

**MINUTES of the Annual District Meeting held at Great Dunmow on
Saturday 5th January 2019**

Present:	Gareth Bennett (GB)	Deputy Master
	Vicki Elliott (VE)	Treasurer
	Linda Ranby (LR)	Secretary

Members Present: 30

The Deputy Master welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Revd Lea Williams for taking the service and Gaynor Potter and her team for providing the teas.

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from A Brewster, J Elliott, A Kelso, D Learmonth, V LeFèvre, B Meads, D Sparling, E Thompson, S Ward, J Wilkinson, M Wood and P Wood.

2(a) Minutes

The minutes of the District Meeting held on 1st September 2018 were accepted as an accurate record.

2(b) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3 Officers' Reports

The Deputy Master read out a report written by the Master. The secretary and treasurer's reports had been emailed to the members.

4 Membership

Nominations for Membership

Witham	Jacqueline Hill
Stisted	Jacqueline Kelly
Shalford	David Brown
	Pamela Ayling
Wethersfield	James Green

Kelvedon	Thomas Prideaux
Halstead	David Martin
	Dawn Manning
	Louise Argent (Junior)
	Joy Dymoke-Bradshaw (Friend)

The above were unanimously elected, and those present were welcomed and presented with their certificates.

5 Nominations for Association Officers

Principal Officers for the Association need to be elected at the AGM in May. No proposals were put forward.

6 Education

Julia Ibbotson is to be the liaison for the Northern District for helpers on the Essex Ringing Course. The closing date for students to apply is 15th February.

Northern District training sessions are planned for 23rd March at Gosfield catering for Grandsire doubles and on 5th October at Great Yeldham with district practice.

7 2019 Calendar

Gareth noted some important events for this year's calendar. Janet Edwards invited everyone to the 10-bell practice that Coggeshall hold on 2nd Wednesday each month. This caters for everyone moving up to 10 bells ringing rounds and call changes to whatever the capability of the ringers are.

8 Election of officers

The following posts were filled:

Simon Ward (Coggeshall) was re-elected as Master,
Bradley Hill (Braintree) was elected as Deputy Master,
Ian Cresshull (Felsted) was elected as Secretary, and
Vicki Elliott (Kelvedon) was re-elected as Treasurer.

Other District roles are held by:

Education – Roy Threadgold
PR – Linda Ranby
Grants Application – Vicky LeFèvre
Social Committee – Vicki Elliott
Technical Officer – Gareth Bennett
Website Coordinator – Vicky LeFèvre

9 Any Other Business

Summary of AGM Teas (District duty for 2018), Nov QP month, Ringing Remembers and the Quiz Night (statement from SW) was given – of the £110 raised, £20 was given to the church for provision of facilities and heating etc. the rest was split between Kelvedon and Feering bell funds.

19 quarter peals were rung in November for Quarter Peal month.

The striking competition will be held at Castle Hedingham with a meeting and further evening ringing at Sible Hedingham.

Roy Threadgold announced that it was proposed to form a Northern District at the AGM in 1919. Therefore, it would be 100 years since the first ADM in 2020. Some planning would be needed to work out how to commemorate this. Any ideas? 100 QPs? We need to start putting our heads together to make this a momentous occasion.

Debbie Hill thanked all the officers, both standing down and re-elected for all the time and effort they put in, as without them the district wouldn't have all the support and events for ringing members. Gifts were presented to Linda and Gareth as an appreciation for their time served in office.

There would also be a Saturday morning ringing school to carry on from where the Ringing Remembers one finished. Everyone who took part really enjoyed themselves and students were all entitled to special RR badges. The New Committee would discuss suitable dates and circulate details when available.

From February, Ridgewell would be holding a Saturday afternoon practice from 4.30-6.00pm (no further practice on Fridays). However, ringers should please phone David Jennings to check on 01440 785056.

Shalford and Halstead also confirmed their practices were now on Friday nights.

The Association Carol Service is to be hosted in the Northern District this year on 7th December. Toppesfield had originally been proposed as the venue but it was then queried as to whether the venue would be large enough.

The next meeting would be an evening meeting on 2nd March at Braintree and ADM on 4th January 2020 at Witham.

The meeting was then declared closed and further ringing took place.

LR 19.01.19

Signed Simon Ward (District Master)

Dated 2-Mar-2019