

# **Durham University Society of Change Ringers**

## **Michaelmas Term 2023 – TGM**

**29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 – St Brandon's Church**

### **Agenda**

Meeting opened at 20.12

Chaired by Matthew Black (secretary) in the absence of Cian Tempest (chair)

#### **1. Present:**

- Oliver Rice
- Artemis Sanderson
- Elizabeth Barton
- Mythili Pagedar
- Lily Collis
- James Morgan
- Kate Roberts
- Alec Bell
- Nicholas Grandage
- Ion Forbes
- Charlotte Nielsen
- Katharine Fenton-Smith
- Jean Woodward
- Miles Baker
- Andrew Booth
- Keith Hayton
- Ophelia Cornell
- Matthew Black

#### **2. Apologies for absence:**

- Lily Patel
- Joseph Booker
- Molly Housley
- Claire Wiest
- Harriet Fyfe
- Vera Paksy

- Lottie Harmer
- Cian Tempest

### 3. Approval of minutes from the last TGM

James Morgan objects to their absence

### 4. Officers reports:

#### a. Master

[Andrew is reluctant to give a report}. Successful first term, especially for quarter peals with thanks to Michael Anderson. With the summer, we put together a peal band for the coronation, but we suffered a late drop-out. Thanks to James Morgan for joining last-minute. We had summer tour, which went smoothly and was liked by those who went. Going into Michaelmas, we had a good freshers intake and a successful trip to NUA, winning the striking competition [Miles cheers]

#### b. Treasurer (Read out by Andrew in Vera's absence)

Apologies for my absence, hopefully Andrew will do a better job [Andrew stumbles over his words and restarts] than I would reading out this year's Treasurer report.

[Oliver asks that the minutes note he has already failed this]

I think we have had a solid year financially, we are currently sat on £155.19 in the DUSCR account. We have been able to spend money on organizing various freshers events, including the Miniring and the Freshers practice.

I organized the Treasurer's tour in February around Hartlepool which had a good attendance and hope those who went along enjoyed it.

As my last comment as Treasurer I would like to remind everyone to pay the membership fees. It is only £5 via the Durham SU website and you get the "excellent" deal of a discounted dinner ticket. That being said lots of people have paid membership, so thank you to those.

And finally, good luck to next year's Treasurer.

#### c. Social Secretary (Read out by Matthew in Lily's absence)

Lily's hoped that people have enjoyed all the socials for the past year and she's really enjoyed being social sec. She thinks everyone has become very sociable even for dusr lol and good luck to the next social sec, she's sure they'll do great.

#### d. Webmaster

[Miles forgets he is webmaster]

Miles forgot to pay for the domain, but he fixed today so all should be good.  
Some people were potatoes at the start of the year which he thought was quite funny, and he'll put the minutes on the website

- e. Questions of officers  
There are no questions

## 5. Election of Officers

In each case, the outgoing officer will briefly outline the role.

We begin the election of a new chair

### a. Chair

Ion Forbes nominated by Elizabeth Barton and seconded by Miles Baker  
Elected by general aye

Ion Forbes proceeded to chair the rest of the meeting.

Then the election of executive officers.

### b. Master

Elizabeth Barton nominated by Ophelia Cornell and seconded by Ion Forbes  
Elected by general aye

### c. Vice-Master

Ophelia Cornell nominated by Elizabeth Barton and seconded by Mythili Pagedar  
Alec Bell nominated by Andrew Booth and seconded by Oliver Rice  
Ophelia calls Matthew as witness. Matthew is surprised at this and doesn't know what to say. Mythili refers to Ophelia's use of duscrr-style transport emails for birthday event and adds that she has never met anyone who cares about bells more.

Alec says that he has never organised a birthday party and adds that he is still quite new.

Matthew asked about the importance of the Vice-Master being present on Sundays. The consensus is that this is not essential.

Ophelia Cornell elected by majority vote

### d. Secretary

Alec Bell nominated by Matthew Black and seconded by Kate Roberts  
Elected by general aye

### e. Treasurer

The role was described by Andrew in Vera's absence.

Matthew Black nominated by Ophelia Cornell and seconded by Alec Bell  
"a first year" nominated by Oliver Rice, in the interests of involving freshers.  
Artemis Sanderson nominated by Andrew Booth, seconded by Oliver Rice

Matthew says that he likes money and spreadsheets. He considers the Darlington tour a success, and doesn't mind organizing another one. Also that he is responsible for organizing household finances, so trusted with people's money. Artemis comments that they are new to Durham and so not sure with how things work. However, they have previously served as treasurer in another society and would be able to do so again.

