

Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers
Winchester District
Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held Saturday, 10 November 2007, at Crawley

This being the District Education Day, before the meeting Christine Hill led a course, 'Beyond Bob Doubles', at Sparsholt. After this, members enjoyed a delicious tea in the church rooms at Crawley. Following the meeting there was open ringing until 6:30pm.

Chairman's Welcome

Richard Thompson opened the meeting at 4:50pm and welcomed the 21 members, including Guild Secretary Pam Thompson, to the meeting. He then thanked the Sparsholt members for the use of their bells and Crawley members for hosting the meeting and providing tea.

Election of New Members

Confirmation of Probationary Election

North Stoneham	3 September 2007	Johanna Duguenay, James Duguenay, proposed by Martin Kelly, seconded by Alison Martin
	14 September 2007	Hai Viet Troung, proposed by Martin Kelly, seconded by Alison Martin
Crawley	7 November 2007	Chloe Breen, proposed by Edmund J. Wratten, seconded by Amanda Bayford

Confirmation of Compounding Elections

17 October 2007	Sally Schupke of Guildford Proposed by Roy LeMarechal and seconded by Benjamin J. Carey prior to a peal at St. Nicholas', Guildford
3 November 2007	Stuart P. Talbot of Cinderford, Gloucestershire Proposed by Christine Hill and seconded by Peter Hill at Colerne, Wiltshire

New Ringing Members

Bishopstoke Virgina Dewhurst, proposed by Roy LeMarechal and seconded by Clare J. Griffiths
All were elected unanimously.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held at Bishop's Sutton on 11 August 2007 had been previously circulated. As no amendments were suggested Rosemary Oakeshott proposed and Jen Churchill seconded that the minutes should be accepted. This was carried unanimously by the members and the amended minutes will be duly signed by the chairman as an accurate record.

Matters Arising

Edmund reported that Easton Church was still closed for ringing as their renovations were under way. Peter Hill reported that the Romsey band was now adjusting to their recently re-tuned bells, which sounded strange to him and Elizabeth Johnson confirmed that, as per an advertisement in the Ringing World, visitors were now welcome at practices.

Ringing Masters' Programmes

Jen remarked how very pleased she was with today's course and pointed out that it had been over-subscribed. She explained that it had been suggested by ringers at the tower representatives' meeting as had a course on bell maintenance. Edmund announced that this course would be in the spring when the weather was warmer.

Future Events

Theo reminded members that the District Carol Service would be held at Micheldever, although Helen Cramp with whom she had originally made this arrangement is now living in Winchester. The Crofts confirmed that the carol service appeared on the church calendar in the parish magazine there. She also reminded members of a District practice at North Stoneham on 8 January 2008 and that the ADM would be at Romsey Abbey. The secretary then took this opportunity to remind members that all offices would be open for election at the ADM as the term for every post is one year. She also informed them that after four years as secretary she would be stepping down, as would Richard Thompson, who urged them to consider candidates. Richard Thompson then reminded members that the Guild AGM, 5 July, would be hosted by the Winchester District this year and urged people to think what towers might take part.

AOB

Clare Griffiths: Collection for the Bell Restoration Fund raised £16.

Peter Hill: An official letter, on headed paper, should be sent to Ken Warner thanking him for arranging an excellent District Outing, enjoyed by many, to the Isle of Purbeck in October. Jen Churchill replied that she had written to him

already.

Roy LeMarechal: Winchester District won the 10-bell Interdistrict Striking Competition beating a band from the Isle of Wight and from Portsmouth. The competition was held at Carisbrooke, IoW and judged by Rosemary Hill.

Elizabeth Johnson: There will be no practice at New Alresford on Friday, 30 November. There will be a practice at Old Alresford on Monday, 12 November and Friday, 30 November (in lieu of New Alresford).

There being no further business, Richard Thompson closed the meeting at 5:07pm.