

Proposal to 2016 CCCBR Meeting

BACKGROUND

Under the present rules of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, members can only vote in person at CCCBR meetings.

Due to a number of factors, it may not be possible for a member of the CCCBR to be physically present at a CC meeting (for example, illness, travel difficulties, etc). In such situations, a society would lose the vote of the representative who was unable to attend.

The proposal below is based on the model that is used in the commercial world, where shareholders who are unable to attend a company's AGM may nominate either the chairman of the meeting, or another shareholder, to vote on their behalf.

In this proposal, a CCCBR member who knows they are going to be absent, may nominate either the chairman of the meeting, or another named CC member, to vote on their behalf. Written, signed, nominations for proxy must be received by the secretary before the start of the meeting.

This proposal is aimed at making it easier to take part in Central Council meetings, and assumes that the recent practice of providing a running commentary of the meeting over the internet will continue. But this has not been included in the proposed rule change: given the constant change in internet technology it wouldn't be good to tie the Council down to a particular technical solution. But the proposer and seconder will be seeking confirmation from the President that making the meeting available over the internet will continue.

Proposal

To add sub sections iii and iv to Rule 20:

(iii) Voting by proxy is permitted. Any member who will be absent from a meeting of the Council and who wishes to appoint a proxy to vote on his/her behalf must, before the start of the meeting, lodge with the Honorary Secretary a written proxy form, signed by the member. The absent member may appoint either the chairman of the meeting, or another member who will be present at the meeting, as their proxy to vote on their behalf. Proxys will be issued with an additional set of ballot papers for use in secret ballots. Arrangements will be made to indicate proxy votes in a show of hands ballot.

(iv) For all purposes in these rules, a member who has appointed a proxy will be considered to be present at the meeting. When a proxy vote is cast, the member who has appointed a proxy will be considered to be voting at the meeting.

Proposed on behalf of The Lancashire Association of Change Ringers by Ernie de Legh-Runciman
Seconded on behalf of The Lancashire Association of Change Ringers by Giles Blundell