

Minutes of the Michaelmas Term Business Meeting held in St. Bene't's Church, Cambridge on Friday 16th October, 2009

Members Present

President: C Y Barlow
Master: J A Agg
Secretary: F R W M Manners

C L Taylor	O Vane *	A Blandon *	R E Reading *
Z Monkley *	M S L Jordan	R A Smith	L T W Smith
M L D Drinkwater *	H A-M Ingram	T K Beadman	R T Backhouse
A C Norman *	L D G Simpson	C C Shearer	P L H Brooke

The President was in the chair and the meeting opened at 2110.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

J D Shanklin
J D Sherwood
C M P Johnson

2. Minutes of the Lent Term Business Meeting

The minutes had been circulated in advance. They were agreed by the meeting to be an accurate record and were signed by the President.

3. Matters Arising

Dr M C Faulkes had been invited to become an honorary member of the Guild. The President confirmed that he had now accepted the invitation. The Master raised the question of whether he should be invited as a guest (rather than a member) to the next dinner, he having missed the opportunity last year. The meeting agreed that he should; a motion to this effect was proposed by L D G Simpson, seconded by R A Smith and carried *nem con.*

4. Relevant matters from the AGM

No nominations for Senior Officers had been received prior to the deadline for their election at the AGM. The Master took the chair to report that the Committee had met and made the following appointments:—

President: C Y Barlow
Senior Treasurer: P L H Brooke
Auditor: F H King

The ratification of these appointments was proposed by the Master and seconded by C C Shearer, and carried *nem con.* The President then resumed the chair.

Word was received from J D Shanklin that there are new ropes on the 4th, 5th and Tenor at Bene't's.

5. Relevant matters from the Guild Week meeting

The President raised the question of the price of accommodation at Guild Week, which has been slowly increasing in recent years. The concern is that this makes Guild Week less attractive, especially to student members.

Richard Youdale, who is organizing Guild Week 2010 in Oxford, has pre-booked accommodation at Ripon College, Cuddesdon (a Theological College of Oxford University) at 48 GBP per person per night. However, the authorities were also willing to allow camping the Theology College grounds at 16 GBP per person per night, inclusive of dinner, breakfast and facilities. The minimum required number in the pre-booked accommodation is fifteen. The meeting discussed the practicalities of this scheme, and agreed that it was a sensible idea.

The topic of Guild Week 2011 in Cambridge, organized by Barbara Le Gallez and Nicholas Small, was then raised. The President asked the meeting whether a dispersed Guild Week, with resident members scattered in accommodation across Cambridge, would be viable. L D G Simpson opined that this would not be a problem, provided communal eating could be arranged; there was agreement with this sentiment. P L H Brooke suggested asking non-resident members who frequently attend Guild Week what they thought. L D G Simpson also offered to check the availability of guest rooms at Robinson College for that time.

R A Smith handed round some research he had carried out as to why so few 20- to 40-year-olds attend Guild Week, and briefly outlined some of its conclusions. The meeting thanked him for the report. Several possible measures for improving the situation were discussed, including earlier warning of the dates and location of Guild Week, and some system of sharing information as to who was coming on which days. R A Smith agreed to send an electronic copy of the report to be made available on the website at http://www.cugcr.org.uk/files/2009_mich_gw.pdf.

6. Election of new members

The following were proposed for membership of the guild:-

O Vane	A Blandon
Z Monkley	R E Reading
M L D Drinkwater	A C Norman
G R Harris	M Pryn

(Prop. Secretary, 2nd C C Shearer)

and R Leitch-Devlin (Prop. Simon Farrar, 2nd President).

All were elected *nem con.*

(At this point, the Master left the room in order to let some of those present out of the church.)

7. Cambridge Towers

R A Smith reported that GSM now has twelve new bells (and a flat sixth), which seem to be a very good ring.

(At this point the Master returned.)

L T W Smith said that he had some rope-ends in 12 Victoria Street, and asked for volunteers for splicing. The steeple-keeper reported that a new padlock and a new stay had been installed in StAG. R A Smith reported that rope-guides had been installed in OLEM since the last business meeting.

Other Cambridge towers were discussed.

8. Diary Dates

T K Beadman remarked that plans for the London outing were progressing well, Spitalfields, Aldgate and Magnus being among the confirmed venues.

With no other business, the President closed the meeting at 2155.