The North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers

THE RULES OF THE BELL RESTORATION FUND

1. The fund shall be known as the 'North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers Bell Restoration Fund'.

2. The object of the fund shall be to advance the Christian religion by providing financial assistance to Churches in the diocese of Lichfield and in the Archdeaconry of Stoke upon-Trent, for the purposes of maintaining and improving their bell installations by making grants to them. Maintenance and improvement of a bell installation shall be deemed to include the following: -

a) Taking out an existing ring of bells, supplying and installing a new frame and fittings, recasting the bells and erecting the same.

b) Taking out, overhauling and reclappering existing bells, supplying and installing a new frame and fittings and re-erecting bells.

c) Taking out existing bells, overhauling existing frame and fittings, re-casting, or overhauling and re-clappering same and re-erecting.

d) Augmentation and bringing existing, frame and fittings into an adequate state of repair.

e) Other major repairs to bells, frame, fittings and towers.

f) The provision of bells, frames and fittings and erection of the same in Churches which previously had none.

g) The acquisition of bells from churches within the diocese of Lichfield and within the Archdeaconry of Stoke-upon-Trent declared redundant, for subsequent redeployment and/or recasting.

3. The membership of the Fund shall be that of the North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers as defined in the rules thereof.

4. a) The Fund shall administered by the management Committee of the North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers, herein after referred to as 'The Committee'.

b) The Committee shall have the power, after considering an application submitted to it in writing, to approve a grant from the Fund.

c) The Committee shall have the power to appoint sub-committees which shall report back their actions fully and promptly to the Committee.

d) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt such persons as it considers necessary to assist in its deliberations. The number co-opted persons at any one meeting of the Committee shall not exceed three.

e) The management of the Bell Restoration Fund shall be an item on the agenda of every meeting of the Committee.

5. a) The Committee as elected at the Association's Annual General Meeting shall be Trustees of the Fund.

b) Such bank accounts as may be required shall be opened in the name of the Fund. Any two Committee members shall have the power to sign cheques.

c) Any outstanding monies in the hands of the Committee not required for the immediate purposes of the Fund shall be invested in any manner authorised by law.

d) The Committee and its sub-committees shall have the power to raise funds by any means they see fit as long as permanent trading is not engaged in.

e) The Fund shall be set up by the total transfer to it of the balance of those monies collected, made available or ear-marked for Bell Restoration by the Association.

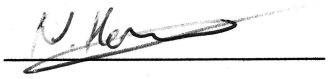
6. In the event of the dissolution of the Fund, the assets of the Fund shall be distributed equally among those churches which at the time of dissolution were in union with the Association for the purpose of bell maintenance and restoration.

7. The Honorary Treasurer shall prepare a balance sheet as at 30th September in each year and an income and expenditure account for the year ended on that date, which shall be audited by an auditor elected by the members at their Annual General Meeting, and presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting of the Association first held after 30th September in which the Fund's accounts are prepared.

8. The committee as trustees may make reasonable additional guidelines to help run the charity. These guidelines must not conflict with this constitution or the law.

9. No alteration or addition or deletion of these rules shall be made so as to cause the Fund at any time to cease to be a charity in law. No alteration or addition or deletion shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting of the Association, a Business Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting especially called for the purpose. Notice of any proposed alteration, addition or deletion to or from these rules shall be given to the Honorary Secretary of the Association at least three calendar months prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting, Business Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.

These rules accepted by the membership of the North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers at the Annual General Meeting of the Association held in the Minster Church of St Peter ad Vincula on Saturday December 8th 2018, in the City of Stoke-on-Trent, and so minuted in the Minute Book of the Association.

Signed 

Nigel Horritt
Chairman

COMMITTEE GUIDELINES (not part of the Rules).

Bell Restoration Fund - Guidelines for Grants

These guidelines are issued and updated from time to time by the Committee to ensure that all applications for grants are handled in a fair and consistent manner. Please help us to handle your application efficiently by using these guidelines when submitting your application. All applications should be submitted to the association Secretary.

1. Decisions on grants are made by the committee as trustees. The committee may consult on larger grants at quarterly business meetings. Grant applicants need to factor in the time for any such consultation.

2. The application must provide details of the work and costs involved.

3. Any parish planning to do work on bells should consult the Bell Advisor about the type of permission required.

4. The work must be open to the inspection of the Bell Advisor during progress.

5. The job must be completed to the satisfaction of the committee.

6. The committee reserves the right to pay the contractor direct.

7. The grant offer lasts for a period of 2 years. After this time reapplication is necessary.