

**Minutes of the AGM held on Sunday May 7th 2006 at 2.00 in the Boys Smith
Room, St John's College**

Members Present:

President: C M P Johnson
Master: K L Langley
Senior Treasurer: C Y Barlow
Secretary: J E Butler

L D G Simpson
J Pratt
J E A Lewis
R E Brown
A L Smith
R A Smith
C K Burrell
P J Earis
L T W Smith
T K Beadman
R O Hall
M S Edwards
C H Northeast
S C Walters
P L H Brooke
C L Thomson
D Hagon
N Smith
H Charles
R Charles
F H King
I Wells
R Lebon

The meeting was opened at 14.02

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

J D Shanklin
P A Abbey
E Abbey
P A B Saddleton
O R Hall
C H Rogers
D R Love
V Nutton
C Nutton
M D Dawson

2. Minutes of the 2005 AGM

H Charles, R Charles, R Lebon, F H King and N Smith arrived

The minutes were read, proposed by A L Smith, seconded by L D G Simpson and accepted by the meeting

3. Matters arising from the minutes

F H King said that it had been agreed to look into ways of paying for the handbells at the last meeting and that nothing had been done.

K L Langley said that both 7 Grafton St and 12 Victoria St had been thoroughly searched and the photo album had not been found. She intends to contact J E Galloway who it is believed was the last person to see it. C M P Johnson says that it needs to be found. P J Earis suggests digitising the pictures when it is found and M S Edwards enquired about the whereabouts of photographs, as some are stored in the UL and some in the President's room in St John's.

S C Walters asked where the library is being held-it is still in C M P Johnson's room and the Pendlebury library. C M P Johnson said that he is intending to approach St Andrew's about a ringing chamber being built above the current room where the library could be stored. This would be more convenient than St Bene't's as that room is used by other people.

J Pratt said that Corporate communion is currently being organised and that J Binns had agreed to take it either on Thursday before St Andrew's or on Sunday morning at Michaelhouse.

S C Walters suggested that new ropes be ordered for St Andrew's soon as waiting lists are currently long. N Smith added that shorter ropes will be needed if the ringing chamber in St Andrew's is raised. L D G Simpson says that the ropes are in good condition.

K L Langley said that a peal was rung for the Brothers leaving Bene't's after which the ringers attended a service for this.

4. Election of New Members

The following were elected to Life Membership of the Guild:

Daniel Hagon (Hughes Hall, 2005)

Prop: K L Langley

Sec: J E Butler

It was decided to postpone the election of Xin Dong until Michaelmas.

C H Northeast asked why the Secretary hadn't informed her that John Binns had joined the Guild. The secretary apologised and confirmed that he had been elected in Lent Term

5. Presentation of Accounts

There was a large dinner surplus this year as the college didn't add the 10% surcharge that they originally intended to. K L Langley suggested that the proceeds be spent on a peal board to commemorate the 50th anniversary peal rung in September. It was agreed to be a good idea and that discussions with the Youths should go ahead. M S Edwards suggested that money for this peal board could come out of the general account anyway, with which R O Hall agreed.

F H King said that the handbells are costing the Guild £200 approx per year and that those ringing them should contribute to their upkeep. P J Earis commented that few peals are rung on the Guild bells but we should be cautious about selling them. J E Butler added that it would be a shame for those wanting to ring in the future if we got rid of them now. It was suggested that a set be stored in a secure location with a lower insurance cost. S C Walters said that the set of 8 were bequeathed recently so the Guild can not sell them. C Y Barlow said that they are an integral part of the dinner so it could be argued that part of the dinner ticket cost go towards the upkeep of the handbells. F H King suggested that donations should be made and M S Edwards says that an appeal could be made for money when they need to be restored. P L H Brooke adds that there seems to be no specific purpose for a separate handbell account as the Guild used to raise money for tower bells separately. P J Earis commented that Ringing World subs cost nearly as much. Two options were put forward, to take the money from the dinner account or to abolish the handbell account. C M P Johnson says that the committee should decide.

P J Earis commented that the interest is miniscule and proposes that the Guild account be moved. The officers agreed.

J Pratt enquires about the purpose of the St John's account. C M P Johnson said that the money was originally put aside to go towards a ring of bells in St John's tower, but that this never came about. C M P Johnson added that the money could instead be used towards St Andrew's, with the church contributing the rest. C Y Barlow said that most of the money came from the Societies Syndicate so the John's money can be used elsewhere. N Smith asks about the access to a new ringing chamber in St Andrew's, which C M P Johnson says will be no problem.

S C Walters suggested that the loving cup be put on the list of Guild Assets. It is currently being held in the Archive room at St John's and is clearly labelled as Guild property so is being kept safe.

The accounts were proposed by L D G Simpson, seconded by R A Smith and accepted by the meeting.

