

CAMRA – Ipswich & East Suffolk Branch Branch Meeting

Date: 28/02/17

Venue: Arbor House, Ipswich

Agenda

Welcome: Chairman (Matt) welcomed members (17) and opened the meeting at 20.04 hrs. He reminded attendees that they would be a POTY meeting immediately after the branch meeting.

Apologies: Jane Scott, Sophie Watson

Minutes of last meeting: Accepted and Read

Matters arising: None

Correspondence: Mike said that the following memo's had been received from H.Q.:
Membership Price Increase: Beer Ordering process for GBBF: Real Ale Campaigner of the Year: CAMRA Books Social Media Accounts: Member get Member: Members Weekend and AGM Bournemouth 2017: WB and Beer managing editor leaving CAMRA: Alcohol Wholesalers Registration Scheme: Next Steps for Revitalisation: Pomona Award: definition of a pub -proposed changes: Volunteers Week: Community Pubs Month April 2017: Likely acquisition of Punch Pub Co.: May Cider promotion Month: Perfect Pint update

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>

The Willow Tree, Stowmarket has contacted us about getting the pub more involved with CAMRA. Also West Suffolk Branch had contacted us re people volunteering to help at the East Anglian Beer and Cider festival at the Apex Bury St Edmunds in April. An e-mail would be sent to members about this in due course.

Officers Reports

a) Chairman: Matt stated he had nothing to report

b) Vice-Chairman: Not present, no report

c) Treasurer: Gordon (outgoing treasurer) reported the following amounts in branch accounts -

Barclay (IBF) £474.48

TSB (Branch) £491.22

Petty Cash £ 35.94

£1001.64

The mandate for the Barclay(IBF) account had been changed to Allan and the TSB mandate was in the post.

d) Membership: Tim reported that there had been a slight fall in membership to 994 at present, due to transfers to other branches and non-renewals

e) Young Membership: Not present, no report

f) Social Secretary: No present, no report. However Nigel reminded the meeting that the Real Ale Run Abouts (RARA's) had been decided upon and the first was to take place on 10/03/17 to Sutton, Alderton and Shottisham. There where a greater proportion of day trips this year as they seemed to be more popular.

It was hoped to get a quiz team up for the Quiz Night on 18th March at the Wheatsheaf, Tattingstone. Cost £5 person, food included.

g) Media & publicity: Nigel reported there had been no Radio or paper interviews since the last meeting. He was starting to prepare for the next edition of Last Orders and articles for inclusion would be welcome.

h) Beer Festivals: Beer & Co had settled on a list of 6 events for 2017, the first of which was a Beer & Folk festival on 29th and 30th April. Nigel understood beer would be provided by Muirhouse Brewery, Derby. Several of the local CAMRA branches had indicated they might be helping. However volunteers would be needed from Ipswich branch, for which Beer & Co would be making a contribution to Branch funds. Volunteers would be asked to work a maximum of 2 of 3 shifts each day (not all 3!). Shifts where 1200-1600hrs, 16-2000hrs and 1800-2400hrs.

John Peel Centre, Stowmarket had contacted us re monies owed from 2016 and had requested an invoice from the branch so they could pay outstanding monies (£325). There had been no festival at JPC early this year but they had mooted the possibility of an "Octoberfest" over the weekend of Friday 6th and Saturday 7th October.

The normal round of 3 events was also taking place at Stowmarket in conjunction with the Museum of East Anglian Life (MEAL). These would be the 1 day Blues Festival on 10th June, the 3 day Beer Festival Thursday 6th to Saturday 8th July and the 1 day Folk festival in September (date tba)

i)Pub Officer: Rodger reported the long serving landlady of the Doberman, Framsdon had died recently and the pub was currently closed but should reopen in due course. The Robert Ransome, Ipswich was understood to be in the process of reverting to Yate's, the previous owner.

Nigel reported he had updated entries in Pubzilla using info from Google and various e-mail pub websites. Additionally he had looked at club info for the 41 clubs included by CAMRA HQ (in their e-mail last year) and had added a further 15. Only info given on their website had been given and only fixed opening hours stated

j) Tasting Panel: Not present, no report.

k) Brewing Liaison Officers:

Earl soham brewery where in the process of setting up a lager plant. New conditioning and dispensing tanks had already been installed. A 5.2% lager was planned.

A.O.B.: Nigel stated that the next 3 pub history meetings would be held at the Ipswich Record Office, where a numbers of interesting historical documents could be viewed. Meetings would be on Friday 3rd, 17th and 31st March at 1100hrs.

Beer guide covering Suffolk coastal area was planned to be on the lines of the current Colchester Branch beer guide. A second guide covering Ipswich and constable country was also planned. It was hoped to have the first ready to print by the end of June. An ambitious deadline but do-able. The next planning meeting would be at the Briarbank on 13th March.

Future Branch meetings where proposed for:-

Grand Old Duke of York - 25th April

Briarbank _ 23rd May

Angel Woodbridge - 20th June.

Next meeting: The Lord Nelson, Ipswich 28th March 2017.

Close meeting: The Chairman thanked attendees and closed the meeting at 2120hrs.

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Good Beer Guide 2018 entries and Pub of the Year (POTY) competition results

GBG 2018 selection

Allan, as POTY co-ordinator, reported that while pub numbers for inclusion in the Guide was up to 108, actual voting was down on last year – only 85 people voted. There were 3 votes discounted as voters were not members of our branch and were ineligible to vote. One further problem was caused by the Cricketers, Ipswich asking members to vote for them and offering to enter votes for those who agreed. By doing this 2 problems were created

- 1) the Cricketers only entered a vote for themselves so those who agreed missed the opportunity to vote for other pubs (people could vote for up to 29 pubs)
- 2) If the person concerned had already voted the vote entered by the Cricketers would over-ride their previous voting and only entries by the Cricketers would count.

These issues need to be addressed for next year's voting, though provided the Cricketers could provide written evidence of permission being given it was felt that the votes would have to stand this year.

The next stage was to visit all pubs that had gotten through the selection process and check they were eligible for inclusion.

POTY result

Ipswich POTY - **FAT CAT**. Runners – up: Dove St and Cricketers

Urban POTY – **Royal William, Stowmarket**

Rural POTY – **White horse, Sweffling**. Runner – up: Wheatsheaf, Tattingstone

Cider POTY – **Dove St Tavern, Ipswich**. Runner-up: Mulberry Tree, Ipswich

3 clubs had been nominated for Club of the Year but only 2 qualified under the rules – the California Club, Ipswich and Trimley Sports and Social Club, Trimley. These would both be visited to decide the winner.