

Ipswich & East Suffolk CAMRA branch

Minutes from branch meeting held on 18th Feb 2016

at Ipswich Spread Eagle from 8pm

Welcome

Matt, the branch chairman welcomed 21 people to the meeting and reminded everyone that it would be a meeting of two halves – first the GBG and PoTY results presented by Allan Crampton who had been coordinating the voting in conjunction with Tony Green in recent weeks – and second a normal branch meeting.

#1 : GBG & PotY competitions

Submitted results from Ipswich branch members

Allan reported that over 70 electronic votes had been cast this year – this was now seen as the best way to progress the selection process as it was substantially cheaper than manually mailing out to all branch members and far less time consuming – yet it had achieved quite reasonable and broadly comparable results in the first year of operation despite a few technical teething problems.

Matt commented that this more modern system had to be tried but he was sure some might have felt excluded this year, which was unfortunate as we never mailed out any paper voting forms this time but if local branch members can continue to be encouraged to get their email account details up-to-date on the new CAMRA system it will work better next time. At least 2/3 of the branch membership have already supplied an email address so they can stay in contact – this includes messages about whats happening locally, branch minutes and GBG and POTY voting - which has to be the right way forward. Allan also recommended launching the selection process earlier next time and also advertising the web based voting form sooner to give the maximum amount of branch members both an opportunity and time to take part.

GBG results are as follows:

Ipswich Quota Pubs (up to 8)

Ipswich Fat Cat
Ipswich Dove Street Inn
Ipswich Thomas Wolsey
Ipswich Spread Eagle
Ipswich Mulberry Tree
Ipswich Arcade Street Tavern
Ipswich Briarbank
Ipswich Greyhound

Reserve

Ipswich Brewery Tap

vote to decide 8th place & reserve as follows: Brewery Tap 2 – Greyhound 8

Non-Ipswich Pubs (21 pubs max)

Earl Soham Victoria

Stowmarket Royal William

Sweffling White Horse

Framlingham Station Hotel

Woodbridge Cherry Tree

Combs Ford Gladstone Arms

Needham Market Rampant Horse !!!!!!!

Dunwich Ship

Tattingstone Wheatsheaf

Eastbridge Eel's Foot

Great Glemham Crown !!!!!!!

Shottisham Sorrel Horse !!!!!!!

Blaxhall Ship

Walton Half Moon !!!!!!!

Woodbridge Angel

Newbourne Fox !!!!!!!

Stowmarket King's Arms

Bentley Case is Altered

Naughton Wheelhouse

Offton Limeburners

Stratford St Mary Swan

Possible other Reserves (alphabetical order)

Aldeburgh White Hart

Eyke Elephant & Castle R

Pin Mill Butt & Oyster

Sibton White Horse

Stowmarket Little Wellington

Woodbridge Olde Bell & Steelyard R

PotY competition results:

Ipswich PotY

Fat Cat

Urban PotY

Stowmarket Royal William

Rural Poty

Sweffling White Horse

NOTE: The three winning pubs – Ipswich Fat Cat, Stowmarket Royal William and Sweffling White Horse are to be judged in a play-off – Nigel offered transport so that some people could go out on Sat 05 March (originally discussed as 04 March) with a decision to be determined by 13th March (at the latest).

Additional awards

Most Improved Town Pub

Ipswich Spread Eagle

Most Improved Rural Pub

Tattingstone Wheatsheaf

Cider pub

Ipswich Mulberry tree

Thanks were given from the branch to Allan and Tony for setting up the new system.

#2 : Branch meeting

Apologies

Mike Lewis, Phil Hastie, Janes Scott, Paul Jeffrey, Naomi Drown, Sue Shaw, Andy Shaw

Correspondance

Researcher requires assistance with study into Assets of Community Value

[Winter Ales festival at Derby](#)

Chairman

no report

Treasurer

no change since last month

Festival acct = 1278.44

Branch acct = 543.36

Petty cash = 35.94

Total = £1857.74

Membership

little change since last month with 7 gains & 6 losses

Young Member

Currently talking to Briarbank about a base for YM

Social

trip to Elysian Beer Festival completed last month

Future trips:

Stowmarket to visit a few pubs and beer festival – meet at Ipswich Station hotel at 11am on Fri 26th

Galloway Travel are organising a coach trip to the National Brewery Centre, Yorkshire, on 4 June with an overnight stay in the area. Seats are still available. They were reluctant to offer a group discount so I suggest anyone who is interested contacts them direct to book. www.travel-galloway.com or 01473 216266. Twin or double room £139.00 per person. Singles are £159.00 with a possible supplement. Do let me know if any of you decide to go. There is a visit to The Black Sheep Brewery on the Sunday. Some meals are included.

Runabouts – Nigel reported that sadly the first trip to Chelmsford has been canceled – only 13 booked – realistically about 18-20 must book by weekend before trip – so important to book early to ensure trips run – discussion on possibility of allowing under 18s on daytime trips? Nigel to enquire and update website.

Publicity & newsletter

Nigel was on ICR recently talking to Graham Blackburn about local pubs and beer festivals. He is on Radio Suffolk soon talking to Lesley Dolphin.

Next newsletter is in April – Nigel still keen to pursue the non alcoholic drinks debate and may run another article in next newsletter. Also pleased with contributions from other branches and new cycle article which will be the first of a new series. Distribution and advertising also going better atm

Beer festivals

Ipswich beer festival - no report available from Paul or Naomi this month about the progress of their discussions with Corn Exchange. Hopefully more information next month.

The JPC festival in Stowmarket is almost finalised and will be set-up and run next week.

Volunteers still welcome on Tues 22 (from 12-6pm) for the set-up and Thur to Sat to run the bar during public sessions (12-11pm). Or Sun 28 (12-4pm) for the take-down.

Norbridge social club – Rae proposed a 40 Firkin winter beer festival here in Feb 2017. Nigel requested more details and budget as this may clash with a number of other established festivals and the new national winter festival in Norwich planned for same month next year.

Pubs Officer

not present but some pub news as follows:

Otley White Hart – closed and may be subject to redevelopment proposals

Tattingstone White Horse – closed atm – issues subject to police investigation under way. Hopefully it will be reopened soon.

Stowmarket Royal William – landlord Paul is now owner of pub and is currently improving venue. He may construct a microbrewery on site in due course (big cheer)

Tasting Panel

I cant recall if Terry said anything that needed noting – future dates??

BLO reports

Calvors are rebranding atm

Briarbank are planning a homebrew competition alongside their Aug beer fest. Also produced an Ipswich Pale Ale based on their Double Imperial IPA? Missing casks previously reported are to be written off

Stratford Swan – Ed reported that 1815 Porter and other brews may only be available some of time atm, but he hopes to be expanding brewing soon after just completing a commercial brewing course – increased volume during summer months.

Future meetings

15 March = Ipswich Black Horse

21 April = Ipswich Arcade tavern - tbc

17 May = Needham Rampant horse - tbc

21 June = Ipswich Mulberrytree - tbc

26 July = Felixstowe Half Moon - tbc

meeting ended 21:55