

# **CAMRA – Ipswich & East Suffolk Branch Branch Meeting**

Date: 15/12/15

Venue: Steamboat, Ipswich

## **Agenda**

**Welcome:** Chairman (Matt) welcomed members (13) and opened the meeting at 20.04 hrs.

**Apologies:** Allan Crampton, Jane Scott, Tim Edwards

**Minutes of last meeting:** Accepted and read

**Matters arising:** None

**Correspondence:** The Secretary said that the following memo's had been posted on the members dashboard by H.Q.: Photography (guidelines for taking photo's at CAMRA beer festivals); Whats Brewing Production Schedule 2016; Neighbourhood Plans and Pubs (guidelines on using Neighbourhood Plans to prevent pub closures); CAMRA Conference 2016 (3 memo's Submitting Conference options , Motion Submission Form, Process Flowchart); National Executive Elections 2016 (5 memo's NE Elections Memo, NE Nomination Form, NE Member Declaration, NE Member Role Description, Good Governance Summary); Late Night Levey Update; Membership Promotion Christmas Gift Promotion

**All to be found on Members Dashboard by logging on to CAMRA website and logging on to Members site**

No other correspondence received since last meeting

## **Officers Reports**

**a) Chairman:** Matt reminded the meeting that the Branch Annual General Meeting was due to be held in January and nominations for committee members would be required then

**b) Vice-Chairman:** Nothing to report

**c) Treasurer:** Gordon gave the current position re branch accounts as follows:-

TSB (branch account)	£576.24
IBF account	£1258.44
petty cash	<u>£35.94</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£1870.62</u></b>

HQ had pressed for the returns for the Ipswich Beer Festival. £3000 was likely to be reclaimable from VAT and £1000 debts where still outstanding - £100 for Polo Shirts and £900 from Freeranger (HQ where pursuing this last through the Small Claims Court). This meant that the 2015 IBF made a substantial financial loss.

Thanks where extended to Gordon by the meeting for his efforts over the year and especially for reconciling the IBF account.

**d) Membership:** Not present no report. Branch membership stands at 1000+ and it was hoped to have a presentation for the 1000<sup>th</sup> member at the AGM in January.

**e) Young Membership:** Not present no report

**f) Social Secretary:** Not present, no report. Nigel reported that the 1<sup>st</sup> Real Ale Run About in 2016 might be to the Chelmsford Winter Ale Festival. The full RARA list was being finalised at present and it was hoped the final list would be announced at the meeting prior to the AGM. He also felt that a visit to a community brewery, the Pumphose at Tottesford Essex might prove worth a visit.

It was also reported that the last Saturday Stagger earlier in the month had been very poorly attended.

**g) Media & publicity:** Nigel stated there had been no radio events recently. The next edition of Last Orders should be out by 10<sup>th</sup> January.

**h) Beer Festivals:** Nigel reported he had attended a meeting with ITFC who had offered a combination of the Bobby Robson Suite, Legends Bar and the Concourse under the South Stand but these would be relatively expensive to hire. It might be possible to hold a multiple Pub Festival along the lines of the Harwich Winter Ale Event this year or a smaller event back at the Corn exchange. Options would need to be discussed at the AGM meeting. However Nigel stated he would not be prepared to Take the lead on future IBF's, although he was happy to continue to do so for the Stowmarket events at the John Peel Centre and Museum of East Anglia Life. The John Peel Centre festival was taking place on the last weekend in February and would be a 25/26 beer and 5 cider bar. The MEAL event was scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in July.

**i) Pub Officer:** Phil reported as follows:-

Henley Cross keys - ACV application had been accepted and the planning application to change of use to residential had been rejected. The owners had appealed against the ACV but this had been confirmed. An application to revise the previous application to change to a dwelling had been made but had been refused also.

Dales Ipswich had now closed and conversion to Homeless accommodation was under way.

Dukes Head Coddham – an ACV application had been made

Royal William Stowmarket – a decision on an ACV for this pub was awaited (this pub is not under threat)

Golden Lion Ipswich – Leasehold up for sale.

**j) Tasting Panel:** Terry reported that no more panels were proposed at present but enquired if there were any suggestions for future panels. It was suggested a panel might be held during the John Peel festival in February however Terry responded that pubs not beer festivals was the rule. He also enquired if there were any volunteers for training in the branch. If so they needed to make themselves known.

**k) Brewing Liaison Officers:**

St. Judes – Paul reported they were keen to hold another tasting panel. An extension of their opening hours to 010:00hrs had been made for Thursday, Friday and Saturdays. The brewing

was proceeding o.k. and St Marys, Darkest Blessings and Tangerine Dream where the latest offerings.

Dove St. - Terry reported that their own brew Oil was available both in cask and from the wood – the cask being better in his opinion (as was found to be the case by the last tasting panel!). Ian the Dove St brewer had recently brewed his 100<sup>th</sup> brew. He had recently been using Calypso hops in his brews. Terry had recently been able to sample his new Apple+Pears brew which he had found to be very nice!

**A.O.B.:** Nigel stated that a list of members that would be affected by the proposed Suffolk branches boundary changes was still awaited. Any boundary change would not likely take place before march/April 2016.

Paul wondered if it would be possible to persuade some Pubs to provide discounts to CAMRA members, perhaps by listing same on a pub trail in Last Orders?

**Next meeting: Thomas Wolsey, Ipswich 2000hrs Thursday 21/0715 followed by Branch Annual General Meeting**

**Close meeting:** The Chairman thanked attendees and closed the meeting at 2220hrs