

CAMRA – Ipswich & East Suffolk Branch branch Meeting

Date: 17/05/16

Venue: Rampant Horse, Needham Market

Agenda

Welcome: Chairman (Matt) welcomed members (17) and opened the meeting at 20:00 hrs.

Apologies: Allan Crampton, Terry Marquand, Jayne Scott

Minutes of last meeting: Accepted and read.

Matters arising: none

Correspondence: Mike reported HQ had posted memo's on the following – Update on Pubs Code England and Wales only: Good Beer Guide 2017 Beer Festivals Listings: Boggert Beer Distribution Business: Community Right to Buy Scotland: Pubs Use of Permitted Development Rights: Health and Safety Planning Support: Alcohol Wholesalers Registration Scheme

All memo's sent by HQ since the last meeting can be found on the Members Dashboard by logging on to the the Members Site on the CAMRA web-site – <http://www.camra.org.uk>

No other correspondence had been received.

Nigel reported he had delivered letters to various pubs regarding the proposed Ipswich Ale Trail

Officers Reports

a) Chairman: Matt advised that the branches sponsored charity at the last IBF, Krissey and Friends, had invited the branch to a 'thank you' event at the Steamboat Tavern, Ipswich on Sunday 22nd May.

b) Vice-Chairman: nothing to report

c) Treasurer: Gordon gave the balance of the various branch accounts as:-

IBF account £830.44

Branch account £548.82

Petty Cash £ 35.94

Total £1415.20

The IBF Vat return was still awaited and nothing had been heard from HQ on the Freeranger situation. Nigel confirmed he had chased Peter re the VAT return but there was a problem with access to Peters vat account, which was being sorted out.

d) Membership: Tim reported membership presently stood at 1020. The 1000th member had been identified and Tim intended to call him to arrange a meeting at his local pub. It was intended to put money over the bar for a drink and/or possibly present a tankard to him.

e) Young Membership: Chris intended to approach the University for a stall at the freshers week. Also the Students Union had indicated they were ok with a Real Ale Society.

f) Social Secretary: Not present but Phil was reporting on Jane's behalf. The recent trip to the Harwich Real Ale Trail had been good fun. Jane was also contacting the other Suffolk branches about a combined trip to the Mid Suffolk Steam Real Ale Festival on 28-29th August, possibly sharing the cost of a bus. The RARA to the Mid Suffolk Light Railway recently had been a most enjoyable trip. Finally the Greenjack Brewery tasting session at the Cricketers had been re-scheduled for 3rd June.

g) Media and Newsletter: Nigel advised that he had not been on the radio since the last meeting. The current edition of Last Orders was out. There had been considerable comment re the poem that appeared in the issue, some positive and some negative.

Concern was raised by the meeting that the poem was both likely to upset some licencees, and affect our relationship with them, and could have an effect on advertising revenue for Last Orders. Furthermore it did nothing to further CAMRA's aims. It was suggested that it should have been referred to the branch before inclusion.

Nigel responded that (to date) no complaint had been received from any specific licensee, secondly the issue of staff treatment and wages in the pubs/hospitality industry was relevant and thirdly the poem dealt only with the author's views/feelings and did not refer to any specific pub/business. This was precisely why it had been printed without authorship being attributed. In hindsight it was possible that people might draw unintended inferences from the poem. Although branch entries are proof read and any revisions referred back to branch chairmen for review, due to time constraints it is not possible to refer every item for inclusion to the branch for review.

h) Beer Festivals: 2 festivals were due in June/July in conjunction with the Museum of East Anglian Life. On Sat 11th June the Blues festival, with a 25 beer /cider bar, would be held. Bar set up day is Wednesday 8th June. The main MEAL beer festival was on 14 to 17th July, set up being 12th July. Volunteers for both events and both set up days were required. Those interested please let Nigel know (e-mail nigelsmithzoo@btinternet.com)

I) Pubs and Clubs:

Forward Green – Shepherd & Dog has reopened

Woolpack, Debenham - ACV application sent off to MSDC on 1/3/16. a/w response.

Royal William, Stowmarket - a/w decision on ACV application.

County of Suffolk Ipswich - is up for sale at £275,000 Freehold. Ceased trading 6th May 2016.

Bucklesham Shannon – has now reopened.

Saxmundham White Hart - which has been closed for 3 years is now the subject of an ACV application by local residents and possible buyout by local residents.

Golden Lion (Vaults) Ipswich - closed on Sunday 3rd April. The lease is being sold by Wetherspoons.

Drum & Monkey (Ipswich) - ceased trading on 15th May and is unlikely to reopen.

Bedfield Castle – all signage from this pub has now been removed. Future uncertain.

East Town Bottle Shop (Ipswich) – this new venue in Lloyds Avenue opened for trading 10th May 2016.

Mulberry Tree, Ipswich - despite rumours this pub is not up for sale and continues to trade and sell real ale and cider

j) Tasting Panel Not present no report.

k) Brewing Liaison Officers:

Briarbank – new IPA type called Hop To It 6.2% on offer and an un-named smoked beer is being brewed. Goodhops A new seasonal brew XC 4.8% golden being brewed for the Queens birthday. Also opening hours are changing to Mon-Thurs 4pm till late and Fri-Sat 12 noon till late.

Dove St – new beer Goodhops + Dreadlocks now on sale

A.O.B.: Nigel reported 20 pubs had expressed interest in the Ipswich Ale Train with another 4 still to reply. Stamps and pads for the pubs to stamp the card could be had cheaply. Printing 1500 passports should be about £150. It was hoped to issue a press release by end May.

Following visits to all 4 branch Pubs of The Year and subsequent voting by those who attended the Suffolk POTY, by a narrow margin, was The Stanford Arms, Lowestoft.

Certificates were still outstanding for the Fat Cat (Ipswich POTY) and Mulberry Tree (Cider POTY) and needed to be given asap.

The next Suffolk branches Liaison meeting is at 1200hrs Sat 21st May.

Phil invited those who wished to the Dove St on 13th June where he had arranged for a free barrell of beer to be available to celebrate his birthday.

Next meeting: Woolpack, Ipswich 2000hrs Thursday 21/06/2016

Close meeting: The Chairman thanked attendees and closed the meetig at 2140hrs