



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 29 April 2015

Action

Present: R Cowley, I Bramwell, A Black, D Dyment, J Doyle, C Ellison, D Entwistle, D Greenwood, C Hubbard, C McGinley, S Pankow, P Schofield, J Whittaker, P Williams.

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

1.1. Apologies were received from Ann Scofield.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting.

2.1. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 30th April 2014, having been available on the club's website, were taken as read and approved by the meeting.

3. Matters arising.

3.1. It was agreed that the Chairman will write to T J Liquor Store thanking them for their donation.

RC

4. Treasurer's report.

4.1. The treasurer presented his report and financial statements. Since the Club's financial year runs from 1st September to 31st August the Treasurer can only provide an estimate of the year-end position at the AGM. A Special General Meeting will be held in September or October when the full set of audited accounts will be available. The Treasurer estimated that taking into account receipts of £1,955, payments of £1,590 and last year's carried forward balance of £2,523 we will have a year-end balance of £2,888. This should cover replacement of the projector in the event of a disaster, and any additional room hire costs should we have to relocate. There may be other items the club may wish to purchase, such as photo-frames and software updates. Following scrutiny of the financial statements presented, the accounts were noted by the Meeting (and will require approval by the Special General Meeting).

CH
JW

5. Subscriptions for the year 2015/2016

5.1. The treasurer suggested that the annual of subscription of £20 and the weekly attendance fee of £2 remain the same for the coming year, and this was approved by the meeting. The concessionary rate of half these amounts will continue for full time students.

CH

6. Chairman's Report.

6.1. The chairman's report, having been previously circulated, was then commented upon by the chairman. He stated that the club has had a successful year, with a stable membership and good attendance record. He mentioned various highlights during the year, and thanked members for their commitment to the club, and the club officials for their work during the year.

7. Election of Officers.

7.1. The current officers of the club, having expressed their willingness to continue in office for another year, were elected en bloc by the meeting. These are as follows:

Chairman	*R Cowley
Secretary	*J Whittaker
Treasurer	*C Hubbard
Exhibition Secretary	*Chris McGinley
Assistant Exhibition Secretary	Jim Doyle
Press Secretary	R Cowley
Webmaster	C Hubbard
Auditors	J Whittaker, C McConville

*Trustees of the charity

8. Syllabus 2015/16.

8.1. The chairman invited comments from members on a review of the 2014/2015 syllabus, and suggestions for the syllabus for the coming year, arising from which the following suggestions will be included in the 2015/2016 syllabus:

- There will be fewer guest speakers but more talks by members on photographic topics
- More workshops on specific subjects of interest to members
- Meetings dedicated to members showing their images
- A workshop on the subject of mounting of prints.
- Invitations to local professional photographers and contacts to speak at club meetings
- Meetings dedicated to the showing of images taken by members on the club's summer evening excursions.
- One-to-one tutorial sessions by experienced members to less experienced members on specific topics.
- Guest speakers to be limited to 4 or 5

JW

8.2. Suggestions for workshop subjects were: the camera, RAW, conversion of colour to mono, street photography, landscape photography, working with flash photography, and a question- and- answer meeting. The secretary was asked to email members with this list, and for members to suggest others if desired.

9. Club Website

9.1. D Greenwood suggested that a template be made for members to give to contacts. Mr Hubbard will progress this idea when he is able to find time, and A Black will provide contacts via Twitter/Facebook etc.

CH

9.2. D Greenwood suggested that the club purchase an illuminated screen for showing printed images. He was asked to explore this idea further.

DG

10. Members' views on club competitions

10.1. The chairman asked members for their views and opinions on club competitions. He reminded them of the current situation which is:

- 5 internal competitions
- 2 interclub competitions with local clubs
- LCPU and ICPA competitions.

10.2. There was a discussion particularly on the two interclub events (a competition with Whitworth, and an appraisal evening with Irwell Vale). – do we enter just our best quality images from the more experienced members or give all members an opportunity to submit their images? Arising from this discussion it was agreed that the Club would hold two selection evenings prior to these two events taking place in which all members could express their opinions on which images should be submitted. Perhaps a different approach could be adopted for the two different events.

JW

11. Topics for the merits competitions 2015/2016

11.1. Arising from the discussion on this subject it was agreed that the current system of marking will remain unchanged and there will be three merits evenings in the coming year, the subjects of which will be as follows:

- Open subject (to be held early in the club year)
- Images containing four objects
- Shallow depth of field (to be held in March 2016)

CMG
JD

12. Annual Competition

12.1. The annual competition will take place in February or March 2016. The competition secretaries will ask Brian Laws of his availability to judge the competition when he visits our club on 6th May 2015. C Hubbard suggested that if members wished they could submit their entries as a portfolio to be judged with print entries; this was agreed. It was also agreed that the judge will be asked to judge all entries, but only to name his choice of '1st, 2nd, 3rd, highly commended, and commended'.

CMG
JD

13. Recruitment and retention of new members

13.1. It was felt that the new syllabus will greatly assist in the recruitment and retention of new members.

14. Community involvement

14.1. It was agreed that the club be involved in these projects; the "Sunflower" project and Whitaker exhibitions being good examples.

15. Club trips

15.1. It was agreed that the two clubs trips will continue, and the first trip would be to Dunham Massey and the September trip would be to Bradford/Saltaire

16. Summer evening outings

16.1. It was agreed these will continue in the summer of 2015 and will take place on the first and third Wednesday of the month. The chairman will prepare a list of possible venues.

RC

17. Closure of Meeting

17.1. There being no further business the Chairman thanked the membership for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Presentation of Awards

Rick Cowley presented the following awards to members:

Capuano Trophy (best image in the competition)	C Ellison
Hoyle Cup (best mono print in the competition)	Ian Bramwell
Bacup NAT cup (best colour print in the competition)	C Ellison
Entwistle cup (best set of six projected images (DPI))	C Ellison
Bolton cup (best individual projected image (DPI))	C Ellison
Geoffrey Bolton Trophy (best image of Rossendale)	Anthony Black
John Cooke trophy (best image of Bacup)	J Doyle
Hesketh Cup (best mono print by a new member)	David Greenwood
Schofield Cup (Best colour print by a new member)	David Greenwood
Shield (Highest aggregate score- merits mono prints)	Ian Bramwell
Shield (Highest aggregate score-merits colour prints)	Anthony Black
Shield (Highest aggregate score-merits DPI's)	Colin Hubbard

Members were also presented with certificates for 'Highly commended' and 'Commended' entries in the annual competition.