

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

Date: 27/11/16

Venue: Steamboat Tavern, Ipswich

## **Agenda**

**Welcome:** Chairman (Matt) welcomed members (15) and opened the meeting at 20:06 hrs.

**Apologies:** Jayne Scott, Gordon Taylor

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

**Matters arising:** none

**Correspondence:** Mike reported HQ had posted memo's on the following – Appointment of branch Clubs Officer: CAMRA Forum: National Executive Elections: Pub Closure statistics: Launch of 3<sup>rd</sup> Revitalisation Project consultation: Good Beer Guide 2018 survey form and info.: Request for volunteers for taste panels: Responsibilities of Branch Young Member Contact: Christmas members promotion: Taste Panel applications closed: Branch magazines & where to send copies: Launch of Campaign Strategy group: True brew kits: Internal & External Policy document: RCH Beer Distribution Business: Liason with Pub Companies

**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

## **Officers Reports**

**a) Chairman:** Matt reminded the meeting that the AGM was due in January and members should consider proposing/standing for Committee positions

**b) Vice-Chairman:** post vacant no report

**c) Treasurer:** Not present but had e-mailed figures for branch accounts viz.:

Barclays (IBF)	£474.48
TSB (Branch)	£543.22
Petty cash	<u>£ 35.94</u>
Total	<u>£1053.64</u>

Nigel proposed we speak to HQ for advice about the outstanding VAT return and how to resolve the matter with Peter Tetley. Alan undertook to contact Peter to try to move the matter forward.

**d) Membership:** Not present no report

**e) Young Membership:** Chris stated that at the Eastern Region Young Members meeting in September it was decided that Young member issues needed to be dealt with at a regional level. It was also felt that young members would respond better to social media and therefore a new Young Members regional site had been set up on Facebook

**f) Social Secretary:** Not present but email report.

There was a trip to Harwich for this years Sausage Throwing Competition on 5/11 and a visit to the Harwich & Parkeston Winter Ale Festival on 25/11. Attendees then went on to visit Harwich old Town.

An email reminder would be sent out for people who wish to travel to Lowestoft on Sat 10/12 for the POTY award to the Stanford Arms, winners of the regional Pub Of the Year.

Jane would also like to organise a New Years buffet with ales and mulled cider.

The Dove Winter Beer Festival starts on Wed 30/11 and continues until Sun 4/12. There is a meet the brewer session on wed 7/12 at the Cricketers, Ipswich.

**g)Media and Newsletter:** Nigel advised that he had not been on the radio re CAMRA matters since the last meeting. The new issue of last Orders was out and (as yet!) he had not received any negative feedback. 2017 would be the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the branch magazine, although it had changed its name and format several times since the 1<sup>st</sup> edition..

**h) Beer Festivals:** Nigel reported that Steve Woodger from John Peel Centre had contacted him and had requested a meeting, although due to time constraints on Steve this had to happen that day. Nigel had met with Steve who had undertaken to resolve the issue regarding the money from the 2016 Festival (approx. £250). Steve had been unaware this was still unresolved. With regard to a 2017 beer festival Steve stated this was an issue with some people at the JPC, although Steve himself was in favour of it. Nigel pointed out that this could not take place in February now as we would be unable to get budget approval from HQ in time (even though the JPC bear all the costs). However an event in, say October, was possible. Steve would let us know on this.

The Mid Anglia Railway were still interested in holding an event in August 2017. It might also be possible to run a bus service to the event via Ipswich, Stowmarket and Diss in conjunction with Ipswich Transport Museum if the event went ahead.

Ipswich Town Football club had contacted Nigel to see if we wished to hold an event there in 2017.

Matt and Greg from Beer&Co attended the meeting and proposed the branch might wish to co-operate with the Company in future events they might hold. Beer&Co had held 2 previous beer festivals at St Peters on the Waterfront, Ipswich and were holding a 3<sup>rd</sup> on 30+31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, a beer and music festival. In any case Beer&Co were interested in hiring stillage from the branch for their events. The question "Does the Branch wish to investigate further the possibility of co-operating with Beer&Co in the future?" was put to the meeting which overwhelmingly voted to pursue the matter further. To this end it was decided to hold a meeting at the Lord Nelson on Wed 14/12 @ 1930hrs to review branch options.

Rae Gardiner also attended the meeting to see if the branch might be interested in participating in a winter beer festival at Northbridge Social Club, Ipswich in 2017. The club was holding one in spring 2017 (in which the branch is not involved).

**I) Pubs and Clubs:** Post vacant no report. However pub news from attendees was as follows-

Rampant Horse, Needham Market: planning application made to re-develop and utilise barns behind the pub for their restaurant business and as a bottle shop had been successful

East Town Bottle Shop, Ipswich – had regrettably closed

Black Horse, Ipswich – still open but a new publican being sought

Bucks Head, Thwaite – being renovated, opening next year

Nigel reported that clubs were becoming a major issue with CAMRA HQ wanting clubs info on What Pub. He had attempted to do some updating but did not have the time to update What Pub on his own and needed help on updating branch entries in What Pub generally. Mike offered to help with this.

**j) Tasting Panel** Not present no report.

**k) Brewing Liaison Officers:**

Calvors – A new head brewer, Robin Murphy, had joined the brewery after time with Galway Bay Brewery in Ireland, Arbor Ales Bristol and, latterly, Beavertown Brewery London. A new pilot brewery is currently being installed to enable Robin to develop new recipes. This should enable innovative new beers with smaller brew runs than the main brewery to be created regularly. This will enable Calvors to change/add to their beer repertoire. The brewery were awarded 2 Silver awards at the SIBA Eastern Region Beer Competitions recently.

Sue stood down as Calvors BLO and Mike took over this role.

Nigel reported that at the recent Adnams brewery trip he had been informed that the brewery were putting in another 12 fermenters and this would expand capacity from 1.6million to 2.6 million pints per year.

**A.O.B.:** In her emailed report Jane had stated she felt communication within and beyond the branch needed improving. Also some definition of roles of committee members was needed. Also she felt some branch meetings could be held on Saturdays to allow more members to join in. These could also be turned into social events once business had been concluded. Although some members felt this would be difficult due to members attending various sporting events it might be possible on a small scale during the summer. These matters needed discussing at the AGM meeting in January

Allan reported that Good Beer Guide 2018 nominations ended that evening, 29/11/2016. Voting on entries would open within the next 3-4 days, final selection being made by late February 2017. The email reminder to members had been successful as prior to that only 2-3 people had proposed pubs but a number of people had responded afterwards. Total number of pubs nominated now stood at 108! Rather than try to reduce the number (we are only allowed 29 entries) it was decided to let all stand and see how the voting went.

**Next meeting: St. Judes, Ipswich 2000hrs Thursday 15/12/2016**

**Close meeting:** The Chairman thanked attendees and closed the meeting at 2155hrs