

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Registered Charity No 270036

The 129th Annual Meeting of the Council will be held on
SATURDAY 5th September 2026 at 1.30pm
in The Benn Hall, Newbold Road, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 2LN

Will members please sign the roll and be in their seats by 1.20 pm.

AGENDA

Welcome and introduction

Opening prayer

1. Application to affiliate and other changes to affiliation
2. Welcome to new members
3. Apologies for absence – must be provided in advance.
4. In Memoriam. Page 6 of the meeting papers
5. Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting. Page 7 of the meeting papers
6. Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda
(Please notify the Secretary in advance, if possible)
7. Trustees Annual Report for 2025. Page 16 of the meeting papers
8. Accounts for 2025. Page 23 of the meeting papers
9. Workgroup Reports for 2025 – May 2026. See meeting papers
(Please notify the Secretary of questions in advance, if possible)
10. Ringing 2030 and Forward Plan for 2027 – Page 32 of the meeting papers
11. Ringing Census – Page 28 of the meeting papers
12. Financial update for 2026 and outline General Fund budget for 2027.
Page 33 of the meeting papers
13. Motions
 - a. Motion A

That the Rules and Standing Orders are updated so that:

 - 1) subscriptions get renamed to Affiliation Fees;
 - 2) Affiliation Fees must be paid by 31 March; and
 - 3) give a clearer definition of when societies should calculate their membership numbers.

Proposed by : Peter Harrison – ANZAB

Seconded by: Ernie de Legh-Runciman – Ex Officio

Explanatory note:

The reasons for this change stem from the ACM moving from May to September. Back then the reasons for subscriptions/fees must be paid six weeks before the ACM made sense. But when the ACM was moved to September the final payment date was not changed. Regardless, subscriptions were still due on 1 January – this has always been the date when payments are due to be made.

There has always been some conjecture for when societies should calculate their membership numbers. The how to calculate the membership has been deliberately loosely defined, but the “when” needs some tidying up. We have suggested that societies use the due date (1 Jan) to use as a snapshot of membership numbers, or failing that at their most recent annual meeting.

Finally, we have renamed subscriptions to affiliation fees as everywhere else we refer to affiliated societies, so it makes sense to keep the language consistent.

A document showing the proposed update to the Rules and Standing Orders can be found on The Council’s Website at:

<https://cccbr.org.uk/about/annual-meetings/2026-annual-meeting/meeting-papers/>

b. Motion B

That the Council’s expenses policy be amended to include a claimable mileage allowance for car travel on Council business of 55 pence per mile, and that in the event of any future changes in the HMRC-approved mileage rate the claimable amount be altered to match those changes.

Proposed by : Robert J Perry – Truro Diocesan Guild

Seconded by: Ian P Self – Truro Diocesan Guild

Explanatory note:

At its meeting on 28 June, the Executive agreed to increase the claimable mileage rate for travel undertaken on Council business from 25 pence per mile to 30 pence per mile. However, earlier this year the HMRC-approved mileage rate, beyond which any mileage payment is deemed to be income and hence taxable, was raised from 45 pence per mile, a rate which had applied for a long time, to 55 pence per mile. While the amount of money this motion deals with is minimal in the context of the Council’s total assets, it establishes a principle that the Council is willing to come into line with many other charities and voluntary groups in accepting that those who give freely of their time are entitled to have their reasonable travelling expense met up to the limit allowed by the tax authority. It is of course arguable that even at 55 pence per mile the full cost of using a car is not met, but that is probably an argument to be had with the Chancellor of the Exchequer rather than within this Council.

None of us comes into ringing, or into membership of this Council, to make money, and we all give a huge amount of time to the furtherance of an activity which gives us so much pleasure. It may therefore be the case that some of those who are entitled to claim don’t, or

don't claim as much as they could. That is an individual's decision. But no-one should be deterred from using their skills to the Council's benefit by lack of means.

The motion also provides that in the event of any change in the HMRC-approved rate the amount offered by the Council is adjusted accordingly.

14. Election of Trustees: the following nominations have been received.

Office	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
President	Tina Stoecklin	Allison Devine	Zoe Bennett
Deputy President	Vicki Chapman	Eileen Butler	David Smith
Treasurer	Jason Carter	Roger Haynes	Simon Dixon

I confirm that these nominations are valid, and have met the criteria set out in the Councils Rules.

E de Legh-Runciman

Supporting statements are given in the Addendum 1 of this agenda.
Page 15 of the meeting papers

15. Appointment of Independent Examiners (2)

16. Appointment of Stewards

17. Future meetings.

- a. 2027 – Lichfield and Walsall Archdeaconries Society*
- b. 2028 – Truro DG
- c. 2029 – Essex Association*
- d. 2030 – St Martins Guild
- e. 2031 – Oxford DG*
- f. 2032 – Worcestershire and Districts Association

*Ringing Roadshow Year

18. Any other business

To be taken if time permits.

Items must be notified in advance in writing to the Secretary.

Items will not be taken from the floor.

19. Vote of Thanks

20. Meeting attendance

Ernie de Legh-Runciman – Secretary
8th August 2026