

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

East Berks & South Bucks Branch

Minutes of the Half Yearly Meeting held at Burnham on Saturday 13th October 2018

The meeting was attended by 35 members representing 11 towers.

The Chairman, John Davidge welcomed to the meeting the new Guild Master, Katie Lane.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Tina Ruff, Janice Dieppe, John Dieppe, Josie Martin, Janet Gillard, Alison Bayley.

2. Minutes of the AGM held at Bray on Saturday 28th April 2018

These had been circulated via the User Group. They were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

The Chairman noted that the officers had discussed the suggestion of making the young ringers' organiser an official post and had agreed to this. The new post should be created at an AGM so the matter will be on the agenda for that meeting.

4. Election of Officers

i) Branch Representatives:

Now that we have over 325 branch members we are entitled to a fourth representative on the Guild committee. Timmy Mallett asked what the role of the Branch Representatives is. The chairman explained that they represent the branch (and vote) at two Guild committee meetings per year, report back to the branch and attend branch officers' meetings so help with the management of the branch.

John Davidge was proposed by Robert Newton, seconded by Angela Darvill.

5. Election of New Members

The following were nominated for membership of the Guild by Michael Bayley:

Amanda Almeida and Mandy Lindsay, both of Penn.

Both new members were elected. Michael Bayley reported that we currently have 331 branch members.

6. 2019 Programme

The secretary (Patricia Newton) reported that EBSB will be hosting the Guild 6-bell Striking Competition next year and Chalfont St Peter have kindly agreed to host that, and eliminator towers may also be required.

The 2019 AGM will be on the fourth Saturday in April at Clewer, preceded by a service. The Half Yearly meeting will be at Hughenden. Branch practices next year will be consolidated to one per month, mostly on the third Saturday. Some will be morning, some afternoon and some evening. This

is a trial to see what times are more popular. Most towers are now booked for practices, and details will be circulated when complete.

Jan Galloway reminded us of this year's Christmas practice and social at Amersham on Saturday 8th December.

7. Guild Events

- i) Katie Lane, ODG Master, spoke about the new Guild website. She apologised that it is taking longer than anticipated, but there is a lot of work being done behind the scenes, and progress is being made.
- ii) Ken Darvill, ODG Secretary, mentioned that the Guild AGM will be in the Chiltern Branch next year. This is close to us so we are encouraged to support the AGM. Chiltern Branch may request the use of some of our towers.
- iii) Peter Sippitt asked if there would be further C2 safeguarding courses run by the Guild. Katie Lane reported the course at Kidlington was very successful and several EBSB members attended. She added that June Wells (ODG Safeguarding Officer) is organising one for next year, but pointed out that many parishes are providing their own courses. Peter Sippitt asked that the course be tailored to ringing and teaching ringing. The course at Kidlington was not really designed that way, although discussion topics were amended to be appropriate to ringing. Katie Lane will discuss this with June Wells, but it was suggested that Peter also contacts June Wells with his request.

8. Any Other Business

- i) Peter Jasper (Ringing Master) mentioned that Josie Godfrey was now back at university so he would take over running the young ringers' practices again. He asks that we encourage our young ringers to attend. They hope to enter a band in the Ringing World Young Ringers' Contest again next year.
- ii) Marcia Dieppe asked about ringing for Armistice. Should we be ringing at 12.30 or 7.05 pm? We have received mixed messages, but the main thing is that we ring – half muffled for 11.00 am and open later in the day. Local arrangements will depend on what the incumbent requests.
- iii) Vote of Thanks: The chairman thanked the Burnham ringers, and also Angela Darvill and Mandy Salter for providing tea and cake.
- iv) Katie Lane added that she was pleased to be able to attend our meeting and thanked the EBSB Branch. There are many members from our branch who do a lot to support the Guild.

Lorna Newton Competition Results

John Davidge thanked Stephen and Carolyn Crawley who had judged the final. The competing bands were congratulated on getting to the final, and results were as follows:

1 st	Amersham	19 faults
2 nd	Chesham	26 faults
3 rd	High Wycombe "B"	29 faults
4 th	Cookham	38 faults
5 th	Turville	289 faults

A suitably engraved wooden spoon was presented to Turville.

Robert Newton presented the trophy to the winners and Meryl Kennedy to the runners up.