

# Minutes of Axholme Camera Club Annual General Meeting

**Date: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**Meeting opened 7.31p.m.**

1 **Apologies** - Jan Neale, Joyce Hooley

Members present:

Committee – George Fiddler (GF), Ivan Sedgwick (IS), Mary Fish (MF), Robert Fish (RF), David Neale (DN), Steve Parrish (SP), Sue Cross (SC), Helen Bland (HB), Owen Kennedy (OK).

Alan Pinder (AP), Alan Keen (AK), Peter Sedgwick (PS), Gerald Kerr (GK), Paul Lancaster (PL), Barry Inman (BI), Anthony Rhodes (AR), Ken Sykes (KS), Steve Berry (SB), Vick Copas (VC), Rob Lowe (RL), Paul Connor (PC), Mark Fahy (MF) (arrived 8.10 p.m.)

2 **Minutes of last Year's AGM** - accepted as a true record. Proposed DN  
Seconded IS  
Unanimously agreed

3 **Matters Arising** – None

4 **Chairman's Report** - GF began by thanking 'each and everyone of the committee for the hard work and extra effort which they have voluntarily continued to perform when fulfilling their duties as committee members. Without the efforts of the committee we would not be able to enter the competitions itemised below or even have a program of events.'

He then highlighted the achievements of the committee over the past few years - listed below:

The club has a new website that is equal to and more comprehensive than those of many other camera clubs. He offered his thanks to the members who established and continue to service the site.

He then reviewed the studio equipment bought (and acquired as gifts) that allowed the club to set up studio sessions for members – Doncaster Steam Punks and Marlies Chell (x2) in particular.

Next came the introduction of Saturday workshops in particular ones

provided by –Graham Currey and Angela Hargreaves  
He then highlighted the exhibitions of photographs in the locality, in particular the ones linked to Epworth Music Day and in support of The Well Being Project at Crowle.

GF highlighted the attempts to publicise the club – the club booklet thanks to the efforts of AK, articles in the local press and encouraging new, younger members. He asked RF for comments. He had sent in articles about club events, some of which were published, others ignored. RF has been working with students from South Axholme Academy, some of which attended a club night (one attended two further meetings). Questioned as to why these students stopped attending RF's answer was 'peer pressure'; attending such meetings was not seen as 'cool' and the students experienced negative comments from their peers.

GF - The club has good relations with the LPA and N&EMPF

GF - The club can be rightly proud of the varied programme it provides for members.

GF finished this section of his report by stressing the friendly nature of the club.

## 5 External Competitions

DN outlined the club's performance over the past year:

We did well in the Battles, winning our three rounds and making the final as favourites. Unfortunately, some of our previously high achieving photographs did not meet with the judge's approval leaving us second.

The club came 1<sup>st</sup> in the Foster Challenge and 4<sup>th</sup> in the LPA digital competition, 13<sup>th</sup> in N&EMPF and 13<sup>th</sup> in the Sheffield Challenge.

DN ended with his usual plea for good photos to be considered for external competitions.

- 6 **Treasurer's report** – see attached audit. RF took the members through a detailed breakdown of the past year's finances. The main issue was the increasing cost of maintaining the level of expertise presented on members' evenings and that of a rise in the cost to rent the hall – rising from £6 per hour to £8. This led to on to item 7 ...
- 7 **Club Fees.** For more years than current members could remember, the fees for the club have remained at £10 for annual membership and £2 for nightly attendance. With ever increasing costs members were asked for their views. After a comprehensive discussion GF proposed a fee change of £15 and £3 respectively - seconded by KS. An amended to this was proposed by PC and seconded by SB, namely an increase to £20 and £3. The vote in favour of the amended saw 8 votes in favour with 11 votes against – amendment lost. The vote for the original proposal passed with 18 members voting in favour.

- 8 **Outline of next year's programme** – MF took members through the main highlights of next year's programme. She informed all that she and IS had taken account of members' wishes. There will be 11 external speaker/workshop evenings. In light of increasing costs she asked for members to come forward with photographs and expertise to help fill some slots in 'members' nights' evenings – even if this was only for half a session.
- 9 **Election of Chair and Committee** – GF announced that at this point in the meeting he would stand down to leave DN in charge while the members voted for a new chair. GF indicated his willingness to stand for one more year. No other members indicated an interest and SC proposed, seconded by MF, that GF be returned. The proposal was carried overwhelmingly.

KS proposed and AP seconded that the rest of the committee be elected en masse. This, too, was carried overwhelmingly.

- 10 **Rule clarifications** – OK outlined, with the advance of technology and camera burst speeds that produce images that barely differ, there is the possibility of producing several images that are visually similar. He proposed the club should consider these in the same way outlined by DN for external competitions and salons and this be included in the club's rules. He reviewed the guidance for entering competitions and emphasised that prints could be of any size up to a maximum of A3 but that these must be mounted 500mm x 400mm mounts. He then went on to clarify the distinction between colour and mono photographs and mentioned that a couple of mono prints submitted over the past year had traces of colour in them. It was agreed that this was done inadvertently. When asked who would have oversight as to whether images met the prescribed procedure OK did not feel it was something any individual could undertake. It was noted that in many salons etc. images had to be submitted for scrutiny well in advance of judging. This was not the case for internal competitions as several images were entered at the last minute. Any decision would be left to the judge if they felt an image did not meet the requirements of the competition.

OK then went on to clarify what was acceptable in monochrome (black and white) images. For the purpose of club competitions mono meant a range of tones from white through shades of grey to black or a sepia hue. It should be noted that monochrome images contain variations of only one colour and nothing else. This could be different shades of blue, green, or grey.

The changes were proposed by AK and seconded by SC.

There followed a discussion about the images entered for the Photograph of

the Year. Several members agreed this year's response was disappointing with only 7 members submitting images.

**11. A.O.B. – none**

**Meeting closed 8.40 p.m.**