

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING

Saturday January 18th 1969 at St. Peter's, St. Albans

A slow start at 3.00 pm was made up for later by a successful course of Spiced London + Cambridge Surprise Royal. A short service followed, conducted by Rev. A. Bradley, Rector of St. Peter's, at which an amusing sermon was given. Members then adjourned to St. Peter's Institute for tea.

The General Sec. of the Association Mr A.R. Agg was elected to the chair, for the business meeting. Before opening the meeting, Mr. Agg said he was disappointed in the poor attendance at the church service, + felt that members could well be more conscientious about this.

A short silence was observed while A. W. Coles and Father Clare, both of whom died in the last year, were remembered.

Apologies for absence were received from Dr. D.L. Gullik, (the President) and Mr L. G. Colburn.

The minutes of the last A.D.M. were read, + after a small amendment, were agreed + signed as a correct record. Arising, the Secretary regretted an organ recital in the Abbey had prevented us from singing there at this meeting.

Election of New Members.

As Kinging members; Pauline Freeman, Elizabeth Forster, Barbara Morland + Joyce Clarke of

St. Peter's, proposed K.J. Darvell, seconded J. Ewer.

As a probationary member, Janet Pearson of the Abbey, proposed G. Penney, seconded G. Dodds

As a transfer from resident to Non-R.L., D.G. Clift, lately of St. Peter's, proposed G.W. Debenham, seconded B.C. Johnson.

These elections were all carried.

Ratification also took place of the following N.R.L.M's elected prior to peal attempts:

Judith M. Corby } Sevenoaks, Kent

Andrew J. Corby }

Roy D. Mills — Ashted, Surrey

Grestrey - Bridges of Derby.

The Secretary's Report was read, and adopted on the proposition of J. Ewer, seconded ~~R. Brown~~ F.W. Ellis. The Secretary also gave a brief resumé of District Peals in the year, which showed a considerable increase over past years.

Statements of Account were read, and after answering several queries, were adopted on a proposition of J. Cull, seconded R. Brown. G. Dodds mentioned that the V.B.F. could possibly be drawn to the attention of ~~County~~ P.C.C's, for their contributions, if they so desire.

Election of Officers. Prior to elections, the Secretary reminded members of procedural points, & the Chairman said he understood it was the wish of the meeting that elections be taken individually & not en bloc.

District Secretary - ~~Proposed~~ R. Hardy: proposed by A. Carter, seconded F. Ellis. Carried.

Ringing Master F. Ellis: proposed by M. Sherrick, seconded H. Rooney: ~~Proposed~~ A.W. Wilby proposed by G. Penney, seconded by T.C. Holland. After a show of hands, A. Wilby was declared elected.

Mr G. Dodds paid a lighthearted but sincere tribute to Gerald Penney for the work he had done in his eight years as Ringing Master, & on behalf of the District presented him with a suitably inscribed pewter tankard. Mr Penney, thanked the meeting for this, & ~~said he was~~ J. Cull also spoke in tribute to Mr. Penney.

Ringing World Representative Mrs Hardy; proposed by Miss Fellows seconded A. Wilby Carried. John Cull thanked Miss Fellows for her work over the last few years, & her promptness in submitting R.W. reports.

District Committee The following eight names were put forward

Mrs Coburn	proposed	G. Dodds	seconded	A. Wilby
G. Dodds	"	Miss Fellows	"	A. Wilby
E. Edmondson	"	G. Penney	"	Mrs Coburn
J. Ewer	"	B. C. Johnson	"	A. Carter
G. W. Sillis	"	G. Dodds	"	Miss C. Smith
A. W. Wilby	"	Mrs Coburn	"	G. Dodds
F. W. Ellis	"	J. Ewer	"	E. Edmondson
A. R. Carter	"	G. Penney	"	M. Sherrick

K. Davill proposed, & P. Dale seconded that an election be held to select 7 people from this number. This was carried. On being put to the meeting, the first seven on the above list were declared elected.

General Committee Representatives G. Dodds, proposed by G. Penney, seconded J. Ewer. E. Edmondson, proposed J. Ewer, seconded B. C. Johnson. These were declared elected.

Peal Book Writer The Secretary thanked Miss Fellows for doing this work, & proposed her re-election. This was seconded by G. W. Debenham & carried.

Date & Place of Next A.G.M. The date 17th January 1970 at St. Peter's St. Albans was proposed by A. Wilby, seconded P. Dale. H. V. Frost proposed an amendment that the Abbey be visited in the evening. This was seconded

by G. Penney & carried.

District Meetings. After a short discussion & an amendment, the committee recommended list was adopted on a proposition of G. Penney, seconded G. W. Debenham.

Special Methods. It was proposed by B. C. Johnson seconded by K. Daviel that this be left to the Committee, who should report back at the next District meeting. Carried.

Social Activities The following suggestions were made

- (1) A Christmas dinner proposed J. Ewer, seconded M. Sherrick
 - (2) That the main social event be a social for the younger element, proposed G. Dodds, but not seconded.
 - (3) A visit to ITV studios proposed G. Penney seconded T. Holland
 - (4) A district outing proposed A. Wilby seconded J. Cull
 - (5) A car outing with questions proposed J. Ewer seconded M. Sherrick.
- A. Wilby proposed and M. Sherrick seconded a proposition to the effect the committee investigate these items. Carried.

Special Practices. A request had been received from St. Paul's Warden for a special practice. The date 5th February was agreed, proposed G. Dodds, seconded J. Cull. It was otherwise generally agreed that towers needing help should ask for it, as an experimental assisted practice scheme is being tried at one tower at present.

Amendment to Rule 10. G. Penney read a proposal intended as a resolution for the A.G.M., to the effect that Rule 10 be amended to require details of N.R.L.M. elections, & all other details currently required, to be submitted to the Real Secretary within four weeks of the year being rung. After discussion, a show of hands indicated the meeting to be substantially in favour of this amendment.

Procedure for election of officers at future ADM's
P. Dale outlined the suggestion he had made at the December District Meeting that nominations for District Officers ought to be given in at the meeting preceding

the A.D.M. As he felt that the meeting had mis-understood him, he had no proposition to make. However, after discussion, he proposed that such nominations must be given in at the said meeting. G. Dodds proposed an amendment, seconded by A.R. Carter that this be amended to "may be given in". A vote was taken, the chairman exercising his casting vote in favour of the amendment.

A.O.B.

The Secretary read a letter of New Year good wishes to the District from the President.

A.R. Carter raised a query re pens at the Central Council visit. The chairman answered as best he could, & referred Mr. Carter to Mr. W. Ayre for further information.

G. Dodds informed the meeting of discussions in connection with the D.C. Methods Committee, & said he felt that ^{record} numbers of methods should be included in record pens.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Revd. Bradley for allowing us to ring & for taking the service, to the Secretary for playing the organ, & to the local band for the tea.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.

After a long but lively meeting, ringing time was curtailed in the evening, but every effort was made to ensure everyone had a ring.

A Rex Ayre
CHAIRMAN.

17.1.70