

# St Peter's Church, Cogenhoe



## Proposal to reinstate the Ellacombe Chimes

August 2020

This proposal was prepared by Dr John Grubb, treasurer.

Contact details: [treasurer@stpeterscogenhoe.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@stpeterscogenhoe.org.uk) or 01604 890120.

## 1 Summary

When our bells were turned and re-hung in 2003 the Ellacombe chimes were decommissioned.

We have a donor who would like to sponsor the reinstatement of the chimes and the PCC are in support. Even before the recent church closure and subsequent restrictions on re-opening we often could not raise a band to ring for services. The chimes would enable us to ring with a single ringer which should be possible every week.

We do not anticipate any modification to the bells or bell frame being needed for the chimes to be restored. We intend to preserve as much as possible of the original mechanism.

## 2 PCC Approval

The unanimous decision to seek approval for this work was taken at the PCC meeting on 13 July 2020. This document was approved by the PCC on 17 August 2020.

## 3 The Bells

St Peter's has a ring of six bells dating from 1909. They are in a metal bell frame.

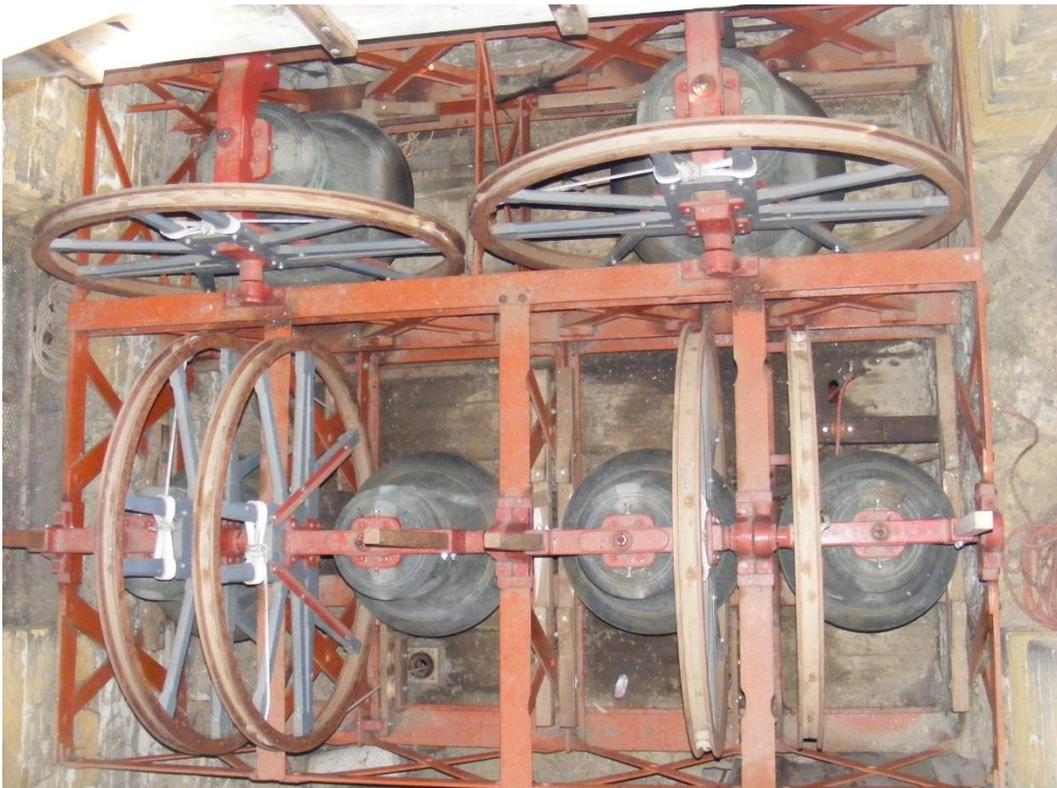


Figure 1 View looking down on bell frame

Bell	Diameter	Weight	Inscription
Treble	26"	3cwt 3qr	VENITE EX DONO. ROLAND DOBREE CAREY, JP ET FANTINE UXORIS EIUS CAST BY ALFRED BOWELL OF IPSWICH A.D.1909
2	26¾"	4cwt 1qr	ORATE JOHN PALLISER FREND, M.A., RECTOR ISTIUS ECCLESIAE CAST BY ALFRED BOWELL OF IPSWICH A.D.1909
3	27½"	4cwt 2qr	JAMES COLES SHARMAN AND WILLIAM CLAYSON CHURCHWARDENS CAST BY ALFRED BOWELL OF IPSWICH A.D.1909
4	29½"	5cwt 2 qr	HENRY BAGLEY MADE MEE 1678 RECAST BY BOWELL OF IPSWICH 1909
5	32½"	6cwt 3 qr	UNKNOWN 14 <sup>TH</sup> CENTURY RECAST BY BOWELL OF IPSWICH 1909 THE PRE-REFORMATION FOUNDERS MARKS WERE REPRODUCED IN FACSIMILE
Tenor	37"	8cwt 3qr	HENRY BAGLEY, ECTON 1678 JOHN SIBBLEY AND RICHARD FEASANT CHURCHWARDENS 1678 RECAST BY BOWELL OF IPSWICH 1909

The bells were found to be worn where the clappers strike and were re-hung in 2003 by John Taylor & Co of Loughborough. Taylors inspect and maintain the bells and frame regularly: the last inspection was done on 15 January 2020.