Matthew Black majority vote

**f. Social Secretary**

Lily Patel, and her predecessor Vera Paksy are both absent, so Ion Forbes attempts to describe the role.

Lily Collis nominated by Elizabeth Barton and seconded by Ophelia Cornell  
Elected by general aye

Then the election of non-executive officers

**g. Steeple Keeper**

Ion Forbes nominated by Andrew Booth and seconded by Matthew Black

Nicholas Grandage nominated by Ophelia Cornell and seconded by Kate Roberts

Andrew Booth nominated by Elizabeth Barton and seconded by Ion Forbes

Oliver Rice proposes that they share the role in the interests of time. It is agreed that the hustling will be brief.

Ion says that he enjoys engineering.

Andrew says that he has muffled the bells with more success than previous steeple keeper.

Nicholas says that he is very good at cleaning but knows very little about bells.

Ion queries his impartiality in taking the vote. Matthew takes it for him.

Ion Forbes elected by plurality vote.

Matthew notes that, as Ion did not win a majority of votes cast, a two-round system should be used. He is overruled.

**h. Assistant Steeple Keepers**

It is decided that Andrew Booth and Nicholas Grandage will be assistant steeple-keepers.

**i. Quarter-peal Secretary**

Miles Baker nominated by Oliver Rice and seconded by Ion Forbes

Elizabeth Barton nominated by Andrew Booth

Miles Baker elected by general aye

**j. D&N Representative**

There is some uncertainty as to who the current D&N rep is. Oliver believes it may be him, but that there has not yet been any meetings.

Andrew Booth nominated by Miles Baker and seconded by Elizabeth Barton

Elected by general aye

**k. Handbell Master**

Alec Bell nominated by Ophelia Cornell and seconded by Ion Forbes

Elected by general aye

**l. Zookeeper**

Mythili Pagedar nominated by Elizabeth Barton and seconded by Kate Roberts  
Charlotte Nielsen nominated by Katharine Fenton-Smith seconded by Ophelia Cornell

Charlotte Nielsen says that she is at Brancepeth often, so has more time to take care of the animals who have been neglected for a year [Ophelia Cornell takes issue].

Mythili Pagedar says that the previous zookeeper exploited her skills, referencing the several hours and lack of sleep to clothe the mascot. [Though speaking too quickly for Matthew to take minutes, she still manages to run out of time].

Charlotte Nielsen elected by majority vote

**m. Assistant Zookeepers**

“We’re not gaining them are we?” – Ion Forbes. There is general disgruntlement at the length of the meeting.

Mythili Pagedar nominated by Oliver Rice and seconded by Ophelia Cornell

Katharine Fenton-Smith nominated by Ion Forbes and seconded by Matthew Black

Elected by general aye

**n. Quotes Master**

Ion Forbes nominated by Miles Baker and seconded by Andrew Booth

Ophelia Cornell nominated by Oliver Rice and seconded by Matthew Black

The hustings are brief. Ion can take notes on his mobile, and Ophelia has a few quotes already.

Ophelia Cornell elected by majority vote (taken by Matthew Black)

**o. Webmaster**

Ion Forbes nominated by Matthew Black and seconded by Ophelia Cornell

Artemis Sanderson nominated by Andrew Booth

Ion Forbes elected by general aye

**6. Any Other Business**

- a. That the new exec should take over with immediate effect – submitted anonymously

Due to the dinner being a week later than usual, the exec changing at midnight of the dinner means that the new master will not run the final practice of term. This breaks convention. If passed, this motion will allow the new master to run practice on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December as well as Sundays from 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Oliver asks if this will be the case in perpetuity, Ophelia says that it could be done on a case-by-case basis. There is some ambiguity regarding the role of Vice-Master. It is decided that the full exec take over if the motion is passed.

Motion passed by majority vote

- b. That the 2023 Social Secretary’s tour to Sunderland be cancelled – submitted by Lily P

This year's dinner day tour is due to take place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, in Sunderland. As this is a day of industrial action, and there is a lack of drivers from dusr, it has been suggested that the tour be cancelled. Also, there are only 5 people currently "going" on Facebook, whereas each tower has at least 8 bells. If passed, this motion will cancel the tour.

Oliver and Ophelia both say they may come, but have not responded on Facebook. Ophelia says that Sam Chapman has offered lifts provided notice is given. Then we would have 2 cars.

Motion rejected.

"Lily's going to be really miffed" – Oliver Rice

James Morgan advises arriving at Roker in good time owing to his previous experience there.

- c. Ion Forbes proposes a dusr squirrel be acquired. Oliver points out that we have a brick.

Meeting concluded at 20.57

The 2023 AGM will be held at 12.00 on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December in CG85.