

# SCARBOROUGH PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at the Friends Meeting House  
on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30pm

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Elaine Rhodes and Janet Hastie

### 2. Minutes of the AGM held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018

These had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was proposed that they be accepted as a true record by Andy Kent and seconded by Steve Wilson and accepted unanimously

### 3. Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

### 4. President's Report

Elise Garland said that she had enjoyed her time as President over the last year and believes we have had a successful year as a club.

The club has had several exhibitions – at the Stephen Joseph Theatre, the Rotunda and Londesborough Lodge. It is a way of showing Scarborough what we do and to give examples of our work. She thanked Val, Elaine and Janet for their work in organising them.

It had been a surprise to be asked to take part in BBC's Countryfile and she congratulated Janet, Jacki, Debbie and Paul Shippin on their contribution to the programme.

There seem to have been more entries in the various competitions and Elise was pleased that some of the newer members had had a go. She felt that it possibly helped that names of those receiving less than 18 have not been read out and that this has been a beneficial change to the rules. Elise expressed a hope that newer members would feel able to get more involved in the running of the club by volunteering to help with the admin and, of course, the teas and coffees.

She ended by thanking the committee members for their hard work and said that she hoped that the next year proves to be a successful one for the society.

### 5. Secretary's Report

Elaine had left a written report in her absence.

- Exhibition at the Stephen Joseph Theatre – The society was invited to hold an exhibition at the SJT from 9<sup>th</sup> October to 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018. With a local theme, the pictures exhibited covered a variety of subjects. Prints were submitted by approximately 50% of the members with each member having up to two prints on display throughout the duration of the exhibition. The prints were available for sale with a percentage of the proceeds going to the SJT. A number of prints were sold. Elaine expressed her thanks to everyone who helped but particularly Val, Janet and Elaine and also to the Yorkshire Photographic Union for the loan of the frames.
- Website Contacts – This year the society has received about 20 initial contacts via the website for a variety of reasons – membership, details of meetings, general photography and training enquiries, offers of commercial services and photography equipment/miscellany for sale or donation by non-members.
- Facebook – Earlier in the year, a review of criteria for membership of the Facebook group was undertaken. Membership of the Facebook group is now restricted to fully paid up members of the society and a life member. At the moment, there were 28 people in the Facebook group.

Finally, Elaine expressed her thanks to colleagues on the committee and members for support and help in her role as secretary.

### 6. Treasurer's Report

Terry Meads circulated the balance sheet and said that the society has virtually broken even over the year. Consequently, he has recommended that subscriptions remain the same.

Terry said that our biggest expense is the hire of the room but that the committee had looked at finding a suitable alternative venue. However, the costs elsewhere are much the same or higher and so the decision was made to remain at the Friends Meeting House.

A big concern is the low number of members for a town the size of Scarborough and he asked that everyone encourage friends and acquaintances with an interest in photography to come along to meetings. He reminded everyone that non-members are allowed to attend two meetings without any charge being involved.

It had been mentioned at last year's AGM that the committee would investigate whether to purchase a replacement projector. Andy Kent and several of the committee had gone to Driffild to see their projector, following which our projector had been adjusted and the committee had agreed that the projected images had improved and that it is not worth, at this stage, replacing the projector.

It was proposed by Robert Child and seconded by Geoff Bint that the Treasurers report be accepted. This was carried by a show of hands.

## **7. Competition Secretary's Report**

John Turner had circulated copies of the Competitions Annual Report 2019 by email earlier to all members. A copy of the report is attached as Appendix A.

This is a joint report made by the Competition Secretary and the External Competition Secretary covering the monthly competitions, Four Related Digital Images, Annuals, Inter-Club Competitions and the PAGB Great British Cup (Open and Natural History). John summarised the main points of the report.

John also thanked the members who had judged the Monthly Competitions (Andrew Kent and Robert Child). Having asked external judges for the monthly competitions for the first time, he expressed appreciation to Harry Kingman, Tony Horsfield, Tony McLean and particularly Ernie Howard and Mike Barnard who had both stood in at short notice. He also thanked Andrew Kent for his role as projectionist and the other members who have given their assistance in the organisation of competitions and battles.