#### 4 The Chimes

The chime frame is on the ground floor of the tower. The nameplate states 'A Bowell 1909' so the chimes were presumably installed with the bells. We want to keep the original frame, which is in good condition apart from one pulley which is a little stiff.



Figure 2: Name plate on chime frame



Figure 3: Chime frame

The chimes were decommissioned when the bells were re-hung because the bell height had changed so the hammers would not engage correctly. The Treble hammer was put back so it could be used to ring the Sanctus bell for Eucharist.

We have the old hammers with their wood blocks for mounting on the bell frame. It has been suggested that we convert them to trigger-type hammers but we would prefer to keep the originals. Provided the chimes are used only by those who have been shown how to handle the ropes correctly we see no problem with this.



Figure 4: Chime hammer



Figure 5: Pulleys in clock chamber above chime frame

All the pulleys in the clock chamber are still in place but some are stiff and in need of attention. They can still be rotated by hand. The pulleys are made of wood and do not appear to have any cracks or splits so should be able to be reused.



Figure 6: Pulleys 1-6 with ropes before decommissioning

We have photographs showing the rope arrangement before decommissioning.



Figure 7: Pulleys for 3 and 4

## 5 Finance

We have a donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, who would like to see the chimes reinstated and is willing to meet the cost quoted by Whites or Taylors, and therefore there would be no cost to

the PCC. A grant equivalent to the VAT payable is available from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme.

We note that Taylors offer will be rebated by £1904 if we can find two 'able-bodied' assistants so they only need one bell hanger. We have one volunteer and hope to find a second.

## 6 Email clarification

The following email is referred to in the Faculty Petition

From: John Grubb [mailto:john.grubb@stpeterscogenhoe.org.uk]

Sent: 18 August 2020 15:01

To: Sally van der Sterren

Subject: Re: FW: St Peter's Cogenhoe Chimes

Hi Sally,

Regarding the chimes, Dorothy Stopps (Tower Captain) is keen that we keep to the original as much as possible so we will keep the existing manual and hammers. Dorothy says there is no need to go for trigger-action hammers so long as the chimes are rung by competent operators who have been shown not to keep the ropes pulled but to release them immediately after the bell is struck. I have checked the hardwood pulleys in the clock room and they look to be in good condition with no cracks but some are stiff and do not rotate freely. I hope it is just a matter of cleaning them but if any of them cannot be fixed I suppose they would need to be replaced. Could we include the pulleys on that basis just in case?

The two matters mentioned on the inspection report (cracked stay and worn clapper bushes) we will need to do at some stage. I gather they would be covered by List B (Archdeacon's licence). Taylors have commented on the clappers for at least two years but they are still not too bad.

Hope this clears it up.

John

On 17/08/2020 17:35, Sally van der Sterren wrote:

> PS Are you also looking for a permission for the two matter indicated on page 1 of the letter from Taylors and am I correct in thinking you are not wishing to undertake any of the refurb items listed for the chimes?

> Many thanks,

> Sally

>

## 7 Appendices

### Inspection Report January 2020

**JOHN TAYLOR & CO**

**BELFOUNDERS, BELLHANGERS  
AND CARILLON BUILDERS**



OUR REF : DP/dp/775/12

Dr John Grubb  
114 Station Road  
Cogenhoe  
Northampton  
NN7 1LU

20<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear Dr Grubb,

**Church of St Peter, Cogenhoe.**

As you may be aware, I called on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 to service the bells of the above church as part of our annual maintenance agreement. I thoroughly checked over the installation, tightened nuts and bolts, lubricated and adjusted where necessary and found all to be in good order except the following point.

1. As previously reported, the clapper bushes on bells 1 to 4 are showing signs of wear and rattle when being rung. The 'at works' cost for re-bushing a round top clapper and fitting a new joint pin with hydraulic greaser is still £135.00 plus VAT. Our 'at works' cost would involve local volunteers removing the clappers, transporting them to and from our works in Loughborough and then refitting them back into the bells.
2. As previously reported, the 3<sup>rd</sup> stay is cracked and should be replaced as soon as possible. We can supply a new stay for £70.00 plus carriage plus VAT if required.

If you experience a problem with your bells before we visit you again, please feel free to telephone me or the foundry and I shall make a note to look at it next time. If the problem with the installation is more of an urgent nature, I can arrange for a visit as soon as possible.

