

Morecambe Camera Club

Annual General Meeting held on 5th October 2023 at 7.30pm in Heysham library.

Minutes 2023

1. Present

Ellen Bell, Roger Gittins, Janet Taylor, Dan Johnson, Steve Bird, Pat Hamer, Martin Hamer, Clive Bond, Graham Dean, David Dempster (via Zoom)

2. Apologies for absence

Matt James, Peter Bagnall, Joe Greenhough, Linda Knapper, Jay Patilaries

3. Minutes of AGM held on 7th April 2022 & EGM held on 9th March 2023

These had been circulated and taken as read – there were no matters arising.

4. Chair's report

This year completes my 5th as chair, and my 7th on the committee. Many camera clubs have been struggling over the past few years with the advances in phone technology, ageing membership demographic and of course the impact of the pandemic. Our club is no exception and whilst we have made positive changes and adaptations, the club is at a point where it needs to find a new direction in order to survive.

With that in mind, I feel now is the time for me to step down and allow someone else to steer the club in a new direction.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the support you have shown the club and throughout these times. I would particularly like to thank the committee members, old and new who have worked tirelessly to ensure the club has been able to navigate through the past couple of years.

Looking to the future the initial focus for the club is to find a way of taking the club forwards, be that a change in the way we run, or a merger with another club.

We currently have an exhibition here in Heysham Library which will raise our profile and as we now meet here, hopefully encourage some new members to come and join us.

We have welcomed some new members to the club this last couple of years, and they have all brought with them enthusiasm for the club. This has resulted in some new ideas, all have embraced what the club has to offer and have got stuck in and helped with the smooth running of meetings.

I am proud of how the club has adapted to all of the challenges and hope that everyone will show their continued support for the club and share any ideas they have for

improvements we can make, to not only ensure it's survival, but to help us get back to a place where we are thriving. I am confident that we can achieve this goal, due to our fantastic members!

Roger proposed a vote of thanks to to Ellen, Janet & Graham for their roles in keeping the club going, especially since the start of the pandemic.

5. Competition secretary's report

Apologies for not having the table below to display at the AGM – just reading out the figures makes it difficult to see patterns. Overall entries are about two thirds of pre-pandemic levels (which roughly mirrors the number of members).

	authors				Total number of images			
month	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
oct	23	18	17	15	86	58	61	57
nov	19	10	12	11	74	38	40	43
dec	13	14	9	11	52	48	33	38
jan	14	14	11	13	51	50	43	51
feb	16	11	11	11	58	43	39	41
					321	237	216	230
panel	14	9	8	7	14	15	15	12
annuals	12	9	10	9	84	65	76	67

6. Treasurer's report / accounts for 2022-23

Financial Statement For Period 01/10/22 to 30/09/23

This statement is just an income/expenditure statement as the accounts have not yet been prepared for audit due to the accounting period having only just finished. A full audited set of accounts will be presented to a future meeting as soon as they are available.

Income:		Expenditure:	
Subscriptions	720.00	Room Hire	285.50
Tea and Raffle Profit	189.35	Zoom rental	72.70
-----		LCPU/PAGB	99.50
		Judges Fees	25.00
		Bank Charges	60.80
Total:	909.35	Microphones	27.99
		(owed to Roger G)	
		Total:	573.49
		Cheques	287.50
		(from 2021/22)	
		(one for 83.75 still outstanding)	

Income has remained relatively stable other than a significant increase in raffle profits, but expenditure has been cut considerably. This has been achieved by moving the meeting room and cutting hire costs by more than half, having judges on zoom so not incurring travel expenses with one exception for the annuals, not paying for outside speakers, not paying to engrave trophies.

Current balance in hand is 1344.30 with one outstanding unrepresented cheque for 83.75 and 27.99 owed to Roger G, so a net balance of 1232.56. This compares to a net balance of 889.20 this time last year (these are not audited figures so don't quite balance yet as).

Roger Gittins Treasurer 3rd October 2023

7. Officers of the club

Although Roger (treasurer) and Graham (Competitions Secretary) are prepared to continue in their roles, they need others willing to help. Clive offered to take on role of Publicity Officer.

8. Resolutions

It was agreed that all competitions where there was no feedback on images would be discontinued and that the Folio Competition should be moved to the summer.

Judges have been booked for other competitions (although one has had to give backwards).

9. Any other business: there was a discussion on what members want from the club, without really coming to any specific conclusions. The discussion to be continued the following week, when members are asked to bring along any ideas.