6. Master's Report

The Master read her report out to the meeting. She noted how the 7.30-9 slot had been regained for a St Andrew's practice this term although the turn out had been quite low. However, Bene't's had been well-attended and the quarter peal slot on a Sunday used well. Unfortunately, the Guild have lost their lunchtime quarter peal slot at St Andrew's but general relations with the church are improving. This year, an undergraduate peal of 8-spliced and an all-student peal of the 41 surprise minor have

been scored as well as Guild peals for the 50th anniversary of the first peal of cinques by the Guild, at Great St Mary's, and a peal to mark the Brothers leaving Bene't's. We came last in the National 12 Bell competition but the Master thanked the band and said that Sunday evening ringing has been going well. A Guild band also entered the College Youths 12 bell competition and reached the semi-finals. The Alternative dinner at New Hall and Dinner at Fitzwilliam were both a success and the Master thanked all those who had helped to organise this. K L Langley congratulated all those who rang in the dinner touch for the first time. She added that a presentation of a decanter and whisky was made to C M P Johnson to thank him for all his work for the Guild on the occasion of his retirement.

C M P Johnson said that he was very touched by the presentation which was generous and appreciated. He wanted to give his thanks to the Guild.

L D G Simpson corrected K L Langley and said that it was the second time he had rung in the dinner touch

C M P Johnson said that the undergraduate officers have worked particularly hard this year in the interests of the Guild. There was a round of applause for the Junior Officers.

There were no other comments and the report was adopted by the meeting

7. Steeplekeeper's Report

L G D Simpson presented no written report but informed the meeting that the bells at St Andrew's are still in working condition and that new stays have been bought this year, although more are now needed and one is owed to Great St Mary's. He said that the ropes are generally in a good state and that he feels he has fulfilled last year's manifesto. A L Smith added that the ropes still need to be cleaned.

The report was adopted by the meeting

8. Election of Officers

F H King proposed N Smith to help count the votes.

Senior Officers-C M P Johnson remained in the chair as he was not standing for President

Nominations: President

C Y Barlow	Prop: J Pratt	Sec : K L Langley
P L H Brooke	Prop : R O Hall	Sec : P J Earis

Senior Treasurer

C Y Barlow	Prop: K L Langley	Sec: J E Butler
M S Edwards	Prop: K L Langley	Sec: J E Butler

Auditor

F H King	Prop: K L Langley	Sec: J E Butler
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C Y Barlow was elected as President, M S Edwards as Senior Treasurer and F H King as Auditor. C M P Johnson remained in the chair as previously agreed.

Junior Officers

Nominations: **Master**

J E Butler Prop: J E A Lewis Sec: T K Beadman

Assistant Master

D A Winter Prop : K L Langley Sec: J E Butler

Secretary

L T W Smith Prop: K L Langley Sec: J E Butler

Librarian

T K Beadman Prop: J E Butler Sec: K L Langley

Steeplekeeper

J Pratt Prop: L D G Simpson Sec: K L Langley

Webmaster

L D G Simpson Prop: J E Butler Sec: K L Langley

L D G Simpson withdrew his nomination for Master before the meeting
All were elected unopposed.

C M P Johnson said that he thought the officers would do a splendid job. S C Walters thanked C M P Johnson for everything he has done for the Guild and welcomed the new President. C M P Johnson thanked his mentor, W Ridgman and said that it is an honour to be President, there having been only 4 in 127 years.

9. Diary Dates

11/5/06	Guild photo (1pm in Clare)
4/6/06	University Sermon
17/6/06	Ridgman Trophy, Writtle
17/6/06	Guild Peal at GSM
18/6/06	Guild vs. Youths Rounders match
20/6/06	Alternative Dinner at Robinson
22/6/06	Punt Outing

C M P Johnson suggested that Corporate communion should be added to this list soon and L D G Simpson said it should be held on a Sunday morning in Michaelhouse. K L Langley suggests that it should go ahead this term and that the Officers will sort it out.

10. AOB

L D G Simpson suggested that a copy of this year's photo should be donated to the Maypole pub due to its strong connections with the Guild. K L Langley added that the proofs for the photograph taken at this year's Dinner have arrived and can be looked at after the meeting.

C Y Barlow said it would be more logical to read out the Lent Minutes at the AGM although C M P Johnson says that the two meetings are separately identified. M S Edwards suggested two separate meetings in Easter term and A L Smith said that all minutes should be available on the website. Two proposals were put forward:

1. That the AGM minutes be taken at the Michaelmas meeting
2. That the AGM minutes be approved at the AGM

The meeting voted and agreed that the AGM minutes should be read at the AGM, but that an item should be put on the Michaelmas meeting agenda to discuss matters arising from the AGM minutes.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed by C M P Johnson at 15.39