

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers
Registered Charity No 270036

The 123rd Annual Meeting of the Council will be held by video conference (Zoom) on Saturday 5th September 2020 at 10.30 am.

Members will need to register in advance by going to [the AGM page on the Council website](#), where you will be asked to enter your name, society, and email address. This will enable you to vote. The Zoom session will be open from 10.15 so you will be able to join at any time from then on, and ideally before 10.25.

AGENDA

Welcome and introduction.

1. Opening prayer.
2. Application(s) to affiliate.
An application has been received from the Guild of Clerical Ringers.
3. Welcome to new members *(p.39)*.
4. Apologies for absence.
5. In Memoriam.
6. Minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting *(p.7)*.
7. Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.
8. Annual Trustees’ Report for 2019 *(p.11)*.
9. Accounts for 2019 *(p.14)*.
10. Annual Report of the Executive and Workgroups for 2019 *(p.17)*.
11. Executive and Workgroup updates for January – August 2020
12. Forward Plan for 2021.
13. Financial update for 2020 and outline General Fund budget for 2021 *(p.38)*.
14. Election of Trustees: the following nominations have been received; supporting statements are given in Appendix A of this Agenda *(p.6)*:

<i>Office</i>	<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Proposer</i>	<i>Seconder</i>
President	Simon Linford	Nick Elks	David Smith
Deputy President	David Kirkcaldy	Kate Flavell	David Grimwood
Treasurer	Fergus Stracey	Lynne Hughes	Ian Self

15. Election of Independent Examiners (up to 2); a supporting statement is given in Appendix B of this agenda *(p.6)*:

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Proposer</i>	<i>Seconder</i>
Caroline Stockmann	Fred Bone	Doug Davis

16. Governance Review.

17. Motion:

(A) *That the Council’s Rules, and Standing Orders, be amended to allow smaller ringing societies to join the Council as Registered Small Societies:*

[Supporting statement: a) This Motion enables the Council to make better provision for smaller ringing societies (membership below 75), without disturbing the existing structure of affiliation. In doing so, the Council becomes

stronger by virtue of having a broader and more diverse membership, which more accurately reflects the state of ringing. The Church of England values the Council’s role in promoting a network of strong, interconnected societies.

b) This is achieved via a Register of Small Societies to which smaller societies may belong. A rigorous admissions policy (set out in the Standing Orders) ensures societies registering are fit for inclusion and have the overwhelming support of Affiliated Societies.

c) Registering will enable smaller societies to:

- Strengthen connections with the Council and larger guilds
- Influence debate
- Demonstrate adherence to best practices (eg. safeguarding)
- Benefit from stronger support in the event of unforeseen problems.

d) Registering will also be open to any Affiliated Society in danger of losing their affiliation through declining numbers, connecting them with the Council until their membership revives.

e) Each Registered Small Society may appoint a non-voting Member to take part in Council Meetings, meaning the Council’s accountability to existing Affiliated Societies remains undiluted.]

That with effect from the close of the 123rd Council Meeting on 5th September 2020:

1. Rule 1.1 (Definitions) is amended as follows to define a Registered Small Society, its Annual Subscription and Society Contacts:

1.1. The following new definitions are INSERTED:

Registered Small Society	A bell ringing society which appears on the Council’s Register of Small Societies in accordance with Rule 4.
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Small Society Representative	A non-voting member appointed to represent a Registered Small Society in accordance with Rules 5.7 and 5.8.
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1.2. The following existing definition is REPLACED as shown below:

Annual Subscription	A subscription defined by Rules 4.10 or 4.11.
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1.3. The following existing definition is REPLACED as shown below:

Society Contact	The contact of an Affiliated Society or Registered Small Society, whose details have been notified by that society to the Secretary, and to whom notices to that society in connection with the Council’s business shall be sent.
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2. To set out the terms governing the admission of Registered Small Societies, the following rules are INSERTED after Rule 4.4 (and subsequent rules re-numbered accordingly):

