



Sevenoaks Camera Club

Affiliated to
The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain through The Kent County Photographic Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting Saturday 6th April 2024 : 2.30pm at Jean-Pierre Darque's house

Attendance : Derek Medhurst (DM), Susan Wilkinson (SuW), Sandy Wyndham (SaW),
Tom Briody (TB), Rob Weighill (RW), Jean-Pierre Darque (J-P), Ann White (AW)
Peter Dillon (PD)
Apologies : Anne Roberts (AR)

1. **Approval of the minutes of the two previous meetings and matters arising**

The minutes of 19th February and 19th March were approved with a couple of small changes. SuW made the changes and sent the minutes to DM on 6th April, for the website.

DM has set up a Google Discussion Group. So far 14 members have joined but there has been no discussion. Anyone who wants to set up a special interest group could be encouraged to set up a What's App group. When we had a special interest group before we were concerned that groups might break away, so the committee need to be aware of any special interest groups and perhaps any groups could report to the whole club.

2. **Matters arising from Derek Griffin's Resignation**

Derek Griffin (DG) resigned as Chairman and as a member of the Club on 30th March.

Derek Medhurst has agreed to take the Chairman role temporarily and chaired this meeting. J-P kindly offered his conservatory for an in-person committee meeting.

Derek Griffin used to run the Club's Facebook and Instagram pages. At the AGM we should ask for **someone prepared to take over running the Social Media sites.**

TB, SuW and DM can all sign cheques, which need two signatories.

All three should also be allowed to give approval to online transactions and **TB has initiated the change with Barclays.**

DM thanked AW for composing an e-mail to send out to members. **SuW sent the e-mail out to the Club** on 6th April.

It was suggested that members of the committee could work as a team and rotate the various duties which traditionally had been allocated to a chairman, thus dispensing with the need for a formal appointment. Other local groups have also had issues in securing senior officers so we have given thought to this as a different way of doing things, to improve the Club's long term survival.

This and a few other changes that have been made, such as the abolition of Junior membership, will eventually need **changes to the Constitution.** This can be done at a General Meeting or the AGM and could be done at the beginning of next Season when any changes have been approved by the membership. There should be time for this at the first meeting of the Season.

The Constitution needs thought but DM will send SuW a copy when this is done so that she can send it out to members before the relevant meeting.

The point was made that all post-holders should leave instructions somewhere that can be accessed if they were incapacitated. Dropbox or MS One Drive were suggested as suitable places for a back up. We have one of each of these and should try them out to see which is most suitable.

3. **Meeting on 8th April - 4th Print Competition**

DM is hosting the meeting. Roger Force is the judge.

- a. Rob W will ask DG for the blank template for the introductory PDI screen.
- b. Available at this meeting will be voting lists for the titles for the Challenge and the Theme for next Season

for the Theme : Pattern(s), Watching, Food and Drink, Superstition(s)

for the Team Challenge : Uniform(ity), Pairs, Tell a Story

The final date for the vote is 10th April.

The Theme will be the third PDI of next season. On 8th April there will also be a list for members to sign up for the Team Challenge for next Season.

4. **April 15th - Club Night**

SaW sent out an e-mail on 3rd April asking members for "My favourite picture of the year" and they will be asked to talk about it. These should be sent to SuW. She will bring these to the meeting on a memory stick. Rob will bring the projector and laptop so the images can be put into the projector direct or through the laptop.

5. **April 29th - Team Challenge evening**

SuW rang a member of each of the nine teams and discovered that there were only 5 panels. It was decided to cancel the judge, Bob Webzell, coming from Brighton, and to discuss the panels in house. Peter Dillon will facilitate discussion on the night. He will contact members for their title and their 150 words in advance, but panels can be brought in on the night.

SaW has cancelled the judge but booked him for a talk next Season.

6. **The AGM on May 20th**

Proposals to put to members :

It was decided to drop the second proposal to reduce the number of competitions. It would bring problems with how to fill the programme and it was felt by the Committee that an Important part of the Club is the opportunity to see other members' images in competitions.

DM and SuW will meet on Tuesday 9th April to finalise the text for the proposal to change to non-scoring competitions, to be sent to the Committee and then to all members before the AGM.

It was decided not to award trophies for the year until next season or at the exhibition.

The committee members need to send their **reports to SuW by 23rd April**, in MS Word or Mac Pages format, or plain text if these two are not available.

It was decided not to appoint a new Chairman, but to divide the duties among committee members as outlined in section 2. This will give a more flexible and responsive arrangement. **SuW and DM will refine the table of committee members** for election at the AGM to reflect the change.

The Constitution allows ten named officers of the Club and up to two additional members on the Committee. With Chairman and Vice-chairman removed we could consider increasing the numbers of other members if anyone volunteers.

Mick Dudley has agreed to help RW and should be mentioned as co-PDI Secretary since RW may need more help next Season.

Roger Lee has expressed willingness to join the committee so he is to be contacted by DM to see whether he is happy to be co-opted to the committee immediately.

7. Certificates

It was decided to abandon giving out certificates to all first, second and third placed members in competitions. We could adopt sending out pdf versions if people seem to want them. This would be more sustainable.

8. The Annual Exhibition :

The exhibition will be **set-up on 13th followed by the exhibition from 14th to 24th August** . (Saturday 24th is a half day).

The possible use of the mezzanine and central display boards is to be investigated and decided by the exhibition working group.

It was decided that poster command strips can be bought at a price that would not necessitate a charge to members for entering the Exhibition. We should continue to allow up to four prints from each member. DM and Roger have experience that the command strips are strong enough for mounted prints without backing boards. These will be used for this year's exhibition.

We need to find a new home for the print frames which are stored by DG at the moment. If the command strips are a success then we could dispose of most of our print frames. At the meeting **on 8th April, members will be asked** whether anyone could store the boxes of print frames.

(Joselyne Horne has stored the print frames.)

It was decided that a box to collect exhibition entries will be available before the end of the season, and prints should be submitted by mid-June. Boxes will be kept by SaW and SuW as usual.

Members will need to be shown how to present their prints for secure hanging using command strips. It was decided it would be easier to keep to the 40 x 50 size, but members should not put a backing board on them, but stick a piece of cartridge paper over the back of the print. This format should be demonstrated to members at a meeting.

The meeting finished at 4.50

Signed. :