

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Charity Registration No 270036

Executive

Notes of the meeting held on Saturday 13 November 2021 at 9am (GMT) by video conference.

Present: Simon Linford (President), David Kirkcaldy (Deputy President), Mary Bone (Secretary), Fergus Stracey (Treasurer), Phillip Barnes, Alison Everett, David Smith and Clyde Whittaker. Vicki Chapman, Public Relations Officer and workgroup leader, joined at 10am.

1. Finance: the Treasurer reported that the outturn for 2021 was on target, although some expected invoices might be delayed until 2022. The Trustees reviewed each proposed workgroup budget for 2022, paying particular attention to expenditure items. The outline budget for 2022 was **approved**, subject to receiving further information on the Publications account. The 2022 budget will be available on the website. Further items discussed were the number of CC PayPal accounts, booking for the Zoom account, and the future of the Fred Dukes Fund in the light of its negligible investment income.
2. Volunteer & Leadership workgroup leader: as reported in October, Tim Hine wishes to relinquish this role in the near future. Most of the work is conducted by sub-groups so the current role is essentially one of management and co-ordination. A number of names were mentioned as possible successors. An interim appointment will be made if necessary while the group's terms of reference and future work are reviewed. Anyone interested in this important post should contact the President.
3. Churches Conservation Trust: the President informed members that the CCT had accepted all the proposed amendments to the draft Memorandum of Understanding relating to the Old Black Lion site in Northampton. The President was therefore **authorised** to sign the MoU on behalf of the Council.
4. Safeguarding: Ann White and Dave Bassford had circulated draft documents for a "mission statement", safeguarding policy and officers' job description. These were **approved** subject to a number of minor amendments and to review by SCIE.
5. Governance review: the Trustees **agreed** that the February 2022 meeting of the Executive would be devoted to this issue. It would be held as an in-person meeting. The Trustees will use the Charity Governance Code (<https://www.charitygovernancecode.org>) and involve an external facilitator. The conclusions of this review will subsequently be submitted to a group of Representative Members. The Deputy President was asked to consider an Open Meeting at Nottingham to engage more members.
6. 2022 Annual Meeting: the Deputy President was **authorised** to sign a contract with Nottingham Trent University to hold the annual meeting (Saturday 3 September) and RoadShow (Sunday 4 September) there.
7. The Executive **agreed** to amend Standing Order W2.1 by deleting the words "and Workgroup Members"; this change will allow workgroup members to serve on a group for more than six years.

As amendment of the Standing Orders is governed by Rule 10.8, the Executive **gives notice** that the amended version will come into effect on 1 March 2022:

Standing Order W2.1:

Workgroup Leaders shall retire at the end of the sixth Annual Council Meeting after their appointment and may not become eligible for appointment to the same role until the Annual Meeting next after such retirement.

At 12 noon the Executive were joined by Tim Hine (Volunteer & Leadership), Alison Hodge (Stewardship & Management), Graham John (Technical & Taxonomy), Colin Newman (Young Ringers – Schools and Youth Groups), Mark Regan (Senior Stakeholder Liaison), Chris Ridley (Historical & Archive) and Ian Roulstone (Young Ringers – Universities and Colleges).

8. Initial discussion with workgroup leaders focussed on plans for a marketing campaign in 2022. Points made in discussion included the need for a detailed brief for any marketing materials, the need to market differently depending on the targeted demographic, whether the teaching infrastructure in parts of the country might be inadequate and would not be able to cope successfully with any recruits, and whether the Council should act directly or facilitate local efforts.

9. The Executive and workgroup leaders regretfully **decided** that, as the workgroup reports were of varying styles and length, there was a better way of getting more regular information on the activities of Workgroups to members than by just publishing these reports. A programme of regular publication of Workgroup reports would be reinstated and the Public Relations Officer undertook to produce a timetable for publication of these. Workgroup leaders undertook to supply these in good time.

10. The President briefed those present on recent work to improve the website. The recently established forums deserved more publicity and it was agreed that the weekly digests should be distributed more widely to encourage further uptake of the facility.

11. Alison Hodge proposed that the workgroup leaders should re-establish their past practice of meeting together separately from the Executive.

The meeting closed at 14.08. Phillip Barnes had previously apologised for his early departure.

The next meeting of the Executive will be held on 8 December by video conference.

Mary Bone
Secretary
25.11.2021