Registered Small Societies

- 4.5 Subject to Rule 4.8 any bell ringing society whose application has been approved under Rules 4.6 and 4.7 shall be listed on the Council’s Register of Small Societies.
- 4.6 Applications from smaller bell ringing societies to become Registered Small Societies shall be made to the Secretary accompanied by a certificate signed by at least two of the society’s officers confirming that:
 - a) its Society Membership is less than 75 (25 in the case of societies operating wholly outside the British Isles);
 - b) its purpose is to promote the ringing of bells by a group or association of bell ringers; and
 - c) it undertakes to abide by the Council’s Rules and Decisions.
- 4.7 A bell ringing society making an application under Rule 4.6 shall be entered on the Council’s Register of Small Societies on such date as the Executive shall determine provided that the society’s application has been approved in accordance with the Standing Orders.
- 4.8 A society shall be removed from the Register of Small Societies if:
 - a) it becomes an Affiliated Society; or
 - b) its Society Membership rises above 100; or
 - c) any Annual Subscription due under Rule 4.11 is more than 12 months in arrears; or
 - d) a Motion to remove the society’s registration is agreed by a majority of Representative Members present and voting at a Council Meeting; or
 - e) a decision to remove the society’s registration is made by the Executive in accordance with the Standing Orders; or
 - f) a request to remove the society’s registration is given to the Secretary by at least two of the society’s officers.
- 4.9 An Executive Decision made in accordance with Rule 4.8e) shall cease to have effect unless ratified by Resolution at the first Council Meeting thereafter.

3. To provide for the additional Rules shown above, the reference to “Rule 4.5” in existing Rule 4.4 b) is AMENDED to “Rule 4.10”.

4. To empower the Council to set an Annual Subscription for Registered Small Societies, the following new rule is INSERTED before Rule 5:

- 4.11 Where determined by the Standing Orders, each Registered Small Society shall pay an annual subscription, which shall become due on 1st January and shall be of such sum as may be stated by the Standing Orders in relation to that society's registration.

5. To permit one person from each Registered Small Society to participate in Council Meetings (in a non-voting capacity), the line "Small Society Representatives;" is INSERTED after Rule 5.1a) so that Rule 5.1 reads as follows:

- 5.1 The Council shall consist of the following members:
- Representative Members;
 - Small Society Representatives;
 - Individual Members enrolled or appointed as may be determined by the Standing Orders; and
 - the Council's Trustees, Stewards and Workgroup Leaders, who shall be ex-officio members.

6. To set out the arrangements by which representatives of Registered Small Societies are appointed and retire, the following rules are INSERTED after Rule 5.6 (and subsequent rules renumbered accordingly):

Small Society Representatives

- 5.7 Each Registered Small Society shall be entitled to send one Small Society Representative to attend each Council Meeting provided that no later than six weeks before that meeting's date:

- where determined by the Standing Orders, that society's Annual Subscription for the year in which the Council Meeting takes place has been received by the Treasurer; and
- its Society Membership has been notified to the Secretary.

- 5.8 Subject to Rule 5.7:

- a Registered Small Society may register or amend the name and contact details of its Small Society Representative at any time by giving notice to the Secretary; and
- each Small Society Representative shall be deemed appointed from the point at which their name is confirmed in accordance with these Rules, and shall remain appointed until the Registered Society notifies the Secretary of a change.

7. As a Registered Small Society may not also be an Affiliated Society the line "it becomes a Registered Small Society; or" is INSERTED after Rule 4.4a) so that Rule 4.4 reads as follows:

- 4.4 A society shall cease to be an Affiliated Society if:
- its Society Membership falls below 50 (25 in the case of societies operating wholly outside the British Isles); or

- it becomes a Registered Small Society; or
- its Annual Subscription under Rule 4.10 is more than 12 months in arrears; or
- a Motion for disaffiliation is agreed by no less than two-thirds of Representative Members present and voting at a Council Meeting; or
- notice of disaffiliation is given to the Secretary by at least two of the society's officers.

