

CAMRA – Ipswich & East Suffolk Branch branch Meeting

Date: 26/07/16

Venue: Half Moon, Walton

Agenda

Welcome: Chairman (Matt) welcomed members (9) and opened the meeting at 20:00 hrs.

Apologies: Jane Scott, Phil Hastie, Allan Crampton, Gordon Taylor, Tim Edwards

Minutes of last meeting: Accepted and read.

Matters arising: none

Correspondence: Mike reported HQ had posted memo's on the following:- Pub of the Year (POTY) procedures; Guidance on Selection methods for branch POTY; October Cider Promotion Month; National Cider Trip; Pub Saving Award, New Beer Festival Assessors; Branch Website of the Year Judging Criteria; Good Beer Guide 2017; Revitalisation Project Update -2nd consultation survey launching soon, new edition of Britains Real Best Heritage Pubs; Pub Saving Awards; Launch of On Line Training.

The last is well worth a look for those wishing to increase their personal knowledge/skills. It should also encourage younger members to renew memberships.

All memo's sent by HQ since the last meeting can be found on the Members Dashboard by logging on to the Members Site on the CAMRA web-site –

<http://www.camra.org.uk>

Other correspondence had been received from Southampton Branch who were looking to hold a beer festival at their local football club and sought views on our recent experience with Ipswich Town F.C.. A reply had been sent and a copy circulated to the meeting.

Officers Reports

a) Chairman: Matt advised that the recent RARA's to Southwold and Maldon had proved a great success, although some older members had been a little unhappy with the walk to the river in Maldon!. Finally the RARA to Finningham was running on Friday 29th July there had been some concern regarding numbers going but this had now passed the minimum required.

b) Vice-Chairman: not present no report.

c) Treasurer: Not present, but email report.

IBF Account: £339.70

Branch Account: £575.82

Petty Cash: £35.94

Total: £951.46

£6000 due from VAT by HMRC for IBF account, who have asked for further paperwork. Nigel reported he had collected £550 so far from pubs participating in the Ale Trail (with some £120 still to come). Total cost of the event should be about £1000.

d) Membership: Not present, no report.

e) Young Membership: Not present, no report.

f) Social Secretary: Not present, no report but the meeting was reminded that a visit to Harwich Redoubt beer festival was on for Thursday 28th July.

g) Media and Newsletter: Nigel reported there had been no appearances on local Radio or in the local Press. Also the latest issue of Last Orders was now out and the next edition was due on 10th October. The latest issue contained a lot of articles from West Suffolk, North East Suffolk and Colchester branches. A question was asked from the floor as to whether it was possible for old issues to be put on the Branch website or on line and it was confirmed this was being looked into.

h) Beer Festivals: Nothing had been heard from John Peel Centre regarding the beer festival in February and the branch would attempt to make contact with them. The MEAL, Stowmarket beer festival had been held in mid-June and a good range of darks and other beers had been offered but sales were down about 10%. All Un-broached beers had been successfully resold.

A Joint CIBA/CAMRA Beer Festival was still being talked about but it would be the Autumn before a meeting could be held as Steve Sims of CIBA, who had made the original suggestion, had been ill. The Suffolk Light Railway are keen to do a summer beer festival with us next year, possibly with buses being run from Ipswich and Stowmarket for attendees. Mid Anglia branch had been copied in on this as they might wish to participate.

A non-CAMRA beer festival, "Saints Beer Festival", was being held at St. Peters church, Ipswich in August, and another in September. It might be feasible as a venue for future Branch Beer Festivals?

Eric suggested that we might start to prepare a list of possible venues for 2017 but we needed to start looking now. It was agreed to keep this matter under review.

i) Pubs and Clubs: not present no report. However pub news reported to the meeting where as follows:-

Cross Keys, Henley the appeal to the Tribunal re refusal of planning permission had been successful!-

10 Bells, Stonham has been closed for 2^{1/2} years and an application for change of use to a private residence has been made.

Grinning Rat, Ipswich has no real ale on tap, but does have it in bottles.

Masons Arms, Ipswich is closed following a fire.

j) Tasting Panel: Terry stated 2 tastings had been held recently. One at the Briarbank recently and one at the current venue prior to the meeting! Venues in Stowmarket and Woodbridge where being considered for future panels.

k) Brewing Liaison Officers: Dove St. - Terry reported that the 4th July gone was the 5th anniversary of the brewery opening and had been celebrated with a 5.2% American Pale - "Born in the USA" using american hops. A very tasty brew it was too!

A.O.B.: Nigel reported that a brewery trip to Adnams brewery was being arranged for 12th November. Also those wishing to judge the Regional POTY's should meet at Burrell Road car park at 1050hrs Saturday 30th July. Only the POTY's for Herts., Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Essex would be judged that day. Anyone attending must do Suffolk and Norfolk county POTY's themselves before that date.

Finally the Ipswich Ale Trail had been a great success and 53 people had claimed badges for completing all 17 pubs on the trail and 37 the partial trail (any 9 pubs of the 17). Prizes for the 2 draws for full and partial completion were then held, the barmaid of the Half Moon kindly drawing the winning passports from those submitted. Prizes (3) for completing the full Ale Trail where:- a meal voucher for 2 at the Selkirk, Ipswich; tickets for 2 for the Adnams Brewery tour in November; and a free yearly membership of CAMRA. Prizes (2) for the partial trail where:- a meal voucher for 2 at the Tithe Barn, Ipswich; and tickets for 2 for the Adnams Brewery tour in November. All winners will be contacted individually.

Next meeting: The Selkirk, Ipswich 2000hrs Tuesday 16/08/2016

**** Please note this date has had to be changed from Thursday 18/08/2016 – although the venue remains The Selkirk****

Close meeting: Chairman closed the meeting at 2125hrs