

MARCH CAMERA CLUB

Annual General Meeting at the Red Cross Hall @ 7:30pm Thursday 29/04/10

Summary of minutes:

1. **Apologies** from Eric Stromberg, Mick Saunders, Peter Bennett, Steve Williams and Terry Boniface
2. **Minutes** of last AGM agreed
3. **Matters arising:** None
4. **Chairman's report:** Last year's programme and the use of external judges were well received. Thanked Committee, club members and Stan Canham (who has decided to stand down as President). "Chairman's Challenge" pencils were made available again.
5. **Secretary's report:** Reported good feedback on the season's programme and club web site. Thanked all contributors to the programme and web, and felt that there was a good feeling of team spirit. Retention of new members and lighting of prints remain outstanding issues. 2010/11 programme commended to those present.
6. **Treasurer's report:** The audited accounts are in order. There was a net loss of £137.49 and the club's balance has reduced to £1820.93.
7. **Int. Comp. Secretary's report:** A total of 405 prints (by 16 members), 352 digital projections (by 19 members), and 2 slides (by 1 member) were submitted.
8. **Ext. Comp. Secretary's report:** A successful season with March becoming "a difficult club to beat". We even beat St Ives this year.
9. **Publicity Officer's Report:** Another 8 issues produced, would like more feedback.
10. **Election of Officers and Committee for 2010/11:**

Chairman	Allan Howe
Vice Chairman	Cliff Marsh
Secretary	Chris Ley
Treasurer	Mel Harris
Int. Comp. Secretary	Colin Baker
Digital Images Secretary	Alan Blower
Ext. Comp. Secretary	Pat Ringham
Publicity Officer	Albert Horton
Committee member	Debbie Millington
Committee member	Richard Hull

11. **AOB:**

- a) Subscriptions for 2010/11 were raised to £38 / £60. Need to stress £1 weekly sub too.
- b) Proposal for new competition class "amateurs only" was not seconded.
- c) Proposal that competition rule changes take effect from the AGM having been agreed by voting was accepted.
- d) Discussion on whether outside judges were a success for monthly competitions concluded that it was indeed.

Vote of thanks

MARCH CAMERA CLUB

Minutes:

The meeting was chaired by Allan Howe and was attended by 16 members including all the outgoing Committee. An agenda, summary of last AGM, 2009/10 financial balance sheet, and 2010/11 programme were distributed. After the Chairman's welcome items on the agenda were addressed:

1. **Apologies:** Eric Stromberg, Mick Saunders, Peter Bennett, Steve Williams and Terry Boniface.
2. **Minutes** of the AGM of 30/04/09 were agreed.
3. **Matters arising;** there were none.
4. **Chairman's report:** Highlights of the season's programme were the Chairman's Challenge (a pin hole load of fun), the Hattens' Falkland Talk, Nigel Cassidy's Norfolk, Mike Fuller's RAW processing, New Insights (Dr Law), and Brian Beaney's Photo Art. Members' evenings helped the programme go well too and Cliff, Chris, John and Mel were thanked as were all those who performed on the Tips and Tricks Night.

All the Committee were thanked (including Alan for all his IT work, Chris for his web work and Albert for "In Focus"). Richard Hull and Richard Anker were thanked for the tea and coffee making. Finally it was announced that Stan Canham has decided to stand down as President and he was thanked for all the years that he has been our President and given a seated ovation.

5. **Secretary's report:** The club has progressed well into the digital age now. Several changes to the programme's structure have been well received and there had been good feedback about several talks and also the use of external judges exclusively. Members' involvement on club nights was increasing and the balance of competition and non-competition evenings has changed.

The web site grows and is read by judges, other clubs, and the public. There is now a three year electronic record of our activities. Thanked everyone who has contributed to the content of the site.

On a personal note expressed sadness to see Stan Canham step down as President (and was pleased to hear that Stan intends to keep coming to club nights). Thanked Allan Howe for his considerable help with the programme.

Outstanding issues are the recruitment and retention of new members, getting better lighting on prints, and handling Cliff's prints without upsetting him. Next season's programme was distributed and a request made for e-mail addresses and members web galleries.

