

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

Date: 15/12/16

Venue: St. Judes Tavern, Ipswich

## **Agenda**

**Welcome:** Chairman (Matt) welcomed members (11) and opened the meeting at 20.04 hrs.

**Apologies:** Jane Scott, Eric Trabbold, Nigel Smith

**Minutes of last meeting:** Social Secretary's report – re visit to Stanford Arms, Lowestoft. The presentation was for achieving a place in the last 4 of the National POTY competition. Final outcome of this competition is still to be decided.

**Matters arising:** Pubs and Clubs report – re club entries on What Pub. Some attendees felt that mention of the lack of resources at the branch to pursue this update should have been made. Nigel has already informed CAMRA HQ of this via e-mail and told them that these updates will only be done as resources permit.

**Correspondence:** Mike said that the following memo's had been received from H.Q.:  
Liaison with Pub Companies: Branch magazines amended memo: Displaying Volunteers Charter at events: Motions update from national Conference: Year End Financial Statements and Remittances: My Volunteers story online form: Whats Brewing memo production schedule: CAMRA communications Tool – FAQ: VAT compliance

**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 website at <http://www.camra.org.uk>**

No other correspondence had been received

## **Officers Reports**

**a) Chairman:** Matt reminded attendees that after the January meeting the Branch AGM would be held.

**b) Vice-Chairman:** Post vacant, no report

**c) Treasurer:** Gordon reported the following amounts in branch accounts -

Barclay (IBF) £474.48

TSB (Branch) £552.22

Petty Cash     £ 35.94

£1062.64

£40 was owed to Matt for expenses incurred on the recent Adnams trip on 12/11 caused by problems with transport. End of year Finances had been provided to HQ. Gordon had also spoken to Peter Tetley who had requested more information. He had requested Peter complete the VAT return by the forthcoming AGM. Matt had also spoken to HQ for help/advice re the situation with Peter. Alan undertook to speak to Peter and offer his help.

**d) Membership:** Tim apologised in advance that he would be unable to attend the AGM due to prior personal commitments. However he stated he would be happy to stand down should

somebody wish to assume the membership role but would also stand again if not. The branch's 1000<sup>th</sup> (and 1001<sup>st</sup> members – they where a couple) had been identified and should be at the AGM.

Overall numbers where slightly up over the year and there was no evidence that the changes in Branch boundaries had an effect, although boundary changes where not yet fully complete. CAMRA HQ where concerned with renewal rates, some 70/80% only nationally but 94% within our branch.

**e) Young Membership:** Chris reported that there was a young members pub crawl scheduled for Sat 17<sup>th</sup> December starting at 1200hrs at the Briarbank. There was another University Volunteer Fair on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017 between 1100-1400hrs and it was hoped to have a stall there.

**f) Social Secretary:** Not present but e-mail report.

“Social Secretary Update: All trips went well. I will send in an article for Last Orders by January deadline. Waiting to see dates for next few months before putting out new trip info. Had a nice letter from a member who enjoyed one of our jaunts with his son. Tendring CAMRA members expressed their pleasure in our report on their ale trail in Last Orders.”

**g) Media & publicity:** Not present, no report

**h) Beer Festivals:** Not present, no report. Matt reported the meeting on Wed 14<sup>th</sup> December to consider co-operation with Beer&Co had not taken place due to Nigel Smith being ill. [It was hoped to reschedule this next year.

**i) Pub Officer:** Post vacant, no report. However attendees reported as follows:-

Salutation, Ipswich - had been bought by a new company and a new landlord was in place. Pump & Grind, Ipswich – Due to problems with the roof of the building in which the pub occupied the ground floor there had been a dispute between the pub landlords and the buildings owners. As a result the pub may close.  
Golf Hotel, Ipswich – has been refurbished and serves Green King and a guest beer.

**j) Tasting Panel:** Terry stated that no panels had been arranged for 2017 as yet. However HQ had e-mailed names of people interested in joining the panel. As a result some training sessions would have to be arranged for 2017, Stowmarket being a possible location for this. Training would depend on when Dave Sherman of Celmsford branch, who is a recognised CAMRA Beer Panel trainer, would be available.

**k) Brewing Liaison Officers:**

BLO's for Briarbank, Calvors, Dove St., Ipswich and Swan, Stratford St. Mary where present but had nothing new to report. Tim undertook the role of BLO for Uffa's Brewery

**A.O.B.:** Allan announced that voting for entry in the 2018 Good Beer Guide was now open and would close on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017, the day before the February meeting. There where 108 contenders for 29 places in the guide. However to date only 3 people had voted and all branch members should be encouraged to vote.

In her e-mail report Jane had expressed her dismay that relations with the Dove St. Tavern had still not returned to their previous state. The meeting expressed its desire for an up-turn in the Branches relationship with the Dove and hoped this could be achieved in 2017.

The meeting was reminded that the CAMRA AGM was being held in Bournemouth in April 2017 and it was hoped that a number of branch members would decide to attend.

Finally the meeting expressed its Best Wishes for a speedy recovery to Nigel Smith, who is presently in hospital.

**Next meeting: Thomas Wolsey, Ipswich 2000hrs 24/01/2017, to be immediately followed by the Branch Annual General Meeting**

**Close meeting:** The Chairman thanked attendees and closed the meeting at 2052hrs