

CAMRA – Ipswich & East Suffolk Branch Branch Meeting

Date: 25/04/17

Venue: Grand Old Duke of York, Ipswich

Agenda

Welcome: Chairman (Matt) welcomed members (17) and opened the meeting at 20.03 hrs.

Apologies: Jane Scott, Tim Edwards

Minutes of last meeting: Accepted and Read

Matters arising: BLO reports - Dove St. - amendment: mention was made of Ady and Carols forthcoming nuptials. That should of course have been Ady and **Karen!** Apologies for the error and congratulations to them both!

Correspondence: Mike said that the following memo's had been received from HQ: Incident Reporting – (for reporting beer festival issues to HQ): Scotland Pubco Reform: Vision for Pubs Feedback: CBOB and CWBOB Competition Process: Alcohol Wholesalers Registration Scheme: Festival Collateral Review Survey: Removal of Permitted Development Rights – (requirement for changes of use to pubs to be submitted for planning permission): Branch Mailout Open Letter: New Version Definition of a Pub: Brand Guidelines and next steps: Volunteers Week: Beer Festival Business Plan.

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>

HQ had also sent an e-mail to the chairman and secretary re required updates to Whatpub data (a copy was provided to the meeting) Nigel stated he had also received this as County Organiser and had made the needed updates.

Officers Reports

a) Chairman: Matt stated that he was growing concerned at the amount of repetition on some matters that was happening at meetings. In order to shorten the length of meetings he would be looking for people to curtail re-examining matters resolved at previous meetings unless there had been significant changes to what had been previously discussed.

b) Vice-Chairman: Present but no report.

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

Barclay (IBF) £474.48

TSB (Branch) £786.22

Petty Cash £ 35.94

£1296.64

Nothing further to report.

d) Membership: Not present, no report.

e) Young Membership: Chris reported that there had been a meeting by young members at the Bury St Edmunds beer festival. Otherwise it had been a quiet month and there was nothing further to report.

f) Social Secretary: Not present, no report. However Jane had sent an e-mail to all members re social events earlier today.

g) Media & publicity: Nigel reported there had been no Radio or paper interviews since the last meeting. However Mark Murphy, of Radio Suffolk, had requested Nigel give a monthly report on the local pub scene. The next issue of Last Orders had been done and was in the process of being distributed. Editorially Nigel hoped to include more general and less Suffolk/Essex branch specific articles in future editions. There had been a slow down in the preparation of the proposed Local Pub Guide but it was intended it would still happen. Pubzilla updates were proceeding, and Allan requested to be added to the updates team. GBG proofs were back for final editing and this needed to be done by 02/05/17 to meet HQ deadlines.

h) Beer Festivals: Nigel reported that some CAMRA branch's had expressed the view that their involvement with private commercial concerns had not been entirely satisfactory. Matt pointed out that some people had expressed misgivings on the branch's involvement with Beer&Co at their beer festivals. He had accordingly contacted Branch Support at CAMRA HQ who had no objections as such to our involvement. Nigel expressed the view that as the branch had previously approved cooperation with Beer&Co we were committed to helping with their beer festival in Ipswich later in the week at the very least, for which staff were still needed. The event was not particularly well supported by pre-ticket sales for the Saturday, though Friday was. Accordingly there would be no main music event on the Saturday, although beer would be sold. Our position on future events could be re-examined after the forthcoming event was done and dusted.

With regard to the proposed John Peel event nothing further had been heard at present and this would be chased up.

i) Pub Officer: Following pub news was given to the meeting by members:-

Duke of Marlborough, Somersham – now a community owned pub and should be opening at the weekend.

Golden Hind, Ipswich – new tenants had moved in.

Spread Eagle, Ipswich – had resumed music nights, which were starting to take off again.

Beaconsfield Arms, Occold – presently shut after landlord left at short notice.

j) Tasting Panel: the last panel had been at the St. Judes Tavern. The next would be held at the Fat Cat, Ipswich at 1900hrs Thursday 01/06/17. On another point Suffolk Real Ales in a can had recently been tried by St Judes, and Earl Soham brewery.

k) Brewing Liaison Officers:

no reports.

A.O.B.: Allan reported that county POTY judging would be done on Saturday 06/05/17 and that certificates for the branch POTY winners needed to be ordered.

Nigel questioned whether the branch wanted to run an Ipswich Ale Trail in 2017, possibly from 21/06 to 24/07/17? Attendees agreed this should happen if possible. Although Nigel had organised and run the Ale Trail in 2016 he could not and would not run it single handedly again. Allan volunteered to help Nigel with this years ale trail.

Allan reported he, and several other members, had attended the CAMRA AGM and members weekend at Bournemouth. Perhaps the most important issue discussed was the decision to end all future CAMRA concessionary memberships. In order to continue to receive concessionary rates, for the present at least, it would be necessary to renew membership before it expired. Anyone who did not do so would only be able to rejoin at full membership prices. People might therefore wish to write in to CAMRA to complain at this move. There was also lots of discussion re organising beer festivals and the use of Keykeg at such. Kit for Keykeg dispense was already available via HQ.

Finally the Norwich City of Ale event was taking place from late May this year.

Next meeting: Briarbank, Ipswich 2000hrs 23rd May 2017.

Close meeting: The Chairman thanked attendees and closed the meeting at 2124hrs.