

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF
CHURCH BELL RINGERS
CITY BRANCH**

Hon. Secretary, Mrs. C. M. A. Lane
Catchmole Cottage, 12 High Street
Wheatley
Oxon. OX33 1XX.
01865 874026

MINUTES 13th May 2006
Half-Year Meeting held at St. Giles', Oxford

The Chairman, Rev. Anthony Ellis opened the meeting with prayers.

1. Apologies: Paul Lucas, T. Peter Franklin, J. Cresshull, A. Hughes.
There were 18 members present.

2. Approval of Informal Minutes of the Annual General meeting held at Kidlington.

The Secretary had found the missing minutes of the Half-Year Meeting held at Wolvercote on 14th May 2005; these minutes were read to the members. A correction was made regarding educational courses and then they were signed by the Chairman.

The minutes of the AGM held at Kidlington on 12th November had been circulated previously and were also signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising

This Item was taken together with Item 4. A letter from Janet Farrow (North Hinksey), regarding the Child Protection issue which had been raised at the AGM, had been received and was read to the members. The Chairman had also investigated the matter and it was agreed that misunderstandings had taken place and the matter was closed.

There was a broad discussion regarding the development of a standardised Child Protection Policy for the Branch and the Chairman asked the Secretary to investigate it further.

Action: Katie Lane

4. Correspondence

See above.

5. Election of New Members

Susie Pavelin, Marston

Proposer: Roy Jones

Seconder: Leon Thompson

6. Presentation of Certificates

Members certificates were presented to:

Carole Beckley
Rebecca Smith
Gwyneth Guy
Helen Forshaw
Maarit Kivilo
Laura Cairns

7. Fund Raising

A report from Graham Nichols was read in full. In addition to good quality, sellable items Graham particularly requests the following Bric-a-brac items which he will sell at Car Boot Sales to raise funds for the Branch:

7" pop singles
model trains, train sets & track etc.
scalextric
cameras
books
old bus tickets and timetables

Any items may be delivered to Hugh Deam as Graham cannot store them.

The Branch continues to collect aluminium cans for recycling.

Since November Graham has collected £17.20 for the Branch.

Hugh Deam had arranged a raffle for the meeting and told the members that the Half-Year meeting was the only occasion in the year when it was possible to ask members to contribute additional monies because the calendars were sold at the AGM and outings already incurred expenses.

The Chairman thanked GN and HD for their efforts and asked members to continue to contribute to fund raising activities.

8. Educational Courses

Jonathan Beale reminded the meeting that there was funding for two places available on the Bell Maintenance Course. Hillary Nex has expressed an interest and anyone else wishing to take part should contact one of the Branch officers.

9. Guild Festival 8th

The 125th Guild Festival will take place in Oxford on 8th July. It has been agreed that the City Branch will provide teas in St Giles' Parish Rooms. The number of teas cannot be confirmed but Katie Lane estimated a requirement for 300 scones.

St Giles' members are ready to manage the preparation and administration of the teas. Katie will ensure that there are scones, cream and jam in abundance.

Iffley and Headington towers contributed £5 each to the scone-fund; all other contribution will be welcomed.

David Lane explained the requirement for stewards at the open towers and members were requested to contact him if they are available to help.

10. Any Other Business

- i.) Guild Reports were distributed. The Secretary asked anyone who had ordered their own copy to contact her to arrange delivery.
- ii.) Hugh Deam requested entries for the Branch Striking Competition and it was ascertained that there are sufficient teams for the competition to proceed.
- iii.) Hugh also reminded members that Branch events always take place on the second Saturday in the month e.g. outings, striking competitions, meetings etc. The only exception is when Remembrance Day falls on the second weekend.
- iv.) David Lane explained that Monday night practices at St Aldate's were to be cancelled until the end of June because of theology meetings in the church.

The Chairman thanked the St Giles' member for tea and hospitality, and Hugh Deam for his continued energy and enthusiasm without which he felt that the Branch would not continue to thrive.