



BELLRINGING

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers
Registered in England and Wales as a Charity. No 270036

Executive

Notes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21st January 2026, by Zoom.

- **Intangible Cultural Heritage registration.** The Executive agreed a motion to apply to have English style church bell ringing added to the ICH register. A small task group is being put together to co-ordinate the application. As part of the application, the Council need to show that it is supported by the practitioners of the art. All ringers and societies are encouraged to show their support by signing the petition of the Councils website at <https://cccbr.org.uk/heritage/>
- **Dorothy L Sayers Award.** The Executive were updated on this award. This is a prize of £500 (donated by the DL Sayers Society) to young ringers under the age of 18, who have shown leadership and dedication within the bell ringing community. Details can be found on the Council website at <https://cccbr.org.uk/>
- **Charitable trading.** The Executive is looking at the trading activities of the Council, and the possible tax liabilities. This is a complex topic, where some detailed knowledge is required. The Executive feel that the help of a Chartered Accountant with knowledge of charity trading is required. Hence, the Executive is appealing to societies and CC reps to ask if they could provide the name of someone who can help. Please contact the Secretary.
- **Summer Honoriums.** The Executive received a report on the success of the recent summer honoriums project, and its benefit to the work of the Council. It was decided to repeat this next summer. The Workgroups will be invited to submit proposals in February for projects that can be carried out by such honoriums.

- **Recruitment to Workgroups.** An update to the workgroup recruitment process was given, highlighting progress in the Recruitment and Development subgroup and ongoing efforts to engage new members for marketing roles by following up potential leads from the recent Marketing presentation.
- **Employment Procedures and Policies.** It was accepted that if the Council were to engage paid assistance, a number of employment procedures and policies would need to be put into place. It was also felt that such procedures and policies would cover those who have taken up the summer honoriums. As the Officers and Trustees do not have the detailed knowledge to produce such documentation, a quote has been sought from a HR Consultancy. The Executive have accepted a quote from Howgills HR for £800.00 to produce such documentation.
- **Ringling Survey.** The Executive discussed plans for a ringling census to determine a more realistic baseline number of ringers. A small subgroup (with members have the necessary expertise) has been set up to review previous survey data and discuss the need for a baseline figure to track progress towards recruiting 10,000 ringers by 2030. They aim to launch the census in November, promoting it in September at the ACM, and would be seeking champions to help gather information and analyse results. The group discussed plans for a survey involving approximately 500 towers internationally, with a focus on ensuring fair representation across different regions. They agreed on the importance of having local champions to encourage participation, particularly in areas like Australia and North America.
- **The Executive have accepted a request for the National Police Guild to transfer its affiliated statue from that of Affiliated Society to that of Registered Small Society.** As the application was submitted before 1st January 2026, it was decided that the change of status would apply from that date.

- **Trustee Retirements.** It was noted that Tina Stoecklin (President), Vicki Chapman (Deputy President), Fergus Stracey (Treasurer) and Ian Roulestone (Trustee) are due to retire at this years Annual Council Meeting. Under the rules of The Council, Tina, Vicki and Ian are eligible to stand for another three-year term.

The next meeting of the Executive will be on Saturday 228th February 2026. This will be a joint meeting between the Executive and the Workgroup Leads.

Ernie de Legh-Runciman
CCCBR Secretary
25th January 2026