

Afternoon ringing was very well supported & a number of people had their first opportunity at calling a touch. The new rector of Barnet, Rev. Bernard Butler, conducted a short service at 4.30, & related an amusing experience at his Induction. A buffet tea followed in the Church Room. For the business meeting the rector took the chair, and before business commenced the Secretary welcomed him to the District.

Apologies for absence were received from E. Edmondson, G. Penney, Janet Pearson & Mrs Coburn.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, agreed & signed as correct.

Matters arising; w/ G. Dodds reported the result of the handbell competition at the St. Albans Music Festival. It was also suggested that the Committee look into the possibility of closer liaison with the organizers to get dates fixed more firmly on future occasions. w/ R. Brown enquired whether the feature of devoting afternoon ringing to learners & conductors was to be a regular feature. In his reply the D.R.M. stated this was only an idea for odd occasions.

Election of New Members. As a ~~resident~~ ^{full} member Lawrence Haines of Radlett, proposed Mrs Talbot - Pousonby, seconded Mrs Hardy. Transfer from NRLM to resident, Mrs Mrs Newman of Wheathamstead, proposed F.W. Ellis, seconded G. Dodds. These elections were carried.

District Dinner. The Secretary stated he had tickets available & reminded members to be prompt in returning

their money. Tickets will be on general sale after Nov. 21st. The D.R.M. asked people interested in a peal on Denver Day to give him their names. A suggestion that open ringing be arranged at a tower in the early evening that day was not supported.

Forthcoming Practices. The D.R.M. said that it seemed Friday is a bad night for practices because of choir practices, but said he would attempt to arrange a surprise practice at St. Michael's for Friday Dec. 19th.

Members were also reminded that an Assisted practice scheme is to start at Sandridge on Nov 26th, & names were requested of those able to help.

Canon Harper Memorial. The secretary said he had been advised by Mr. Kirk that a fund had been set up to provide a permanent memorial in St. Michael's church, & any residue from this was to be given to Mrs Harper. It was proposed by the Secretary & seconded by A. Carter that the collection be taken. An amendment proposed by A. Wilby seconded ~~that~~ by Miss Fellows that the collection be taken after the meeting was carried.

Date & Place of Next meeting. St. Stephen's, St. Albans on Saturday 20th December. The secretary pointed out that this was the last meeting before the A.D.M., & that he would accordingly be ready to receive nominations for 1970 officers. Mr Brown was assured that this meeting was not the only time nominations could be received. Mr. Walpole also asked if details of resolutions intended for the Association A.G.M. could be given at the A.D.M. for discussion.

A. O. B.

It was proposed by A. Carter & seconded by Miss F. Dodds that at future meetings the agenda be read

out at the beginning. This was carried.

A. Wilby stated that following recent discussions on having a peal board at St. Michael's for Canon Harpur's memorial peal, it now seemed many people in the parish also wished to be associated with it, & cost should now be no bar. Mr. Wilby also reminded members of the rededication of Harpenden's rehung bells the following day at Evesong.

Mr. Dods proposed a vote of thanks to Revd. Butler for the welcome he had extended to us, to the organist & to the local band for their arrangements, especially the tea. This had been the first meeting at Barnet for a number of years where tea had been provided, & it made a great difference in holding things together.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.

Evening ringing continued until 8.00 pm. after some handbell ringing in the Church room. Methods up to spliced surprise were rung, with plenty of rounds for the real beginners.

A. Newlyn
CHAIRMAN