

**CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE – THANET BRANCH**  
**MINUTES OF THE BRANCH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27th JULY**  
**2017 AT THE MECHANICAL ELEPHANT, MARGATE**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Jo Walbank, Dennis Brandrick, Julian Dungey, Debbie Aris, Jez Laming, Leo Gair, Graham Rickett, Nick Gurr, Micky Rush, Jim Greenfield, Reg Cocks, Vic Cocks, Mike Newman, John Davies, Mick Austen, Martin Baldwin, Marian Simpson, Damien Clark, Barry Branchett, Danny O'Sullivan,

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from** Tony Walbank, Steve Saunders

**CHAIR'S WELCOME**

Jo welcomed everybody to the meeting and introduced Chris and Charlotte, managers of the new Wetherspoon in Ramsgate who spoke about the new pub and invited the branch to their preview days at the end of August.

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The attendance list was discussed and the secretary said that the list taken on the night will be attached to the file copy of the minutes. Graham reported that the event on 15<sup>th</sup> June was well attended and all enjoyed. Proposed by Julian, Seconded Graham.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Debbie reported that we currently have **REMOVED** in the account and that this needs to be reduced by sending a large sum to HQ within the next few weeks. Invoices for Ale of Thanet have been sent with 2 currently outstanding.

Debbie reported that Jez has volunteered to stand for election as Treasurer at the AGM in January, providing volunteers are found for his currently roles as Branch membership secretary, beer festival volunteer coordinator as well as the small roles that Jez currently undertakes.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Jez reported that we have 565 members locally, down 14 from the last meeting, with a total of 188,524 nationally, up by over 1000.

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**KENT REGIONAL MEETING**

The last KRM was held on 8th July at Tonbridge. There was a long discussion about CAMRA's serious financial position, the meeting felt that the accounts were insufficiently produced. Kae Mendham will not be seeking re-election when her post ends in March 2019. The Kent Beer festival require a new treasurer for 2018. The next KRM will be on Saturday 30 September at The London Tavern.

**PUB UPDATES**

- **Ravensgate:** Licence application submitted by Ramsgate Ravensgate Limited, headed up by Eddie Gadd. Likely opening during September.
- **Orb:** Closes 11<sup>th</sup> August.
- **The Swan, Westgate:** Lee Perriam has taken over the pub and has started to introduce Gadds' beer to the bar. Graham has been invited to consult on the beer selection.
- **Little Albion:** License is under review by TDC for noise complaints
- **Thirty-Nine Steps:** Doing well in new premises. Jo and Dennis visited in late June to inspect the cellar and reported back to the meeting that all was in good order. We will need to note in the GBG that the symbol for power-assisted pumps is used.
- **The Northdown:** Following a question on Facebook, at present, they are struggling to get the internal fit out sorted, will be another few months yet.
- **NauticAles:** In the process of creating a beer garden.

**BREWERIES & PUB CHAINS**

- **By the Mile:** We still need an independent BLO.
- **Four Candles:** Dennis reported that it was business as usual at the 'Candles. Paul is talking about brewing a Black IPA with Citra hops in the near future which should be exciting.

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- **Isla Vale:** Graham reported that there is a little bit of tension at the brewery at present so the future is uncertain.
- **Margate:** Still no news on a brewing date as yet...
- **NauticAles:** Business as usual.
- **Ramsgate:** Martin reported that Festiv Ale and Summer's Day are the current seasonal brews. High Tide Trippel is also available in cask and bottles.
- **Wantsum:** Graham reported that business as usual

### **GOOD BEER GUIDE & PUB OF THE YEAR**

The meeting discussed the process for judging for 2018. Both will be judged together using the PotY criteria. Jo will collate the results via an online form (link to be supplied to judges). The list of pubs nominated to be judged is as follows:

REMOVED.

Those volunteering to judge are REMOVED

### **BRANCH OBJECTIVES**

- **ACV Status:** REMOVED has had planning refused as it must stay as a pub. REMOVED, application is under consideration although REMOVED has said she doesn't want one. REMOVED, the management are keen to pursue an ACV. The meeting informed Graham that the ACV on the REMOVED needs to be submitted imminently.
- **Ale of Thanet content:** Next copy deadline is 4<sup>th</sup> September.
- **Engagement of Young Members (18-30s):** We currently have 4 members locally in this category.

### **SOCIAL SECRETARY POSITION**

Danny O'Sullivan has volunteered for this role. Proposed by Jo, Seconded by Jez.

### **BEER FESTIVAL COMMITTEE**

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The first meeting for the 2018 festival will be on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August at the Conqueror at 7:45.

**AOB**

- **JG:** REMOVED.
- **GR:** Branch merchandise shirts still available.
- **VC:** Minutes of meetings. Abridge version will be put on the website with the link sent to members.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 4th September 2017 at the Australian Arms, Ramsgate.

The following meeting will be Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017, venue TBC

The branch AGM will be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 22:30