

West Midland Region of HRGB
Minutes of Committee meeting held on 6th January 2024

Present: David Hampson (Chair & Treasurer), Margaret Moss (acting secretary), Richard Hartnell, Wendy Hartwright, Liz Smith, Janice Sheasby.

1. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2023 were approved.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

Agenda item 5 bullet point 1

It was agreed that NEC “Notes” produced by the rep. be circulated only to committee members. Minutes of NEC meetings are available for all to view on the HRGB website once approved.

4. **OFFICERS’ REPORTS**

Chairman

He expressed disappointment that there had been three committee member resignations. Jenny Barraclough is happy to continue administrating the website. It was agreed that Sue Crowther be asked if she would be happy to take on the role of running the Sales Table following Rowena’s wish to stand down. Jean Lloyd has tendered her resignation as a Safeguarding officer

Secretary

A couple of requests had been received to find a team to play at two events. A member from the SE region has recently relocated to Stone and requested names of teams in the locality. Newsletters from various regions had been circulated to committee members.

Treasurer

The prime source of income has been the deposits and payments for BBB. Music for BBB and items for the sales table have been the only purchases. All fees paid for the cancelled DWMW have been repaid. As at 31st December 2023, there is £4,869.87 in the current account at Lloyds Bank.

5. **NEC MATTERS**

There were no NEC matters that needed discussion other than the 2027

Diamond Jubilee rally. Concern at the lack of confidence felt by committee members in holding such a prestigious event without substantial assistance was expressed. It was agreed to wait for further information and guidance from the NEC.

6. **NATIONAL RALLY CONCERT FUNDING**

It was agreed that £100 be paid to Alton handbell ringers towards the cost of representing the region at the Saturday evening concert at the National Rally.

7. **REGIONAL RALLY AND DWMW REVIEW**

The regional rally was a success and the treasurer reported that the event had made a profit. Thanks were recorded to Jenny Barraclough for conducting the massed ringing. Sadly, due to a lack of interest, the DWMW was cancelled.

8. **SPRING RALLY AND AGM**

This will take place on the 2nd of March and will follow the usual format of a mixture of massed ringing and team ringing with the AGM being held at mid-day. Invitations to the rally will be circulated during January and the Agenda and the names of nominees for the position of officers will be sent out beginning of February.

9. **NOMINATION FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

A nomination form will be sent to all members with a request that they complete and return their forms to the acting secretary by the 31st of January for election by ballot at the AGM.

10. **BBB AND FUTURE EVENTS**

To date, there are 18 attendees. Music will be circulated end of January beginning of February. Dates of future events were noted.

11. **DATES OF FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Saturday 4th May, Saturday 31st August, Saturday 4th January 2025
It was agreed that these be fixed and included in the Diary Dates together with those of the NEC meetings.

12. **A O B**

It was agreed that

- committee meeting minutes be sent to committee members for approval as soon as possible after the committee meeting and then sent to Jenny Barraclough for inclusion on the website once approved.

- Minutes of the AGM be circulated to all members present at the meeting as soon as possible after the AGM for approval, with a request that they submit any amendments/omissions to the secretary by a specified date. These will then be sent to the website administrator for inclusion on the regional website.
- The question of communication, support and training for teams and members was raised and various suggestions were discussed. It was suggested to hold a team correspondents' forum. The Chairman would give the suggestion further consideration. A workshop will be held for 12 bells and hand chimes using both number and staff notation.
- Consideration will be given to moving events around the region having regard for where the membership is based
- Bell insurance is due on 1st February. New Moon have kept their premium at the same level as last year.
- Richard reported that Bells into Schools has proved problematic but was exploring the possibility of going into a school in Tipton later in the year.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Saturday 4th May 2024

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 11.45 a.m.