MARCH CAMERA CLUB

6. **Treasurer's report:** the accounts have been audited and are in order. There was a net loss of £137.49 this season which has decreased the Club's balance to £1820.93 (which includes £472.85 left in the lottery reserve fund). The use of seven extra external judges and the unreliability of weekly £1 sub payments were highlighted.

It was concluded that the £1 a week on the night sub needs to be made absolutely clear and this is to appear on the programme as an attendance fee (it is not tea/coffee money)

7. **Internal Competition Secretaries' reports:** A total of 405 prints were submitted by 16 members, 352 projected images by 19 members, and 2 slides by Cliff. Individual competition winners were announced and the Eddie Venni Photographer of the Year was Chris Ley. Winners of the season's trophies can be found on the web site.

Both secretaries thanked all for their help and support; also specifically Colin Baker thanked Mel, Chris, Albert and Allan Howe, whilst Alan Blower thanked Mel, Debbie and Chris.

8. **External Competition Secretary's report:** It has been a successful season which has established us as a club who are certainly difficult to beat. We came 3rd in the Invitation Shield, 7th in the Interprint, and first in the Projected Images at the Four-Way. Images from nine members were used as the basis for the battle plan.

“Who's Gonna Drive You Home Tonight” won the individual trophy at the Brotherhoods Cup and then scored 20/20 at the Four-Way, as did “What Makes Him Tick”. We also fared well in club battles, no more so than in December 2009 when we beat St Ives, a club that this Secretary cannot remember beating.

9. **Publicity Officer's report:** There have been another eight issues of “*In Focus*”. Mel and Richard were thanked for their regular contributions and a request made for more feedback and contributions from members. The Fenland Citizen continues to run press releases, the Cambs Times only a brief notice of club evenings.

10. **Election of Officers & Committee for 2009/10:**

Allan Howe stood down from the chair whilst nominations were taken, for the next year's Chairman, by John Band. Allan Howe was voted back unopposed, retook the chair and then the following were elected:

	Name	Proposed	Seconded
Chairman	Allan Howe	Chris Ley	Alan Blower
Vice Chairman ¹	Cliff Marsh	Chris Ley	Richard Anker
Secretary	Chris Ley	Richard Hull	Cliff Marsh
Treasurer	Mel Harris	Richard Hull	Alan Blower
Internal Competition Secretary	Colin Baker	Cliff Marsh	Richard Hull
Digital Secretary	Alan Blower	Allan Howe	Debbie Millington

MARCH CAMERA CLUB

External Competition Secretary	Pat Ringham	Mike North	Cliff Marsh
Publicity Officer	Albert Horton	Mike North	John Band
Committee member	Debbie Millington	Albert Horton	Richard Hull
Committee member ²	Richard Hull	Allan Howe	Cliff Marsh

¹. Alan Blower and Cliff Marsh stood and the post was filled by a majority vote.

². Richard Anker and Richard Hull stood and the post was filled by a majority vote.

11. AOB (after a break for refreshments and final payment of the £1 weekly sub):

Just before reopening the meeting Allan Howe announced that he, Mel, Alan and Eric had been to St Ives to deliver an AV presentation to a Derby and Joan meeting. This had lasted 2 hours, was well attended (including the Mayoress) and had been well received.

- a) **Subscriptions for 2010/11 (MH):** It was proposed and agreed that the subscription be increased to £38 / £60 for the next season. It was also emphasised that the £1 weekly payment was an attendance fee and agreed that this be clearly stated on the programme and web site.

- b) **Proposal for new competition class “amateurs only” (PB):** Peter was not present on the evening and no-one seconded this proposal.

- c) **Proposal that competition rule changes take effect from the AGM having been agreed by voting (RA):** This was agreed and Colin Baker highlighted the changes in the rules that have been made. These rules were then agreed unanimously. **(Ed: They will be available on the web site very soon).**

- d) **Discussion on whether outside judges were a success for monthly competitions (RA):** This was felt to be definitely a success (and at least two members who had opposed the idea said that they had changed their minds).

Vote of thanks by CL

The meeting closed at 9:15 pm

The Committee will meet at 7:30pm Wednesday 12th May