

# Minutes from EACR Training and Recruitment Sub-Committee Meeting

**Venue:** Zoom  
**Date:** 14th August 2023  
**Time:** 19.30 hours

**Apologies:** Sarah Chin-A-Loy, Ian Kerwin, Victoria Richards, Adam Sloman, Roy Threadgold,

**Attendees:** Beth Johnson, Sarah Knights, David Sparling, Helen Bridgman, Sharon Lacey, Yvonne Towler, Andrew Brewster, Christina Brewster, Andrew Kelso (Master)

**Non-Attendees:** Richard Wilson

Topic	Content	Action who	Action by when
1. Apologies, Minutes and Matters arising. Beth Johnson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See above for apologies.</li> <li>• Minutes of previous meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023 read and agreed as an accurate record.</li> <li>• A time scale of two years has been added to the grants applications form, this will be uploaded to the website by SCAL.</li> </ul>	N/A	
2. Training Courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Essex Course 2024 – SK- Differences from the 2023 courses.               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A one-day Steeple keeping course, using Gt Tey Tower, as bells are easily accessible.</li> <li>b. A three-day handbell course, if there is sufficient interest, this should only require 3 helpers. Very few helpers needed for this course.</li> <li>c. Either a three day or one-day course on simulators, dependent on the take up of the course to be run by Nikki Thomas if she is free. This would be a train the trainer course, this would be limited to ABEL.</li> <li>d. Slight changes to the courses, a very comprehensive list of courses.</li> <li>e. ART courses were discussed at length. The consensus was that this year these would not be offered due to ringers preferring to further their own learning on the three-day method courses and doing the ART courses as a one-day course at another time. DS also explained the issues of getting ART Tutors to free up time for three days at a time.</li> <li>f. BJ suggested that perhaps we could include a session to promote ART at the Essex Course. SK will take this forward.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	SK	

	<p>g. YT asked if we would have a speaker for the Thursday evening. DS said the challenge is finding someone who has an interesting subject to talk about.</p> <p>h. The Friday night social will be finishing at 9pm – 9.30pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next ART Courses – M2F on 19<sup>th</sup> August, M1 on 9<sup>th</sup> September. BJ will be focusing on running any new ART courses in the SW before Christmas.</li> <li>• Handbells – 2 people responded to BJ’s advertisement for handbell ringers. Gill Sparling has agreed to take over and promote handbell ringing in 2024.</li> <li>• November 2023 Association Training Day – N District are hosts. 7 courses only identified, to ensure sufficient helpers. Courses to be advertised early September.</li> <li>• Ian Cresshull has said that he would rather not arrange the helpers this year for the Association training day. BJ has asked for a volunteer to help with this should the person she has asked, declines.</li> </ul>	<p>BJ</p> <p>BJ</p>	
<p>3. Grants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ardleigh – There was some confusion with the application for this grant in as much as they have applied to both the BRF and the T&amp;R fund and have suggested that it would be an ideal project to access funds from the Bequests initiative monies. DS suggested a single application process for funding to support a tower’s needs rather than the three required at the moment; which pot of money a grant comes from should be the responsibility of the Association to decide. This would simplify the process of all monies being applied for. This is particularly relevant for complex projects. AK suggested that BJ and Steve Jeffries have a conversation with the Ardleigh Tower Captain to ascertain the finer details and when the details of how much will be allocated from both the BRF and T&amp;R funds and then refer it to the Trustees for further guidance to see if it meets the criteria of the Bequests initiative. More information would be needed to clarify what the costs are and how these had come about. In principle the project is supported by the committee subject to BJ’s visit to the tower.</li> </ul>	<p>BJ to follow up with Steve Jeffries and the Tower Captain</p>	

4. Recruitment and Retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Plan – ZP-W – Some of the resources have been trialed, with a good response. These were with year 6 children who, whilst some were ‘Learning the ropes’, others were kept occupied with other resources. ZP-W is still awaiting a full debrief and is making some amendments to the materials. The resources will go on to the website during September. RT sent a message to say that he still goes into the schools as a volunteer and the heads of the school still wish to incorporate ringing during the 23/24 school year. RT to be given access to the new resources.</li> <li>• Adult initiative under the bequests Strategy – BJ postponed this item as she wishes to speak to the EACR Comms officer. To be presented at next meeting.</li> <li>• R&amp;R Workshop – BJ is very keen to take this forward during the autumn, or to give a presentation at the ADMs in January. BJ suggested a presentation with case studies and some number crunching. Ideas to encourage recruitment. ZP-W suggested some good practical ideas to encourage ringers. SK suggested developing others in the tower to help with recruitment/retention. BJ will keep this on the agenda.</li> </ul>		
5. Training Around the district	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports from district reps – regarding any training taking place in their own districts – N District, RT has a training day for Grandsire and Stedman Doubles at Stisted, he will run three Sundays in October for developing ropesight for those capable of ringing Call Changes, to be held at Wethersfield.</li> </ul>		
6. EACR Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCCBR have allowed their sound bites to be embedded in a pdf document for listening skills and these have been added to our training resources.</li> </ul>		
7. International Scout Jamboree 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27<sup>th</sup> July – 3<sup>rd</sup> August, Boyton Cross, Writtle. Simon Ward (Grays) has made contact with the organisers.</li> </ul>	Update next meeting	
8. AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ART – from RT, to promote ART courses, BJ to ask RT to present this at the next meeting.</li> <li>• Anne Bray has volunteered to pursue the University Ringing.</li> </ul>		
10 Next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 7.30 via Zoom <b>(please note the change of date) Please record so Helen can do the minutes.</b></li> </ul>		
11 Meeting closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 21.15 hours</li> </ul>		