Annual Subscription for Registered Small Societies

That in accordance with Rule 7.13 and with effect from the close of the 123rd Council Meeting on 5th September 2020, the Council APPROVES an Annual Subscription of £20 for each Registered Small Society.

Admission Criteria for Registered Small Societies

That the Council NOTES the detailed admission criteria for Registered Small Societies, approved by the Executive on 26th July 2020 and published in Edition 4 of the Standing Orders, which following approval of this Motion will become effective on 1st November 2020.

Proposed by Clyde Whittaker (Middlesex County Association & London Diocesan Guild) and seconded by Linda Garton (Bedfordshire Association).

18. Future meetings.
2021 meeting: the Deputy President will report.
2023: The invitation received from the Suffolk Guild has been transferred to 2023.
2024: An invitation has been received from the Guild of Devonshire Ringers for 2024.
19. Any other business.
Please notify items in advance.

Mary Bone
Secretary

Appendix A Supporting Statements

David Kirkcaldy

Deputy President

David has been a member of the Council since 2007, of the Towers & Belfries Committee since 2008 and its Chairman 2016/7. As Chairman he managed to bring the excellent Manual of Belfry Maintenance to print, a project that took many years to finalise. He also helped to arrange a long-discussed bell frame recording day. He became Council Vice-President in 2017. During his time as Vice- and Deputy President he has worked hard supporting the President and the Executive to introduce the changes recommended by CRAG, as well as on the arrangements for the annual meetings. He has been a keen supporter of change and modernisation of the Council. I know he will bring his enthusiasm to continuing this work as Deputy President.

David learnt to ring in 1967 and has held various offices with the Sussex County Association, including Master and Secretary of the Sussex Churches BRF, as well as divisional office and teaching a new team of ringers at his own tower.

He retired after 30 years' service with Sussex Police.

I have no hesitation in recommending David as our Deputy President.

Kate Flavell

Fergus Stracey

Treasurer

Since January 1997 I have run my own General Accountancy Practice, first as sole trader and incorporated the practice in April 2013. Currently there are four members of staff & myself working in the practice. The practice handles the affairs of approximately 300 small businesses which are a mixture of trades and are a mix of Sole traders, partnerships and limited companies. In the past we have acted as Accountants for a few charities.

I am a member of ICPA (The Institute of Certified Practising Accountants) and a member of the IAB (International Association of Book Keepers) my membership number is 194698.

On the ringing front I am Tower Captain & Ringing Master of Plymouth Minster and have been since the death of my predecessor in 2006. I have been a member of Council for six years representing The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

Fergus Stracey

Appendix B Supporting Statements

Caroline Stockmann

Independent Examiner

I am a Chartered accountant (FCA, trained with KPMG), and hold a Diploma in Charity Accounting from the ICAEW. My day job is Chief Executive of the Association of Corporate Treasurers, a Chartered professional body.

I have been Independent Examiner since 2018 and examine all the component parts directly, apart from Publications which Jeremy reviewed. I then further review Publications, as I need to be in a position to give the overall sign-off. For the 2018 examination I introduced some best practices such as completing the Charity Commission checklist, updating the IE Report and sending a letter to the trustees highlighting the work done and any points of note.

I am happy to continue as IE. I am also happy to take on the whole examination if there is no additional IE (the CCCBR can have "up to two"). I am having to sign off on everything anyway, so there is little additional time involved. Jeremy has kindly walked me through all his work as a form of handover. If there are two IEs then the only benefit would be if both carried out a full review, or one reviewed the other's work, but that seems disproportionate.

Caroline Stockmann FCA DChA



*David Kirkcaldy and Simon Linford,
at the dinner after the 2019 Council meeting
(Photo: Kathy Howard)*