

THANET CAMRA – MINUTES OF THE BRANCH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th JULY at THE LONDON TAVERN, MARGATE

In attendance were:

Dennis Brandrick, Steve Saunders, Martin Baldwin, Jon Stringer, Terry Monaghan, Nick Gurr, Graham Rickett, Mike Newman, Mark Sharratt, Peter Jaquiss, John Thomson.

Apologies for Absence were received from:

Martin Knight, Tony Walbank, Julian Dungey, Danny O’Sullivan, Jo Walbank, Debbie Aris

In the absence of the Chairman, Steve chaired the meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were signed as a true record Proposed Graham, Seconded Mike.

Matters arising – These are covered by agenda points later in the meeting.

FINANCE

Steve informed the meeting that Jez had submitted his resignation from the post of treasurer to the committee and read out his letter of resignation as well as a statement from Martin relating to matters raised (copy of both on file).

The meeting was informed that because of this there was no formal finance report to be presented.

Steve informed the meeting that the committee had co-opted Debbie Aris to replace Jeremy Laming as the new treasurer until the AGM.

MEMBERSHIP

Julian sent his report in advance to be delivered by the secretary:

I am pleased to report a slight increase in the national membership figure although we as a branch have had a slight fall in membership.

In my report I included our regional figures that John Cottrell Head of Membership has sent out and yet again I can inform you can see we are still not the smallest sized branch in terms of membership, hopefully we can keep these figures up.

Please note as of 1st July 2019 CAMRA increased its membership prices, these went up by £1.50 for standard rates and £1.00 for concessions.

Branch

This Meeting: -	616	-9
Last Meeting: -	625	

National

This Meeting: -	191,745	+1,665
Last Meeting: -	190,080	

DIGITAL MEDIA

Nick reported that we have increased Instagram to 274; Facebook 594; Twitter 704.

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PUBLICATIONS

The new issue of Ale of Thanet is out now; we think we are covering the costs for producing this.

Copy date for the next issue is 1st September.

Beery Steve's mini guide – this is in hand and Steve is hoping to have it completed by the end of the month.

SOCIAL REPORT

In Danny's absence, the secretary presented his report:

Wednesday 31st July – 1930: Artillery Arms; The Goose and others in Ramsgate

Thursday 22nd August – 1930: Start at The Fez, then Mechanical Elephant for a curry followed by others in Margate

Tuesday 17th September – 1930: Start at the 39 Steps; then The George Inn and others in Broadstairs

Saturday 28th September – Launch of Green Hop Beers at Canterbury Food Festival. Meet in Dane John Gardens at 12 noon

KRM

Martin sent his report in advance:

Branch and Festival accounts need to go to Kae (Regional Finance Director)

Surrey/Sussex RD is our temporary RD for 12 months while the region finds a new person
Get pubs to complete pub survey?

Encourage members to add scores to NBSS. This helps with POTY/GBG scores.

Regional POTY – please judge 1050 from Victoria and Admiral, Queenborough before 31st July

Next KRM 21st September – Admiral, Queenborough; 9th November – Ball, West Malling; Jan 2020 – Bouverie Tap, Folkestone.

The NE are looking to Kent to host the 2020 AGM.

PUB UPDATES

Albion Inn (AKA Little Albion/Hogs Head) – Currently closed for small refurbishment following change of management.

Bell, Minster – Closed at present, due to reopen 19th July with tenants from Racing Greyhound taking over.

New Brewpub planned for Margate seafront.

Mulberry Tree – Currently only serving Doom Bar, planning to serve 1 rotating 'punch-type' beer.

BREWERIES

4C – Business at Usual

IVA – Graham reported that Bosuns is still in progress as is Golden Delicious.

Margate – Nothing to report.

NauticAles – Martin reported that Mickey is currently in poor health, so brewing is on hold at present.

Northdown – Graham reported that the tap room is now closed on Fridays; they are holding events on Saturdays to build up a clientele. Cacao Starfish an 11% bottled stout was produced for Urchin wines. Increased capacity at the brewery – Graham is unaware of the new volume.

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Ramsgate – Martin reported that new brews – HPA, pale at 3.6%; No 11 is now in Key Keg.
The new tap room is now open; in a new unit at the brewery site.

Wantsum – Graham reported that they had held a takeover at the New Inn, Colchester; plus
are selling beer at the Tap, Chester. New beer – Vacay in Cali, a West Coast IPA – mostly
Keg, but some will go into Cask. Graham now doesn't have access to a vehicle, so would like
to pass on the role of BLO to another member; he has had interest from John Brockman, a
local member and resident of St Nicholas. Graham proposed this, seconded Nick, and it was
passed by the meeting on the proviso that he attends some meetings.

GOOD BEER GUIDE and PUB OF THE YEAR

The committee will divulge the figures for each pub after the GBG is published in September
as this information is currently still embargoed.

The committee are proposing the same system as 2018; notice for nominations to be
emailed to membership with closing date of 11th August.

BEER FESTIVAL UPDATE

Jo sent her apologies and her report in advance; which was delivered by the secretary.
(Copy on file)

AOB

MK – Since roughly half the festival committee were unable to attend the festival day out at
Crabble, he is proposing a small thank you event for them to recognise the work they do in
organising the festival. Remit to September.

NG – Old Bay is now offering CAMRA discount on Saturday lunchtimes.

SS – 14th September: Flemish day at Ramsgate Brewery

Monday 2nd September – Australian Arms

Monday 18th November – Venue TBC

Saturday 18th January – AGM

The meeting closed at 21:57