Christine and David Swords, Steve and Rachel Taylor, Catherine Thorpe, Katryn Webb, Michael Whitaker.
- A17/3 Losses by death since the last AGM: John Clifton, Jan Earle, Margaret Egglestone, Julie House, John Pugh, Nigel Stroud. Members stood in silence to remember them.
- A17/4 Minutes of the 2016 meeting were signed as a correct record (p: Nigel Birt, s: Mark Heritage). Tim Bayton was thanked for pointing out a number of typographical errors, which did not affect the meaning of the minutes.
- A17/5 Matters arising from the minutes: John Martin (Secretary) advised that the report of the Recruitment and Teaching Working Party had been made available on the Guild website.
- A17/6 Election of new members: Jem Meredith (Dawlish) (p: Lynne Hughes, s: Fiona Rock-Evans).
- A17/7 Officers' Reports: These were received as printed in the annual report.
- A17/8 Adoption of accounts/transfer of monies to DCBRF: The accounts are as published in the annual report and have been examined by Ruth Rockey. Adoption of the accounts was proposed by John MacKee, seconded by Tim Bayton and carried unanimously. Sue Sawyer (Treasurer) then proposed that £2,000.00 be transferred to the DCBRF; this was seconded by James Kirkcaldy, and carried unanimously. Sue Sawyer also proposed that the Education Fund be topped up to £500; this was seconded by Tim Bayton and carried unanimously.
- A17/9 Subscription Review (rule 3.1): Sue Sawyer (Treasurer) proposed that the subscriptions for 2018 should remain unaltered at £6.00. This was agreed.
- A17/10 Election of Officers: Alison Waterson thanked all the Guild Officers for their hard work over the past year.
- a) Master 2017/18: Sue Sawyer (p: Ian Smith, s: Leslie Boyce). Nigel Birt then presented Sue Sawyer with the Master's insignia, and thanked everyone for the welcome he had received across the Guild; he also wished Sue well in her year as Master. Sue took the chair to take nominations for President.
 - b) President: Alison Waterson (p: Ian Smith, s: Jenny Sparling).
 - c) Master Elect: Sheila Scofield (p: Geoff Hill, s: Lester Yeo).
 - d) Vice-Presidents: At the January General Committee Meeting the following proposal for the election of a new Vice President had been received:
Martin Mansley (p: Nigel Birt, s: Michael Mears).
The proposal was carried unanimously.
 - e) Secretary: John Martin (p: Lester Yeo, s: Lynne Hughes).

- f) Treasurer: The following nominations had been received:
Charlotte Boyce (p: Lynne Hughes, s: James Kirkcaldy).
Fergus Stracey (p: Trevor Vercoe, s: Roger Compton).
When the nominations were read out, Fergus withdrew his nomination and Alison Waterson thanked him for his expression of interest; Charlotte Boyce was elected unanimously.
Alison Waterson thanked Sue Sawyer for her 20 years of service as Guild Treasurer.
- g) Peal Secretary: Michael Mears (p: John Foster, s: James Kirkcaldy).
- h) Quarter Peal Secretary: James Kirkcaldy (p: Andrew Digby, s: Nigel Birt).
- i) Education Officer: Tim Bayton (p: James Kirkcaldy, s: Oliver Bates).
- j) Librarian: Leslie Boyce (p: Sheila Scofield, s: Mark Heritage).
- k) Report Secretary: John Foster (p: Charlotte Boyce, s: Lester Yeo). John Martin invited those present to join a vote of thanks to John Foster who had succeeded in producing the Annual Report in good time for the meeting.
- l) Bells and Belfries Advisors: Nominations had been received as follows:
Ian Campbell (p: Helen Heriott, s: Nigel Birt).
Ian Smith (p: Wendy Campbell, s: Sue Sparling).
David Willis moved a vote of thanks to the Advisors for their work over the last year.
- m) Publicity Officer: Lynne Hughes (p: David Hird, s: Leslie Boyce).
- n) Ringing Round Devon Editor: Ian Campbell (p: Michael Mears, s: Andrew Digby).
- o) Safeguarding Officer: Robert Brown (p: Lynne Hughes, s: Paul Pascoe).

A17/11 Election of DCBRF Trustees (3): Nominations had been received as follows:
Ian Smith (p: Wendy Campbell, s: Sheila Scofield).
Ian Campbell (p: Clare Griffiths, s: Sue Sparling).
Mary Mears (p: Michael Mears, s: Peter Brown).

