

**Minutes of the District Meeting held at Great Bardfield on  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Present: Simon Ward (District Master), Bradley Hill (Deputy District Master), Ian Cresshull (District Secretary), Vicki Elliott (District Treasurer), Pat Cresshull, Ellie Gray, Jim Green, Debbie Hill, Vicky LeFèvre, Andrew Taylor, Roy Threadgold, Kieran Ward, Ellis Whitehouse, Marian Wood, Peter Wood.

The District Master chaired the meeting. He welcomed those present and informed them that a Quarter Peal of Plain Bob Triples had successfully been rung immediately before the meeting.

**1 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Di Carpenter, Peter Smith, Maurice Downs, Kath Downs, Tim Forsey, John Elliott and Cherry Threadgold.

**2 Minutes & Matters Arising**

The minutes of the District Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019 were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the chairman.

Simon Ward said that the transfer of Great Tey to the Northern District continued to be discussed by the Great Tey ringers because they were not unanimous that the transfer should take place. It was unlikely that a decision would be made in time for it to be ratified at the EACR Committee Meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

**3 Election of new Members**

Nominations for Ringing Membership:

Kieran Ward	Halstead
Faye Moore	Great Bardfield

The above were duly elected.

**4 Education**

**a. Training Session, October 5th**

The training session to be held at Great Yeldham on Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup> has been moved to Toppesfield. This will be from 10am to 12 noon and will focus on Plain Bob Minor and Pinehurst Bob Minor.

**b. Theory Training Sessions**

Roy Threadgold said that he had been asked to hold theory sessions on :

- Very basic theory for beginners
- Considering conducting, moving from bob calling to conducting

It was thought that one of these sessions could be held on a Sunday evening in October or November and the other be held over until 2020.

## **5 Achievements**

The recent Quarter Peal first achievements of District members were read out.

## **6 Centenary of the Northern District**

Simon Ward said that there is an aim to ring 100 Quarter Peals in the District before the end of the District's centenary on November 27<sup>th</sup> 2020. To date 18 Quarter Peals have been rung.

A Quarter Peal is planned to be rung at Great Tey on October 11<sup>th</sup> which will be 100 years since the District Meeting there in 1919.

## **7 Format of future District Business and Ringing Meetings**

Simon Ward said that the District committee would be meeting soon to arrange the calendar of events for 2020. He asked whether anyone had any thoughts on the format of future meetings.

It was suggested that we should be asking those District members who typically don't attend meetings what they like or dislike about the meetings. It was agreed that the committee would compose an e-mail poll of the District membership to try and establish people's preferences.

## **8 District Calendar**

Simon Ward read through the events on the calendar through to the end of the year.

There will be no Advanced practice in October since it was on the same evening as the EACR Annual Dinner.

The Advanced Practice will be moved to another tower for a few months whilst the Braintree bells are removed for refurbishment.

The Master's social evening on Saturday November 30<sup>th</sup> will be a fundraising quiz in aid of the Braintree refurbishment project and will be held at Church House, Braintree.

## **9 Any Other Business**

- 1) The North Hinckford Benefice are holding a festival in October. The benefice includes the Northern District towers of Belchamp St Paul, Pentlow, and Wickham St Pauls. There will be special services at Belchamp St Pauls on Monday September 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and at Wickham St Pauls on Friday November 1<sup>st</sup> and it is hoped to have the bells rung before both services. On Friday October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm, Belchamp St Pauls will be holding a bellringing open evening.
- 2) Braintree will be holding a tower outing on Saturday September 14<sup>th</sup> to the Hertford area.

- 3) Braintree bells will be removed for refurbishment on October 21<sup>st</sup> and will be returned in April 2020. An outing to White's of Appleton bellhangers will be held on January 18<sup>th</sup> 2020.
- 4) The organ at Feering church is being removed. This will give open access to the ringing room.
- 5) Toppesfield bells were heard in the background of the BBC Essex programme Essex Quest on Sunday August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Simon Ward thanked Peter and Marian Wood for organising the meeting and for providing refreshments. He also thanked the Rev Dr Robert Beaken for taking the service.

The meeting closed at 7.38pm.

Signed . . . Simon Ward . . . . .

Dated . . . .4<sup>th</sup> January 2019. . . . .