Dorset County Association of Church Bell Ringers

Web Site: http:// dcacbr.org.uk/

Email: dcacbr@gmail.com

Dorset County Association of Church Bell Ringers
Bell Restoration Fund is a registered charity. Charity number 294239

Bell Restoration Fund - Objects and rules

A charity's governing document is the legal rulebook for a charity, outlining its purpose, powers, structure, and how it should be run.

This document includes changes accepted at AGM / EGM up to and including 6th April 2024 (Version 5.0)

1. The fund shall be known as the Dorset County Association of Church Bell Ringers Bell Restoration Fund and shall be registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission.
2. The object of the Fund shall be to advance the Christian religion by providing financial assistance to churches in the county of Dorset (as defined by central government in 1983 or any future dates) for the purpose of maintaining or 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 re-clappering existing bells, supplying and installing a new frame and fittings, and re-erecting the bells.
   (c) Taking out existing bells, overhauling existing frame and fittings and recasting or overhauling and re-clappering said bells and re-erecting.
   (d) Augmentation and bringing existing bells, 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 same in churches which previously had none.
   (g) The acquisition of bells from churches within the County of Dorset declared redundant, for subsequent re-deployment and/or recasting.
3. The membership of the fund shall be that of the Dorset County Association of Church Bell Ringers as defined in the rules thereof.
4. (a) The fund shall be administered by the committee of the Dorset County Association of Church Bell Ringers, hereinafter 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. Should a grant not be taken up within two years then it shall lapse and a fresh application will be required.
   (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 of 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.

(f) The Committee shall have the power to set up a Restricted Sub Fund where all monies in the fund can only be used for the benefit of a single Bell Tower / Church / Parish.

5. (a) The Chairman, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer of the Association shall be ex-officio Trustees of the fund. In addition at least two other elected committee members of the Association shall be appointed annually to act as Trustees of the fund.
   (b) Such bank accounts as may be required shall be opened in the name of the fund. The definition of Banks shall include any UK financial institution authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.
   (c) Any outstanding monies in the hands of The Committee not required for immediate purposes of the fund shall be invested in any manner the Trustees may think fit in the best interests of the fund.
   (d) The Committee and its sub-committees shall have the power to raise the funds by any means they see fit so long as permanent trading is not engaged in.
   (e) The fund shall be set up by the total transfer of the balance of those monies collected, made available or earmarked for Bell Restoration by the Association.
   (f) The Association can operate a Restricted Fund for the benefit of an individual Bell Tower/ Church / Parish. When that is the case the ringing members of that Bell Tower / Church / Parish will be asked to nominate at least one of the Association's elected committee members to represent their interests. Those Association committee members nominated by the Bell Tower / Church / Parish shall also be ex-officio Trustees of the fund.
   (g) All Trustees of the fund, whether ex-officio or appointed, must meet the eligibility and responsibility requirements as published by the Charity Commission and complete the required Charity Commission declaration before they can act as a Trustee of the fund..
6. In the event of the dissolution of the fund the assets of the fund shall be disposed of as follows:
   (a) Any monies in Restricted Funds shall be transferred to the Parochial Church Council of the specified churches.
   (b) Any remaining monies shall be either transferred to any charitable body or bodies having similar objects covering all or part of the County of Dorset, where change ringing may be practiced, for the purpose of bell maintenance or restoration.
7. The Treasurer shall prepare a balance sheet as at 31st December in each year and an income and expenditure account for the year ended on that date which shall be examined by an Independent Examiner elected by members of the Association at their Annual General Meeting and presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting of the Association first held after 31st December in which the fund's accounts are prepared.
8. 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, addition or deletion shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting of the Association or an Extraordinary Meeting of the Association especially called for the purpose. Notice of any proposed alteration, addition or deletion shall be given to the Secretary of the Association at least one calendar month prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting.