

Notes of a meeting held between Historic England, the Church Buildings Council and the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers at Church House, London , SW1 on Tuesday 14 July, 2015.

Present:

Diana Evans (<i>Chair</i>)	Historic England
David Knight	Church Buildings Council
Lisa McIntyre	Church Buildings Council
Chris Mew	CCCBR President
Christopher O'Mahony	CCCBR Vice President
Mary Bone	CCCBR Secretary
Robert Wood	CCCBR Redundant Bells
Alan Frost	CCCBR Towers & Belfries

1. Introductions

David introduced Lisa, who would be taking over some of his responsibilities for bells. Robert Wood is the new chairman of CCCBR's Committee for Redundant Bells.

2. Matters arising from previous meeting notes

(a) Bell Frame Recording Guidance and training

No progress was reported. It was suggested that possible ways forward included a joint symposium with SPAB or making this a topic for a future DAC Bell Advisers Conference.

(b) ARCH

It was confirmed that ARCH had not been represented at the 2014 Roadshow.

(c) World War I commemorations

CCCBR reported that articles on fallen ringers continued to be published in *The Ringing World* and that the main focus at present was on local commemorations.

3. DAC Bell Advisers Conference

The 2015 conference had been held in the Winchester diocese. Presentations would be uploaded to www.churchcare.co.uk. The importance of regular competent maintenance of bell installations, and training in this, was stressed.

The 2016 Conference will be held on Friday 8 July, based in Warwick.

4. Bells in closed or closing churches

CBC reported that staff changes had affected progress. It was agreed that relevant CCCBR committees would supply details of cases where the new owners of closed churches had failed to honour arrangements for access to the bells and ringing. The preparation of template covenants to be used when ownership was transferred was suggested.

5. Faculty Simplification

CBC circulated copies of the A and B lists of minor works on bells to accompany the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules 2015, which will come into effect on 1 January 2016

(<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2015/1568/contents/made> , Schedule 1). A guidance note will accompany the formal texts

(http://www.churchcare.co.uk/images/CBC_Guidance_for_bells_on_lists_A_and_B.pdf).

CBC further reported that the Church Heritage Record website had now been launched (<https://facultyonline.churchofengland.org/churches>). The records will be enhanced with

photographs etc and the site is fully open to the public. The possibility of incorporating George Dawson's records into the Church Heritage Record is to be discussed.

6. Updates

CBC reported that Sir Tony Baldry, new CBC Chair, had an initiative (“festival churches”) to enhance the use of churches as centres of their local communities; events could be promoted using the Twitter feed @ChurchDays; that the Bells Committee had recommended 7 grants; and that the CBC itself would be renewed in April 2016 and renewal of its committees would follow later.

HE reported that their guidance on metal thefts was being revised and that future resources could be affected by the next Public Spending review.

CCCB reported that ringing had taken place for the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta; that the 2014 Roadshow had been very successful; that plans were being developed to mark the 125th anniversary of the Council in 2016; that Kate Flavell had been appointed the Council's first Public Relations Officer; and on the recent meeting with EIG.

7. AOB

CBC advised that Sir Tony Baldry was keen that bells and ringing should feature in the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt (www.agincourt600.com).

8. Date and Place of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 19 July 2016 in Church House, commencing at 2.00pm.

CBC were thanked for making the arrangements and for their hospitality.

MB 14.10.2015