

DISTRICT MEETING AT WELWYN ON SATURDAY 21st APRIL 1990

Afternoon meeting took place at Hempsford from 3-30 to 5pm followed by a service. Few members attended the meeting. A splendid tea was served at Welwyn followed by the Business meeting chaired by Mrs M A Coburn.

Apologies for absence were received from G Reynon, Mrs E Pocock and Mrs A Saunders.

The Minutes were read and signed as correct.

Matter arising. Mrs M A Coburn thanked the District for the grant Harpenden had received at the AGM, looking on it more as a loan than a grant. They hoped to make an equivalent donation.

Election of New Members.

The transfer of Ian Fraser from the Abbey to full membership was proposed by G Penney seconded by G Dodd and duly accepted.

The ratification of the following ~~as~~ Non Resident Life Members elected prior to a post at the Abbey on 10th February and proposed by Mrs J Pattison, seconded by G Penney was carried.

Susan & Helen	of Nottingham
S. C. Walters	of Nottingham
Angela Beardon	of Chesterfield

1990 AGM.

The secretary informed the meeting that the meeting rooms, service and tea and business meeting arrangements had been made. She asked for some more volunteers to assist with the tea preparation.

S Saunders apologised for the fact that the reports were not yet available but there had been more difficulties with the new method of publishing them than he had foreseen.

WoolPod Cup.

P Cox said that so far he had replies from 3 towers and 2 others. He used other towers to reply as soon as possible. The contest would be at Radlett on 19th May starting at 6 pm, and S Crawley, with a friend, had been asked to judge it.

Request for grants.

C Pocock said that the trustees had received two requests. The first was from St Peters who were undertaking a major project. The total cost was £100k and they had raised £57k so far. The trustees recommended a grant of £600. It was then revealed that there were some problems with the proposed work and a faculty had not yet been requested. The meeting agreed to delay making a decision on the request for a grant until a faculty had been received and an order placed.

The second request was from King's Walden who had purchased a set of ropes for £327. Although they had managed to collect this amount their bell fund is practically exhausted. They were asking for a grant as they expect some maintenance work in the future. The Trustees recommended a grant of £25, to allow them to purchase books and other small items and to let them know that further requests would be looked on favourably when the maintenance work arose. S Saunders proposed that £50 be donated and this was seconded by C Pocock and carried.

4 Peals for Queen Mother's 90th Birthday.

The secretary stated that August 4th would be the Queen Mother's 90th Birthday and the District had been asked to ring a peal at her birth place, St Pauls Walden. She thought it would be nice if other houses in the District could attempt 4/4, or peals, for this occasion. It was suggested that a Birthday Card, giving details of quarters and peals rung and with pictures of towers in the District or it be sent to her. R Hardy was suggested as a possible illustrator, details of quarters and peals should be sent to Mr E Drummond-Tyler.

Date and Place of next District Meeting

The next District meeting would be at Radlett on 19th May with the Woolfor Cup being held from 6pm and a hand sell workshop in parallel.

The next learners practice would be at St Michaels on 5th May.

The next Surprise practice would be on 2nd May at Kimpton from 7.45 to 9.15 pm.

Any Other Business

G Penney stated that he was surprised to see no mention of the fact that it was going to be suggested at the AGM that District Bell Funds be amalgamated with the County Bell Restoration Fund. Mrs F Drummond-Tyler responded that it was not an agenda item as her understanding at the County Committee meeting was that the Treasurer would be floating that idea, as one of many for raising funds and that it was not intended to be a major discussion point. A Penney said that several Districts had already discussed this point at their District meetings and he intended to ask each District for their views. There was a short discussion on this topic and it was generally felt that District Bell Funds were a good thing as they were more flexible, and being local, more approachable for small grants.

Mr M A Coburn proposed a vote of thanks to the Welwyn ringers for a splendid tea, to the lay reader and organist at Hemphel for the service and to the clergy and ringers at Hemphel and Welwyn for the use of their bells.

D Badger reported that the April edition of the District Newsletter was available along with a list of midweek wedding ringers. He also asked for items for the July newsletter, the newsletters having been retained to coincide with Fall meetings.

There being no other business the meeting was declared closed.

Evening ringing was held at Welwyn until 8 pm.

G Penney 21-2-80