

CAMRA - RICHMOND AND HOUNSLOW BRANCH

Minutes of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at The Roebuck, Richmond, on Wednesday 26th April 2017.

The meeting commenced at 20:05

1. Present:

Charles Owens (**CO**, Chairman), James Murray (**JM**, Minutes), Roy Hurry (**RH**), Zainab Hafidh-Hurry (**ZH**), Geoff Strawbridge (**GS**, London Regional Director), Stewart Murray (**SM**), Martin Matthews (**MM**), Sylvie Marie (**SMA**), Richard Northmore (**RN**), Hugh Springnall (**HS**), George Gimber (**GG**), Andy Pirson (**AP**), Paul Manning (**PM**), John Austin (**JA**), Danny Walsh (**DW**), Fiona Batey (**FB**), Paul Reid (**PR**), John Lisle (**JL**), Anthea Lisle (**AL**)

Apologies:

Doug Scott (**DS**), Bob Gordon (**BG**), Gisela White (**GW**), Paul Firby (**PF**)

Charles Owens welcomed those present.

2. Minutes of The Last ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at The Hope, Richmond, on Thursday 21st April 2016.

All minutes were read and accepted.

3. Chairman's Report:

Charles Owens gave his report. Please see attached. There were **No Matters Arising.**

4. Secretary's Report:

James Murray confirmed that all Branch, Committee and Beer Festival Sub-Committee Meetings had been constitutionally called and duly minuted. There were **No Matters Arising.**

5. Membership Secretary's Report:

Stewart Murray gave his report. Please see attached. There were **No Matters Arising.**

6. Treasurer's Report

Andy Pirson gave a full and comprehensive report. Please see attached. There were **No Matters Arising.**

7. Appointment of Examiner(s) Of Accounts

The continued appointment of Paul Manning was carried by a unanimous show of hands.

8. Branch Officer's Report:

- **Pubs Preservation and Beer Festival Organiser** - Charles Owens
- **Social Secretary and Branch Contact** - Roy Hurry - See attached report
- **Pubs Press and Publicity Officer** - John Austin - See attached report
- **Webmaster and Pubs Database Officer** - George Gimber
- **NBSS Co-Ordinator** - Andy Pirson

9. Nominations For Committee Positions/Roles:

Charles Owens (Chairman), James Murray (Secretary), Stewart Murray (Membership Secretary) Andy Pirson were all willing to continue in their current roles. All positions were accepted by a unanimous show of hands.

10. Branch Constitution:

A copy of the branch Constitution changes has been circulated. The main issue of discussion tonight was the Branches boundaries to include the whole of the borough of Hounslow (all of Chiswick and North of the A4). The decision to apply the extension is currently being delayed due to other branches AGM's (West London and West Middlesex) being conducted first and discussed. All three branches have agreed the move in principle, however this has yet to be confirmed. The Branch proposed to agree the change to adopt the whole of Hounslow. CO Proposed this and GG seconded it.

11. Any Other Business

- **Brewery Liaison Officer's Report**

Reunion Ales, Feltham - Doug Scott reported Reunion Ales are launching a range of trial beers that include wheat, maris otter malt and hallertau blanc hops. The beer is named Honky White and will be unfiltered. The beer is light in colour as befits a wheat beer, it has a lager nose and a dry aftertaste with some peach/apricot coming through. Assistant brewer Ben Toth has now left and that the Head Brewer, will be looking for a replacement.

Twickenham Fine Ales - John Austin reported that TFA is now 13 years old and has a capacity to produce 9,100 barrels per annum. 15% of their beer is now bottled and the brewery supplies Aldi supermarkets nationwide. Naked Ladies is sold regularly at Madjeski wine stores across the branch. JA regularly updates the BIS system with information concerning TFA, he also attends all national BLO meetings.

Kew Brewery - Fiona Batey reported that the Brewery are to hold a meet the brewer evening on the 3rd May. Bottled beer sales have increased steadily across the course of the last year and beer is regular sold at the monthly Kew Village Market.

CO stated that the 1st Twickenham Beer Festival 2017 meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th May at The Prince of Wales, Twickenham. All are welcome.

John Lisle was nominated and elected onto the Committee. His position/role will be Branch Clubs Officer.

Meeting ended 22:35

JM 17/05/17

ATTACHMENTS

Chairman's Report 2017

The last year has seen much change for CAMRA. Whilst the results of the Regeneration project are awaited, we have campaigned successfully for changes to legislation to remove permitted development and demolition rights without planning permission. Meanwhile Hounslow Council has worked with us to establish the right of the branch to apply for ACVs whereas Richmond have still failed to justify their reasons for not doing so and the extremely low number of applications accepted from any source.

Several branch members have been actively involved in lobbying and meeting with councillors and MPs to ensure that our messages get across. With the general election coming up, I need to remind us all that the branch must not offer a platform to or endorse any candidate or party.

I have attended numerous meetings including, the LLC and regeneration meetings and pub protection seminars. We again ran a festival that made a surplus for campaigning and I thank the volunteers from many branches that made this possible. Congratulations to TFA for their coconut porter, which was voted exceptional beer of the festival but is unfortunately no longer in production.

We look forward to our London region moving towards a more streamlined structure which may see us taking over the whole of the area covered by Hounslow Council. Once other branches have agreed this we will move to an EGM on this matter.

If the boundary changes take place we will have six commercial breweries in our branch area: Fullers, TFA, Kew, Reunion, Tiny Vessel and Oddly. New BLOs will be needed for the last two which are both on Platt's Eyot in Hampton.

I will now move on to other officers to make their reports unless there are any questions.

Cheers,

Charles

Richmond & Hounslow CAMRA

Annual General Meeting - Wednesday 26 April 2017

Membership Secretary's Report

General

The following bullet points may be of interest. Please refer to the 'Branch Membership Figures' attachments and to the 'Membership Secretary's Report - April 2017' where necessary.

- * Over the last year (May 2016 to April 2017) Branch membership has decreased slightly from 933 to 931 members.
- * During this period I have despatched approximately 340 letters, primarily by email but also by surface post, to:
 - * Welcome new members to CAMRA and to the Richmond and Hounslow Branch.
 - * Welcome members who have moved into our area to the Richmond and Hounslow Branch.
 - * Ask lapsed members to reconsider their departure from CAMRA.

Membership trends

- * Once again, membership growth has primarily been in the 'Single - Retired' category; this is particularly noticeable over the last five years.
- * Joint membership categories have seen a slight decrease but numbers have been reasonably static.
- * The 'Single' membership category has again seen a larger than normal reduction in numbers with a loss of 14 members over the last twelve months and 49 over the past five years.

- * 'Under 26' membership has remained static.
- * Other Single categories of membership have been generally been static.
- * Almost all Branch members who left CAMRA in the last year:
 - * Did so at the expiry of their initial 12/15 month membership period.
 - * Had paid their subscription by cheque or cash.

Stewart Murray
Membership Secretary
26 April 2017
