



Revised Operational Structure

FAQ

Q: Will the Executive have new powers

A: Yes. The Executive will be given the power to run the Guild but the proposed rules provide some boundaries as to their power. Donations made by the Guild will be agreed by members at the AGM. The Executive will have the power to incur general costs in running the Guild but within the restrictions set out in the proposal paper.

Q How are the Executive monitored and how can the Guild ensure the Executive don't misguide themselves?

A: The Governance and Scrutiny Committee will ensure the Executive do not abuse their power nor act against the wishes of the membership as a whole. The Executive will report to the Governance and Scrutiny Committee who will hold the Executive to account. The Executive will need to set out what projects they are working on and planning. Any significant changes to the Guild structure will need to be approved by the Governance and Scrutiny Committee and voted on at the AGM.

Q: How will the Chairman of the Governance and Scrutiny Committee be elected

A: The Chair and Deputy Chair will be elected by members at the AGM

Q: Why are these changes necessary?

A: See main proposal paper setting out the reasons and need for change

Q: What will happen to the business matters currently carried out at the General Committee meetings.

A: Much will be dealt with by the Executive but approval of budgets, accounts and other significant matters will be matters for the Governance and Scrutiny Committee.

Q: The Oxford Diocesan Bell fund meet immediately before the General Committee meeting. How will that work now?

A: The Trustees of the Bell fund will meet separately. The Governance and Scrutiny Committee will become the Governors of the Bellfund and entitled to vote at the Bellfund AGM which will be held immediately before the annual physical Governance and Scrutiny Committee meeting.

Q: The Guild has Trustees currently. They do not appear in the new structure.

A: The Trustee role is an historic role from when the Guild had its own Restoration Fund - which was required to be formally managed by the Guild Trustees. As the ODG Restoration Fund was merged into The Oxford Diocesan Bellfund (a registered Charity) and it has its own Trustees there has been, since then, no formal role for the Trustees.

Q: The Trustees provided some stability and wise counsel to the Guild – has that been lost?

A: No – all Trustees will be Vice Presidents who will provide the same level of stability and wise counsel through their role on the Governance and Scrutiny Committee.

Q: The Guild reports are distributed at a General Committee meeting. How will this work going forward?

A: These will be partly distributed through the general Guild network. Further copies will be available for distribution at the AGM.

Q: What is the plan for implementation of these changes.

A: If approved by the General Committee, the changes will be put to a member vote at the AGM in May 2025. If passed at that AGM the new structure is proposed to be implemented immediately following the AGM, with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Governance and Scrutiny Committee being elected at the AGM. Branches will be asked to elect their Branch Spokesperson to the Governance and Scrutiny Committee within 2 months (at a branch practice or branch meeting).