

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held virtually on the Zoom teleconferencing service on Saturday 27th June 2020

- A20/1 Alison Waterson (President) opened the meeting by inviting Nigel Birt to lead the members in an opening prayer. Alison welcomed the 102 members who had joined the meeting and confirmed the meeting was quorate. Alison then summarised the arrangements for this first virtual Annual General Meeting. She thanked all in the East Devon Branch who had prepared many exciting activities for the day, none of which could go ahead in their original form because of the restrictions on physical gatherings introduced to counter the 2020 coronavirus pandemic. Alison explained the meeting agenda had been streamlined to keep the meeting as short as possible and welcomed our guest speaker, Steve Coleman who would be leading a session after the meeting.
- A20/2 Apologies for absence were received from: Roger Avery, Anne Bailey, Elena Brake, Julia Brett, Maddie Brett, Will Carew, Mike Erith, Elaine Grant, James Grant, Geoff Hill, Yvonne Porter, Don Roberts, Fiona Rock-Evans, Wendy Rennie, Elaine Smerdon, Ian Smith, Neville Stanford, Richard Wills, Richard Winnall, Lester Yeo.
- A20/3 Losses by death since the last AGM: Robert Balman, Lowrey Bell, Lewis Cobb, John Conduct, John Glynn, George Griffin, Ian Hardy, Terry Hargreaves, Norman Mallett, Maureen Smallwood, Alan Spear, Charlie Taylor, George Tribe, Peter Vincent, Ken Wannell, David Willis. A short period of silence was observed to remember them.
- A20/4 Minutes of the 2019 meeting and the June 2019 Committee meeting were agreed unanimously, both by those present and those using a proxy vote as a correct record (p: Alison Waterson, s: Mark Heritage).
- A20/5 Matters arising from the minutes: Alison Waterson reported the Guild Library had been relocated to St Petrock's church in Exeter and thanked Les Boyce for his efforts in finding a suitable venue which has also made it possible for the library resources to be made available on a regular basis.

Alison Waterson also reported that Will Carew had agreed to take up the post of Guild Insurance Officer and welcomed him to the team.

- A20/6 Election of new members: The following proposals were received:
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| Gail Herbert | <i>Axminster</i> | Prop : Peter Simpson | Sec : Anne Double |
| Catherine Stonehewer-Newbold | <i>Lapford</i> | Prop : Steve Munday | Sec : Peter Richards |
| Chris Stonehewer-Newbold | <i>Lapford</i> | Prop : Steve Munday | Sec : Peter Richards |
| Caroline Stokes | <i>Bondleigh</i> | Prop : Steve Munday | Sec : Geoff Sparling |
| Graham Stokes | <i>Bondleigh</i> | Prop : Steve Munday | Sec : Geoff Sparling |
| Danny Semorad | <i>Bondleigh</i> | Prop : Steve Munday | Sec : Geoff Sparling |
| Philip Townsend | <i>Bondleigh</i> | Prop : Steve Munday | Sec : Geoff Sparling |
| Geoffrey Rix | <i>Bondleigh</i> | Prop : Steve Munday | Sec : Geoff Sparling |
| Sonia Rix | <i>Bondleigh</i> | Prop : Steve Munday | Sec : Geoff Sparling |

Additionally, Bondleigh requested affiliation as a Guild tower.

The proposals were agreed unanimously, both by those present and those using a proxy vote.

- A20/7 Officers' Reports: These were received as printed in the annual report; no comments or questions had been received.
- A20/8 Adoption of accounts/transfer of monies to DCBRF: The accounts are as published in the annual report and have been examined by Tim Payne. Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Fergus Stracey, seconded by Sue Sawyer and carried unanimously, both by those present and those using a proxy vote.

Charlotte Boyce (Treasurer) then proposed that £2,235.00 be transferred to the DCBRF; this was seconded by Peter Bill, and carried unanimously, both by those present and those using a proxy vote.

A20/9 Subscription Review (rule 3.1): Charlotte Boyce (Treasurer) explained a proposal had been received at the Guild General Committee meeting in January to increase the Guild subscription and advised members it was 10 years since the last increase and so is probably overdue. However, uncertainties associated with the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic and our unfamiliarity with running a virtual meeting prompted a discussion with those Committee members who had proposed the subscription increase and it had been decided to revisit this at the General Committee meeting in January 2021 with the expectation that a proposal for an increase would be brought to the 2021 Annual General Meeting. Alena Wardle spoke briefly to confirm the discussions referred to had taken place.

A20/10 Election of Officers: Alison Waterson thanked all the Guild Officers for their hard work over the past year and explained that to streamline the flow of the meeting members would on this occasion be invited to vote *en bloc* for the elected officers and that all existing officers had indicated their willingness to continue with their current role, as listed below:

Master 2020/21	Janet Ritterman
President	Alison Waterson
Master Elect for 2021/22	Neil Deem
Secretary	John Martin
Treasurer	Charlotte Boyce
Peal Secretary	Michael Mears
Quarter Peal Secretary	James Kirkcaldy
Education Officer	Tim Bayton
Librarian	Leslie Boyce
Report Secretary	John Foster
Bells and Belfries Advisor(s)	Ian Campbell, Ian Smith
Publicity Officer	Lynne Hughes
Ringling Round Devon Editor	Ian Campbell
Safeguarding Officer	Robert Brown
DenMisch Management Committee	Oliver Coldrick, Ian Campbell, David Hird, Janet Ritterman, Tim Bayton
DCBRF Trustees	Janet Deem, Mary Mears, Ian Smith

The *en bloc* election was proposed by Nigel Birt and seconded by Martin Mansley. The election was agreed unanimously, both by those present and those using a proxy vote.

A20/11 Election of DCBRF Trustees (3): Also included in the *en bloc* election recorded in point A20/10 above.

A20/12 Appointment of Independent Examiner of Accounts: Tim Payne (p: Alison Waterson).

A20/13 Fund raising: Ringing Festival: Alison Waterson outlined some ringing activities which it was hoped might take place during the Ringing Festival between 16th October and 1st November and suggested performances be linked to the event on the BellBoard website and submitted to Ringing Round Devon along with donating to DCBRF. If it were not possible to re-start ringing some virtual activities would be made available for members to participate in.

A20/14 Guild 6 and 8-Bell Striking Competitions: Alison Waterson advised that details of arrangements for the Guild Striking Competitions would be circulated when it was clear whether the pandemic restrictions would allow members to gather to take part.

A20/15 2022 Ringing World National Youth Contest: Alison Waterson announced that the 2022 National Youth Contest would be held in Exeter and expressed the desire of the officers that the Guild should, if possible enter two teams. Towers with young ringers who might wish to take part were asked to contact John Martin.

A20/16 Any Other Business:

- a) Janet Deem provided an update on the current financial state of the Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund, noting that expenditure in 2020 is likely to exceed income and that the income forecast for

2021 is likely to be reduced. She mentioned several ways in which members could make donations to support the work of DCBRF.

- b) Alison Waterson reminded members of forthcoming virtual events and reminded members to cast their vote for a new coloured logo.
- c) Les Boyce proposed a vote of thanks to those who had enabled this virtual meeting to take place.

There being no further business, Alison Waterson declared the meeting closed.

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Alison Waterson (President)

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(Date)

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

held virtually on the Zoom teleconferencing service on Saturday 27th June 2020

Alison Waterson (President) opened the meeting that followed the Annual General Meeting of the Guild. It was agreed all business should be deferred to the next meeting of the General Committee on Saturday 16th January 2021. (p: Alison Waterson).

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Alison Waterson (President)

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(Date)