A17/12 Appointment of Independent Examiner of Accounts: Tim Payne (p: Alison Waterson). John Martin was asked to write to Ruth Rockey to express our thanks for her work in examining the Guild accounts.

A17/13 Adoption of Terms of Reference for the DenMisch simulated ring: Alison Waterson introduced the previously circulated draft Terms of Reference document, advised that it had been reviewed by the officers, and invited any comments. An amendment to the responsibilities of the Management Committee (point 7) was tabled (p: Lester Yeo, s: James Kirkcaldy) and accepted unanimously.

Acceptance of the modified Terms of Reference was proposed by Alison Waterson, seconded by Martin Mansley and accepted unanimously.

Six nominations for Management Committee members were received:

Ian Campbell	p: Charlotte Boyce	s: Michael Mears
Oliver Coldrick	p: James Kirkcaldy	s: Martin Mansley
Sue Sawyer	p: Lester Yeo	s: David Willis
David Hird	p: Ian Campbell	s: Mark Heritage
Nigel Birt	p: Alison Waterson	s: Martin Mansley
Tim Bayton	p: James Kirkcaldy	s: Leslie Boyce

A proposal (p: Lester Yeo, s: Tim Bayton) that the nomination of these six candidates be put to the vote was received and all were accepted unanimously. It is noted that the appropriate Guild officers elected this year as mentioned in the Terms of Reference (point 1) are Sue and Tim.

A17/14 Report from Central Council Meeting at Edinburgh: Fergus Stracey presented his report on the Central Council Meeting held in Edinburgh, which was attended by two out of the four Guild representatives.

The main points of note were that the representative fee was to increase by £10 and that the annual meeting would move to September.

A17/15 Fundraising: Date of Quarter Peal Festival – 20th October – 5th November 2017: James Kirkcaldy (Quarter Peal Secretary) once again asked that members link their performances on Bellboard.

A17/16 Guild 6 and 8-Bell Striking Competitions: Leslie Boyce confirmed that the Guild Striking competitions would be held on Saturday 21st October and hosted by the North East Branch. The 6-bell competition would be held at Stoodleigh, the Novice competition at Bampton, and the 8-bell competition at Silverton. Refreshments would be available at Silverton church hall.

A17/17 Proposal to Introduce a Novice 8-Bell Striking Competition: Alison Waterson introduced the proposal to implement a novice 8-bell striking competition and asked Alena Wardle to speak to the proposal. Alena explained the intention is to create opportunities for the less experienced to take part in an 8-bell striking competition and that the proposal had already been considered and recommended by the Guild Committee. After some discussion Alena proposed a vote; this was seconded by Nigel Birt and passed unanimously. The Guild Committee would work towards introducing the new competition in 2018.

A17/18 Guild Festival and Annual General Meeting 2018: Rodney Horder invited members to attend the meeting that the Mid-Devon Branch would be hosting on Saturday 16th June 2018 based at St Paul's church, Newton Abbot.

A17/19 Any Other Business:

- a) Martin Mansley drew the meeting's attention to the 75th anniversary of the lifting of the ban on ringing after the battle of El Alamein.
- b) David Willis spoke about the work he had been doing in connection with adding the names of Devon ringers who fell in World War I to the Rolls of Honour. He noted the Rolls now included 66 names.
- c) Leslie Boyce reported that scanned copies of the Guild reports had been prepared covering both World Wars, so that towers could cross check with church records to identify other fallen ringers. Leslie offered his thanks to Richard Johnston for his technical assistance.
- d) Geoff Hill drew the meeting's attention to the recent series of Ringing World articles by John Eisel relating to early ringing in Devon. John Martin was asked to write an email expressing the Guild's appreciation to Dr Eisel.

There being no further business, Alison Waterson declared the meeting closed at 3:15pm.

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Alison Waterson (President)

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(Date)

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Braunton on Saturday 17th June 2017

Alison Waterson (President) opened the meeting that followed the Annual General Meeting of the Guild. It was agreed that all business should be deferred to the next meeting of the General Committee on Saturday 20th January 2018. (p: Janet Ritterman, s: Wendy Campbell). The meeting closed at 3:20pm.

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Alison Waterson (President)

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(Date)