**John Taylor Bell Foundry (Loughborough) Limited trading as  
JOHN TAYLOR & CO.**

The John Taylor Bell Foundry, Freehold Street, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 1AR, UK  
Telephone: 01509 212241 Fax: 01509 263305 Tel. International +44 1509 212241 Fax. International +44 1509 263305  
e-mail: office@taylorbells.co.uk www.taylorbells.co.uk  
Registered in England No. 7032766

Quotation from John Taylor & Co

**JOHN TAYLOR & CO**

**BELLFOUNDERS, BELLHANGERS  
AND CARILLON BUILDERS**



Quotation No. 1.0

To reinstate existing Ellacombe chiming apparatus.

Provide new hammer supporting planks and the necessary chime cord to connect the hammers to the existing chime manual utilizing the existing timber pulleys.

Bellhangers to travel to the church with the necessary tackle and tools and the new materials.

The new hammer supports and existing hammers to be fitted at the correct heights and positions, at a slight angle to the bell and at the same end of the pit as the roller box. New chime cords to be threaded through the existing pulleys and connect to the hammers and the chime manual.

The bells to be test chimed before we leave site to ensure that all is well with the installation and basic instruction to be given on the use of the apparatus.

The present-day cost of undertaking the work outlined above would be **£5,844.00** plus VAT.

Appended item No.1.

If local labour in the form of two able bodied assistants could be provided free of charge to us in order that we only need send one bellhanger, our price quoted could be reduced by **£1,904.00**

Appended item No.2.

If bed and breakfast accommodation could be provided free of charge for our bellhangers, we could offer a reduction of **£270.00** for two bellhangers, or **£135.00** for one.

The table set out below gives the additional cost should you decide to further refurbish the system.

Replace existing timber pulleys for new steel pulleys running on ball bearings	<b>£888.00</b>
Convert existing hammers to trigger type	<b>£1,917.00</b>
Supply new trigger action hammers	<b>£3,375</b>
Supply & Install new Chime manual	<b>£2,563.00</b>

The above prices can be held fixed for any order placed by August 2020.

**John Taylor Bell Foundry (Loughborough) Limited trading as  
JOHN TAYLOR & CO.**

The John Taylor Bell Foundry, Freehold Street, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 1AR, UK  
Telephone: 01509 212241 Fax: 01509 263305 Tel: International +44 1509 212241 Fax: International + 44 1509 263305  
Email: office@taylorbells.co.uk www.taylorbells.co.uk  
Registered in England No. 7032766

# JOHN TAYLOR & CO

BELLFOUNDERS, BELLHANGERS  
AND CARILLON BUILDERS



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Insurance

We are insured for Employer's Liability up to £10M, and for Public Liability to £5M.

VAT

Under the present rules regarding the imposition of tax on work to church bells, the work outlined in the above quotation would be subject to VAT at the Standard Rate of 20%. However, it is possible for the Church to reclaim any tax paid in connection with work to the repairs of the bellframe and bell fittings under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. (see [lpwscheme.org.uk](http://lpwscheme.org.uk))

We trust that the above information is of help to you and the Church authorities and hope that we have covered everything. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely



David Pygott  
Service Contracts Manager  
**J Taylor & Co.**

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Email: [office@taylorbells.co.uk](mailto:office@taylorbells.co.uk) [www.taylorbells.co.uk](http://www.taylorbells.co.uk)  
Registered in England No. 7032766

Quotation from Whites of Appleton

Tel: 01865-862549

VAT Reg. No. 311 5128 09

**Directors**  
B. R. WHITE (Managing)  
G. J. CLIFTON  
J. A. HASELDINE  
A. HASELDINE



**Whites of Appleton Ltd**

(Established 1824)

**CHURCH BELLHANGERS**  
69 EATON ROAD  
APPLETON, ABINGDON, OXON  
OX13 5JJ  
e-mail: bells@whitesbellhangers.co.uk

Estimate

1st June 2020

**CHURCH OF ST. PETER, COGENHOE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

**ELLACOMBE CHIMING WORKS**

Attend the tower with our bellhanger and take all required measurements required for the new Ellacombe chiming hammers and their support brackets.

Manufacture a new set of six adjustable *trigger-action* Ellacombe chiming hammers, complete with support brackets. Paint with three coats of high-quality exterior grade paint.

Attend the tower with our bellhangers and all required tools and fittings.

Fit each hammer to its respective bell, mounting them on the new support brackets. Adjust as required for soundbow and rest clearance.

Fitting new guide pulleys as required, fit new pre-stretched Terylene chiming ropes between the hammers and existing chiming console, adjusting as required.

Leave the bells in good order for stationary Ellacombe chiming and full-circle ringing.

For the sum of:

**FOUR THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED & THIRTY-NINE POUNDS**  
**(£4,939.00)**  
**PLUS VAT**

**TERMS OF PAYMENT**

- 1) Payment in full net 30 days from invoice date

**EXCLUSIONS**

Any works to the bells, frame and fittings not mentioned in this estimate.

**A FACULTY MAY BE REQUIRED  
BEFORE ANY WORKS COMMENCE**

Company Reg. No. 04776700

Web Site: [www.whitesbellhangers.co.uk](http://www.whitesbellhangers.co.uk)

Bank: Barclays Bank Plc  
Sort Code: 20-65-18  
Account No: 80085960