## **8. External Competition Secretary's Report**

The Competitions Annual Report 2019 (above) incorporated Jacki Hildreth's comments and results from the external competitions entered by the club last year.

## **9. Election of Officers**

With the exception of Elaine Rhodes, who had wished to resign from the post of Secretary, all previous holders of the various positions had been nominated and accepted the nominations. Therefore it was proposed by Robert Child and seconded by Terry Meads that the officers and committee be approved en bloc. This was carried by the meeting.

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| a. President                      | - Elise Garland                          |
| b. Vice-President                 | - Val Child                              |
| c. General Secretary              | - Vacant **                              |
| d. Treasurer                      | - Terry Meads                            |
| e. Competition Secretary          | - John Turner                            |
| f. Competition Secretary External | - Jacki Hildreth                         |
| g. Syllabus Secretary             | - Elise Garland                          |
| h. Web Master                     | - Charles Spencer                        |
| i. YPU representatives (2)        | - Val Child and Jacki Hildreth           |
| j. Projectionists (2)             | - Andy Kent + vacancy                    |
| k. Committee                      | - Paul Tymon, Janet Hastie, Steve Wilson |

\*\* For information: since the AGM, Elaine Rhodes has agreed to continue in the role of Secretary

## **10. Subscriptions**

The Committee proposed that the annual subscription remains unchanged at £39. Only paid-up members may enter competitions. Non-members may attend up to two sessions free of charge and thereafter become a member if attending further sessions. Prestige events may attract a charge to non-members. Any other arrangements for charging visitors may be made at the discretion of the committee.

It was proposed by Steve Wilson, seconded by Geoff Bint and carried, that this proposal be accepted.

## **11. 2018/19 Programme**

### **a. Syllabus Secretary's Report**

Elise expressed her hope that this year's syllabus had been ok given that it was quite a difficult year for getting speakers. As we have a good mix of members from beginners to the more experienced, she tries to cater sessions to interest all of the different levels.

Elise plans to run some more editing evenings this spring and summer and will be sending out information in the near future, after she has completed the move to her new home. She thanked Jacki Hildreth and Ralph Witty for their help with previous sessions.

Elise asked for ideas for the coming year to be sent to her, particularly around what practical evenings are required. She intends to see what the monthly competition subjects are with the aim of arranging the summer programme or practical evenings to incorporate them.

The summer meets programme is nearly ready and will be sent out shortly.

Elise expressed her thanks to Andy Kent for his help with the "Sharing the Knowledge" evening and for being projectionist.

### **b. YPU Report**

Val Child spoke about this year's Yorkshire Photographic Union competition. 10 members submitted 26 digital images and 20 prints to the competition. This year, in an attempt to encourage more people to attend the Assembly, the YPU have published the results. Scarborough have had three digital images accepted (Robert Child 1 and Elise Garland 2) with Elise also gaining a certificate for one of hers.

The Assembly will be held at Bingley Arts Centre on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May with the Exhibition running at the same venue until Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May.

### **c. Monthly Competitions**

Members had voted to select four subjects for next season's monthly competitions. The chosen subjects for 2019/20 will be : -

Trees, Boats, Action and Churches.

A committee meeting will be held shortly when precise definitions for these subjects will be discussed with these definitions circulated to the membership shortly afterwards.

## **12. Any Other Business**

Steve Wilson asked whether there are too many competitions on the syllabus. There was some discussion with differing views being expressed. A simple show of hands of those present showed that seven people out of twenty felt there were too many competitions.

It was generally felt that having external judges for the monthly competitions had been a good thing in the last season.

Alan Flint asked if, as we have a lower membership, the club should consider going into the smaller room at the Friends' Meeting House. As there is only a small difference in cost and the larger room has many advantages for practical evenings, the YPU prints evening and when we have battles, then we will continue to use the larger room or the time being.

The meeting closed at 8.06 pm and was followed by the presentation of trophies by the President, Elise Garland.

