

SCARBOROUGH PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Held at the Friends Meeting House on Wednesday 22nd March 2017 at 7.30pm

1 Apologies

These were received from Steve Bowden, John Tarring and Ian Glaves.

2 Minutes of the AGM held on 23rd March 2016

These were accepted as a true record, proposed by John Raine, seconded by Ralph Witty and accepted unanimously.

3 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4 Secretary's Report

Elaine Rhodes presented her report to the meeting. This has been another successful year for the club with membership standing at 46 fully paid members by the end of the season, in addition to several ad hoc attendees over the year.

Life membership was awarded to David Jarvis in recognition of his significant contribution to the club over the years. He has recently resigned from role of YPU rep, but we hope to see David at future meetings.

Website contacts - 34 initial contacts had been made for a variety of reasons, including requests for information on joining the society and general information on photography, tips, etc.

Projects that were undertaken this year included: -

- A Survey of Members in early summer – thanks to all who responded.
- An application to the Big Lottery Fund was made for a grant for new equipment including a projector and screen. Unfortunately, this was not successful as the potential benefits to the more disadvantaged people in our community wasn't sufficient to justify the award.
- Club funds were used to buy new equipment, including the new projector screen.

Looking forward, the secretary has visited the Community Exhibition Space at the Art Gallery and the club is actively looking to hold an exhibition in late March early April next year, after the end of our next season. Finally, the secretary thanked her colleagues on the committee and members for support and help in her first year in the role of secretary.

5 Treasurer's Report

Paul Tymon presented his report and circulated copies of the Statement of Account for the club for 2016/17, for which questions were invited.

Paul added that it had been a steady year with a slight decline in member numbers. At the start of 2016/17, the opening balance was £2,445.79 and the balance of club funds as at 22 March 2017 stands at £2,422.35. He believed that the slight drop in income from subscriptions and in tea money caused no significant worries. The largest expense was the rent for the meeting room. Some other costs have reduced this year.

6 Competition Secretary's Report

John Turner circulated copies of the Competitions: Annual Report 2017. The report covered the Monthlies, Four Related Digital Images, Annuals, Inter Club Competitions and the PAGB Great British Cup (Open and Natural History).

The number of entries in the monthly competitions had increased, however it was disappointing to see that the number of entries in the Annuals, in both print and DPI, were down.

John also thanked the members who agreed to judge the Monthly Competitions (Andrew Bradley, Robert Child, Andrew Kent, Paul Tymon and Ralph Witty), David Brett, the regular projectionist, Elise

Garland for standing in for John last December and everyone else who assisted in other ways and, not forgetting, those who entered the competitions.

Members were then asked to select four subjects for next season's monthly competitions. A vote took place and the chosen subjects for 2017/18 will be: -

People
An Unusual View
Flowers
Macro

7 Election of Officers

Nominations for various committee posts had been received. The following officers were proposed by Nigel Clipperton, seconded by Robert Child and elected unanimously.

Nominations Received

a. President	-	Elise Garland
b. Vice-president	-	Val Child
c. General Secretary	-	Elaine Rhodes
d. Treasurer	-	Paul Tymon
e. Competition Secretary	-	John Turner
f. Competition Secretary External	-	Jackie Hildreth
g. Syllabus Secretary	-	Elise Garland
h. Web Master	-	
i. Committee	-	Janet Hastie, Andy Kent

Appointment of

a. YPU representatives (2)	-	Val Child
b. Projectionists (2)	-	Andrew Kent

Charles Spencer has agreed to continue in the role of Webmaster for the time being, but would like to hand the role over. If any member is interested in taking on this role they should speak with the President.

8 Subscriptions

The Committee proposes that the annual subscriptions be increased to £38 for single and £65 for joint membership.

Discussion followed and it was proposed by Sue Horsley and seconded by Graham Barnett that the annual subscription should be set £38 and the joint membership should be discontinued. A vote was taken and the revised proposal approved.

