



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 Saturday 28th February 2026, by Zoom.

Present: Tina Stoecklin (President), Vicki Chapman (Deputy President), Fergus Stracey (Treasurer), Ernie de Legh-Runciman (Secretary), Alison Edmonds, Beverly Faber, Ian Roulstone

Apologies: Peter Harrison

This was a short meeting of one hour duration, as it was followed by the quarterly meeting of the Executive and the Workgroup Leads.

- Society Affiliation Status. The latest issue of the Council's Standing Orders (Issue 18) stipulates that any application for transfer of membership approved by the Executive will come into force from the next 1st January. In effect this means any society wishing to transfer their membership to the new class of associate member would still have to pay the full affiliation fee of £1.00 per member for 2026. As this change to Standing Orders is recent, following the 2025 Annual Council Meeting, the Executive have taken a decision to waive Standing Order S2.8 for 2026, on condition that any society wishing to transfer its class of membership must have their completed application submitted to the Secretary by 1st June 2026.

An application from the Oxford University Society for transfer to the class of Associated Society was approved. An application from another society was placed on hold until their safeguarding policy has been reviewed and brought in line with current standards.

- The Council's expenses policy was reviewed. It was accepted that in certain circumstances, persons working and travelling on Council business may have to stay overnight or claim expenses for meals or travel. While this is mentioned in the 2019 Expenses Guidance, it was felt this needed reviewing.

It was emphasised that claiming such expenses should be allowed, for example if a long journey is required to represent the Council. This type of expense can be claimed only if prior approval is obtained from the Executive

. Their actual expense would then have to be claimed in the usual way.

The Executive discussed other items referred to in the Expenses Guidance, particularly the car travel allowance of 25p/mile. This will be again discussed in future meetings.

- The employment policies have been completed by the external HR consultant. These were approved by the Executive.
- The application to UNESCO for church bell ringing to be registered as an Intangible Cultural Heritage is underway, with the intention of submission on 27th March. It is pleasing to note that we have had over 4250 submissions to the petition in support of this application, with 65 affiliated guilds and 49 CC reps signing up.

This meeting was immediately followed by the quarterly meeting between the Executive and the Workgroup Leads.

The following topics were discussed:

- A review of recent Workgroup activities.
- The Dorothy L Sayers and The Wesley awards
- The use of the Council's IT tools for Workgroup work, including Microsoft Co-Pilot and Canva.
- Data security
- The University Societies Website
- Marketing
- Recruitment and development.

The next meeting of the Executive will be on Wednesday 25th March 2026.

Ernie de Legh-Runciman
CCCBR Secretary
7th March 2026