

The Essex Association of Change Ringers

Founded 1879

President: The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford



46 Sheering Lower Road
Sawbridgeworth
Essex
CM21 9LG

Mob: 07914114440
secretary@eacr.org.uk

3 April 2021

Dear Member

Notification of the 2020 AGM – 3 May 2021

In light of the ongoing restrictions on social distancing, the 142nd Annual General Meeting of the Essex Association of Change Ringers will be held via a Zoom Webinar on 3 May 2021 at 11.45. Registration will be required in advance; no member will be able to attend without registration. This is to ensure that all present are members of the Association and are entitled to vote. Registration will close on Sunday 2 May at 11.45am (24 hours before the meeting starts).

Registration is available by clicking on the link below, or by pasting the details into the address bar of a browser.
https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_g1O3Z2XuRQ2GRKiCbh3B2g

The full Agenda and the Minutes of the 2020 Meeting are included in the Annual Report.

Any Items to be discussed under Agenda Item No 15 (AOB) must be provided in advance of the meeting. Please could you submit any items or questions to General Secretary at secretary@eacr.org.uk by 11.45 am on Sunday 2 May 2021. Any urgent items of AOB that arise from the meeting (that have not been provided in advance) may be heard at the Master's discretion.

Guidance and practice sessions will be made available to all members as required. A practice session is planned for 1 May 2021 at 11.45, if you would like to attend a practice session please contact the General Secretary.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Kelso
Andrew Brewster
Sharon Lacey

AGENDA

1. **To welcome visitors.**
2. **Apologies for absence.**
3. **Please sign the Roll.**
4. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2020.**
 - a) to confirm.
 - b) matters arising.
5. **Statement of Accounts 2020:** To receive and adopt.
6. **Annual Report 2020:** To receive, approve and adopt.

7. **Motions received.** The following three proposals have been received to amend the Association Rules:
 - a) **Motion 1 - To incorporate rule changes that will allow the Association organisation and management to be modernised and become more agile.**

To reduce the number of charity Trustees from approximately 54 to 15 allow management of the Association to be more agile and responsive and to avoid all decisions having to wait for referral to the Management Committee. The 15 Trustees would be the Master, General Secretary, Treasurer, three Property Trustees, Technical Adviser, Education Officer, Communications Officer (PRO) and one representative Trustee from each District. The Governance of the Association would be by the Trustees normally operating through sub-committees and the existing Management Committee but would incorporate the ability to meet as frequently as required. Additional sub-committees are proposed, for Communications & PR to encourage a more structured approach to both internal and external communications (including the website and social media) and for Education & Training to encourage a more inclusive approach to recruitment and training across the Association. The existing Grants sub-committee would continue but renamed Bell Maintenance & Restoration to encourage a more co-ordinated approach to support all towers. Each sub-committee will have a 'sponsoring' Trustee to ensure good communication between the Trustees and the sub-committee and provide advice and support where needed.

The proposed changes to incorporate the Trustees are in rules 6, 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5, 11.6, 11.7, 11.8, 11.12, 12 (incorporating old rule 14), old rule 12 is removed - activities covered by new Trustees role, 12.4 moved from old 13.3 and renumbered the remainder of 13, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.5, 13.11, 13.12 incorporates extended sub-committee proposals, 13.13, 14-23 are renumbered from old rules 15-24, 14.1, 14.2, 15.2, 16, 17, 19, 21.2.

A new Table 1 is added listing the officers, their eligibility requirements, means of election, etc., to provide a simple index of all officers.

Additional administrative changes are proposed in rules 5, 8.2a, 8.2c, 8.2d, 8.2e, 8.3, 9.1, 10.2, 10.4, 11.5, 11.6, 11.7, 12.2, 12.5, 13.1, 13.3, 13.4, 13.5, 13.9b, 13.10, 13.13h, 14.1, 16, 20, 23 - including change of name of "Friends of the Association" to "Associate Members", requiring Non-resident Life Members to be formally elected to Ringing Membership if they move into the area, change of name and role of PRO to Communications Officer to better reflect the activities required, clarification of aims in the Education Officer role, additional legal requirements around Independent Examiners, update of Charity Law references, update to expenses descriptions to reflect current practice, addition of grant-giving for training equipment and related support; provision for electronic conferencing.

Proposed by Colin Chapman

Seconded by David Sparling

- b) **Motion 2 - To allow all members to vote (except non-resident life members)** in order to encourage all those interested in the aims and objects of the Association to support the Association and to allow non-ringing (or no longer ringing) members to hold some offices.
- i) Change Rule 8.3 to add (e) and in Table 1 rename column "Required Member? (8.2abc)" to "Required Member? (8.2abce)" and
- ii) add an additional column to the new Table 1 headed "Required Ringer? (8.2abc)", to be the same as Required Member column, except rows Property Trustee, Webmaster, Newsletter Ed and Safeguarding to be marked NOT REQD, to indicate which roles could be held by non-ringing members. Replace note headed "Required Member" with "Required Ringer/Member - is the officer required to be a bell-ringing member or could they be an Associate Member? Or can they be a non-member? The Trustees may vary this by formal decision in specific cases only (i.e. an individual appointment or election, not as a permanent change)."

Proposed by Colin Chapman

Seconded by David Sparling

- c) **Motion 3 - To change the majority required for Rule change approval:**

In Rule 22.2 (21.2) substitute for "eligible to vote" the word "voting".

Proposed by John Tipping

Seconded by Peter Sloman

8. **Election of Honorary Officers:** The following nominations have been received:

Master	Andrew Kelso
Secretary	Sharon Lacey
Treasurer	Andrew Brewster
Education Officer	Beth Johnson
Public Relations Officer	Vicki Chapman
Technical Adviser	<Vacant>
Property Trustees (3)	Mary Bone, Colin Chapman, Andrew Taylor
Independent Examiners	Neil Avis, George Thoday
Central Council Representatives (1)	Martin Jones

9. **Standard of Conduct.**

10. **Ringling Returns.**

11. **To name Appointed Officers and to announce changes in District Officers.**

12. **Life Vice Presidents.**

Paul Cammiade

Proposed: David Sparling

Seconded: Roger Dorking

13. **Life Members.**

John Harpole

Proposed: Alwyn Brock

Seconded: John Cousins

Brian Meads

Proposed: Simon Ward

Seconded: Andrew Taylor

14. **Association Annual Dinner.**

15. **Any Other Business.**

16. **Vote of thanks.**