9 Club Policies

The Committee proposed that the club formally approve the adoption of policies, based on advice from the Yorkshire Photographic Union in respect of Data Protection, Health & Safety and the Protection of Vulnerable Individuals. A proposal to accept these was made by Val Child, seconded by Paul Shippin and approved by members.

10 2016/17 Programme

a) Syllabus Secretary's Report

Elise Garland, the Syllabus Secretary, presented her report on the programme. She has had a lot of positive feedback about the syllabus for last year. The club has a good mixture of members now from beginners to the more experienced and she has tried to cater some sessions for each of these groups which is always difficult as you can't please all. There have been a few practical evenings for members but also had the YPU slideshow evening and PAGB prints which the more experienced members like to have on the syllabus. Personally, she has always thought that seeing these really does help with ideas as to composition of photos for the future and would like to see more members attending these for ideas.

Elise thanked Andrew Kent, Robert Child and Steve Bowden for each doing a session this year, all of which were very interesting. It is good to have members taking part, so anyone up for it next year please let Elise know!

Mark Pearson and Steve Race both did wildlife photography talks and Elise had a lot of positive feedback regarding both these speakers. Next year she has George Stoye lined up, as he was overall winner British Wildlife Photographer of the Year for 2016. But, of course, there can't just be wildlife photographers so she is aiming to try and get someone from perhaps action sport or fashion photography to come along this coming year for something a bit different. If you have any suggestions please let Elise know.

b) YPU Report

Val Child gave a summary of the role of the Yorkshire Photographic Union (YPU). It is a federation of clubs within the Yorkshire region with a link the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB). Primarily, the YPU runs competitions both inter-club and for individuals (aka the "salon") and holds workshops. Val would like to encourage more members to enter the YPU competitions next year. Anyone needing more information should contact Val.

The annual Assembly (awards event) and Exhibition will be held at Huddersfield during the summer.

11 2017/18 Programme

Elise thanked everyone for the opportunity of being President for the coming year 2017-2018. She hopes that during this year that we can all work together to strengthen the club, enrol new members and hopefully raise much needed funds to enable us in the future to perhaps get a new projector. As you know, the club tried for lottery funding but were not successful at this time. If, as a club, we can manage to do a bit of fundraising this year that would benefit us all.

She also thanked the committee for all their hard work last year and also thanked Steve Bowden for being President. Steve has unfortunately decided that he cannot carry on with the position this year which is really disappointing but she hopes that whatever he does in the future he enjoys.

Elise started some editing evenings earlier this year and is aiming to carry on doing these throughout the summer. So, if anyone else is interested in coming along please let her know by email.

The committee will also be sending out a questionnaire soon to find out members' opinions on various things, such as the programme for next year, summer meet suggestions and anything else that members would like to raise regarding the running of the club. When the results of this are in, the committee will get back to you.

Elise expressed her hopes that everyone would enjoy the summer months, take plenty of photos and that she would see everyone again in the autumn when the new programme starts.

12 Any other business

Nigel Clipperton raised the issue of rules (or lack of) picked up by the external judges in the Annuals competitions. They had commented on images being in the wrong category and on the criteria for architectural record (rather than just architecture).

A lively discussion followed with many members contributing and expressing views that clarification was needed. Ralph Witty commented that "pictorial" needed to be defined too as, in some areas, this is interpreted as being for landscape type images. A possible separate category for landscapes was suggested.

The club does already have a set of rules relating to the Annuals and these state that the entrant can specify which category he/she wishes to enter their image in. The YPU and PAGB also have definitions for standard competition subjects. Both Dave Brett and Andy Kent commented that people needed to know the definitions when the subject titles are published so that they can work to these specifications.

Consensus was that some clarification was necessary and it was agreed that the Committee would consider all these points before next season.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm and was followed by the Presentation of Trophies by the President, Elise Garland.