

CAMRA - RICHMOND AND HOUNSLOW BRANCH

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9 P. M. Thursday 26TH APRIL 2012

The Prince of Wales, 136 Hampton Road, Twickenham, TW2 5QR

Minutes

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Present: Charles Owens (minutes); Christine Cryne*; John Cryne*; Stewart Murray; James Murray; Sylvie Marie; Martin Mathews; Colin Rose; Brian Newman; Dan Mackernan; Dai Price; John Austin; George Gimber; Brian Kirton; Andy Pirson; Roy Hurry; Jim Whewell; Aaron Hersey; and Bryan Betts. *Guests from National committee and LLC.

Apologies: Ola Piercey; Geoff Strawbridge; Paul Manning; and CC Almond.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Approved

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising outside the agenda.

4. CHAIRMANS ADDRESS AND BEER FESTIVAL REPORT

The reports had been pre-circulated and were discussed.

John Cryne suggested that the price survey should be done at the same time as the GBG surveys as a matter of good practice.

Roy Hurry proposed splitting the branch meeting to have a separate committee meeting so as not to deter attendance at branch meetings due to administrative matters boring most members rigid. This was approved on a unanimous vote. There will continue to be one branch meeting per month plus an additional committee meeting each month.

Martin Mathews raised the issue of contacting our silent majority of members. As 60% of members had consented to use e-mail, it was decided to produce a contact format which would have a limited number of posts and be controlled by a very limited number of persons to make entries. Action: George Gimber to liaise with John Cryne and John Cotterill.

5. SECRETARY'S REPORT AND NOMIANTIONS FOR COMMITTEE

The report had been pre-circulated and was discussed.

Christine Cryne thanked Charles for his work on an Olympics related crawl for Richmond and explained that London CAMRA are working with The London Brewers Alliance to promote London City of Beer. This involves promoting non-Heinekin pubs, opening London's breweries to visitors, a special edition of London Drinker and web site coverage. Christine awaits pubs coming back with their lists of events (she has distributed forms to 2012 GBG pubs and information is also on www.londoncityofbeer.org.uk)

Nominations: All the current squad were reappointed with the caveat that Bryan Betts will be emigrating to Germany later in the year. Stewart Murray was co-opted and Jim Whewell selected as cider representative. They were proposed by Charles seconded by Colin. The secretary will arrange the customary committee meeting to apportion posts.

6. TREASURERS REPORT AND APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

The reports were circulated and discussed.

Accounts are up to date and audited to April 2012. John Cryne congratulated the Andy on being so efficient and for the Branch donation to HQ.

After the customary vote, Paul Manning was reappointed as auditor.

A cheque has been received today for all outstanding monies from the beer festival.

7. PUB RECORDS OFFICER'S REPORT

The report had been pre-circulated and was discussed.

Brian suggested that something be done to save the Swan, which is the last operating pub in Hanworth (albeit with no real ale at present). Pub numbers have declined to 199 from 211 in 2007. There was a debate on what we might do to publicise the losses of these amenities and the sell-off of local Youngs pubs for other uses.

John Austin proposed a motion of congratulations for George Gimber respecting his sterling work as pub records officer, which was supported by all present.

8. SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

The report had been pre-circulated and was discussed.

9. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Bryan reports that branch membership has fluctuated between 850 and 900 during the year, with

First draft version

peaks and troughs occurring around the key events, which are the GBBF and our festival.

The new HQ system is helpful but not yet fully operational.

Bryan has been involved in updating pubs selling foreign beers for London City of Beer.

10. YOUNG MEMBERS' REPORT

The report was circulated and was discussed.

11. B.L.Os REPORTs

The reports have been pre-circulated and were discussed.

12. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER'S REPORT

The report had been pre-circulated and was discussed.

Jim Whewell reported that he had spoken with Steve Brown of TFA in relation to the production of a free of charge marketing film.

John Cryne mentioned that campaigning across London appears to have started to work with support in councils and parliament to preserve our pub heritage.

Brian thanked John and Christine for attending and their work for CAMRA.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Brian proposed a motion for the branch to reserve the right to exclude debtors to CAMRA (branch HQ, London Drinker, etc) for consideration for awards or publicity. The full motion had been pre-circulated and minuted following an extraordinary committee meeting.

The motion was seconded by Bryan Betts and was carried by 13 votes to two against and two abstentions.