

The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers Chipping Norton Branch

Minutes of the Autumn Meeting held at Churchill on Tuesday 2nd October 2018

1. Welcome

The Chairman, Ken Wakefield, welcomed the Guild Steward, eleven branch members and three visitors to the meeting. A minute of silence was observed for Diane Huffer, former tower captain of Churchill, who died in June.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from the Guild Treasurer, David Hopewell, and Mike Brooks. Others are recorded in the attendance book.

3. Minutes of the 2018 Branch AGM These were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

Branch website C.H. reminded everyone that the branch webmaster wished to receive reports from towers for the website. As several towers had undergone work or were in the process of doing so, it was hoped that some effort would be put to addressing this.

Ringling Day No final figure was available yet for the amount raised.

5. Minutes of the Tower Captains/ reps meeting held on 19.6.18 These were agreed.

6. Matters arising

Claire Tarrant Award

Members were reminded that nominations for the award should be sent to the Chairman by 31st December and that confidentiality should be observed in this process. It had been suggested that more information should be available about those who had already received the Award. The recipients were to be consulted about this before this took place.

Branch practices' record sheet The purpose of this is to see that a balanced practice is run.

Tower updates

Ascott-u-Wychwood Most of the work on the bells is to be completed on 4th & 5th October.

Shipton -u-Wychwood The bells are being removed and will be taken to Loughborough on 4th October.

Leafield Andrew Pickett, of Leafield, reported that remedial work to the tower to address the problem of water getting on to the bells and fittings has been carried out. Whites had been to carry out an inspection and more work would be needed before the bells could be rung. The clock and chimes were to be checked in the next few weeks.

GDPR

The meeting was reminded that tower captains need to forward communications to their members as some have not opted in to receive these.

Safeguarding

Ken W. and Chris H. had attended a Safeguarding course in September, organised by the Diocese.

Members were reminded that DBS checks, specifically for ringing were needed, and that other checks for other areas were not transferable. It was hoped that more courses might be arranged. The issues of safety in towers and bell maintenance were highlighted.

7. There were no new members

8 2019 Branch AGM

It was suggested that this meeting might be held at Chipping Norton on Saturday 2nd March 2019.

The secretary had contacted the Revd. Dr. James Kennedy about this possibility.

The half-yearly meeting would take place at the tower selected for the October Branch practice.

9. Branch Practices programme 2019

It has been suggested that the January Branch practice might be held at Chadlington on Saturday 5th. It has been proposed that the February Branch practice should take place at Hook Norton on Saturday 9th. Nigel said that this would be a joint practice with the Banbury Branch. There will be further details when these are available.

10. AOB

Sunday 11th November

It is hoped that bells will be rung to mark the centenary of the end of WW1. taking local services into account and also national commemorations where possible.

Branch account C.H. reported that there had been some issues with the Branch's TSB general account.

It is hoped to change to a different account when the system allows for this.

First quarter peal K. W. presented a first quarter peal certificate to Christine Stevens to mark that event on 4th June.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

K. Wakefield 2-03-19.