



Sevenoaks Camera Club

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

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Monday 21st January 2019 : 8.00pm

Chairman's House

1. a. **Present : Brian Tabor, Derek Medhurst, Derek Griffin, Mike Robinson, Lynda Atkinson Susan Wilkinson, Paul Simons**

(Names sometimes abbreviated to **BT, DM, DG, MR, SuW, PS, LA, SaW, PD**, in these minutes)

- b. **Apologies for Absence : Sandy Wyndham, Peter Dillon**

2. Minutes

The minutes from 15th October were approved by those present and signed by Brian Tabor.

Information and Progress to Report from the last meeting :

- a. Sevenoaks won the Tripartite competition with only 0.5 point difference from Selsdon. The evening ran very successfully. Thanks to PS,DG, PD,
- b. The Bat and Ball restoration has been previewed, but the project is continuing. DM and Roger Lee are intending to photograph every week until the restoration is finished. Several club members were at an Open Day on 19th Jan and there will be another on 16th Feb. DM and Roger Lee gave an interesting presentation to the Club on 14th January.
- c. DG ran a very successful outing to Minnis Bay on 27th December to do long exposure photography - 8 members attended. Thanks to DG for this and the pre-meeting instruction session at North Frith.
- d. We have been asked to photograph the Rotary Knoles 10k run again on Sunday 17th March.
- e. Two members photographed the Shoreham Christmas Carol Concert.
- f. DM reported that the Town Council have enquired about the Club photographing the Christmas Lights switch on in 2019 - we need to know what they have in mind for this.
- g. DM has been able to go back to an older and legal version of the Dreamweaver Software that he has used for the website, so all is functional at the moment. In the longer term he may need to change over, for example Wordpress might be an alternative if it becomes necessary to change.
- h. BT has checked with Pat about the layout of the Exhibition. She does not want three rows of pictures. Some committee members were happy to have theirs in a third row where they might get finger marks from children. The library are happy to have pictures put up with white tac. DG says his daughter has a good picture hanging system that leaves no marks. DM says that cable clips have been used in the past. No decisions can be taken until we see how many prints entries are put in.

3. Membership and Insurance

We had 61 members in December.

Our budget is based on 60 members so finance is OK.

We have more active members than previously, so though we have had 80 members we still have as many entering competitions.

The insurance cheque has been sent off to Stephen Carroll. The projector and laptop are insured, plus the KCPA 5m public liability insurance.

MR has consulted Julie Crispwell at Darwin Clayton, the public liability insurance brokers, about possible liabilities arising from the organisation of camera club outings.

Her advice and our response was:

Insurers try to establish fault for an accident.



To be covered by the Club's Public Liability insurance, an event should be minuted at committee, or at the minimum a note sent round to the committee members to confirm that it is an official Club event.

A risk assessment for events is recommended. Our approach to this will be that when such events are organised, outline guidance on obvious risks will be given to those participating.

Things which should be known, such as water is wet, woods have tree roots, or the tide will come in, are not the responsibility of the organiser. Our response will be to point out to those participating that they have a responsibility for their own safety and that of their equipment.

The insurance covers official events within Europe.

Informal events, e.g. those organised on the spur of the moment after a visit to the pub or at a club evening, are not covered by the Club's insurance and are at the participants own risk.

(Note : MR has just established from KCPA that guests, whether paying or non-paying, for a popular official Camera Club event would be covered by our public liability insurance.)

4.and 5. Next Year's Programme and Marking of Competitions

Abolishing the print and PDI finals is being trialled next season and will be evaluated.

Four members have expressed unhappiness at this. We need to replace the Finals with something that members enjoy.

Replacing judged events with a popular vote within the Club was rejected, though we intend to use some version of a popular vote for the Small Print competition. Getting the Selection Committee to vote was suggested, but nothing was decided.

It was decided that **Small Prints will be on A4 size paper**, with no restriction on the size of the picture within this. They will not be mounted (though members might want to stiffen them by sticking them on a piece of card.) Further details of this will be decided nearer the time.

MR might offer sending a print batch to DSCL but that is not decided.

The Challenge Competition will be retained for next year. Signing up for this should start soon, but **we need to decide a theme, as well as a theme for the themed PDI**. We need to evaluate how well Challenge groups are getting on early, and replace members if necessary.

It was decided that **SW will ring round the groups on two audit days**, approximately June 30th and September 30th, to try to achieve more successful teams, and to allow new members who would like to participate to replace people who have dropped out.

We will also retain the individual panel competition, but perhaps we should allow more flexible rules, with Clive Tanner's panels as an example. **This must be discussed at a later meeting.**

Looking at SaW's proposed timetable for next Season it was decided :

- a. To move the Small Print competition to 11th November by swapping with the 2nd PDI. This would give people more time to enter it after new members have seen the 1st print competition on 14th October.
- b. To swap the dates of the Team Challenge and the Individual Panel competitions. (This will give the teams more time from the end of the previous Season, but will give less time for the organisation of the following season's challenge).
- c. Not to specify the content of Club Nights on the programme except for the Small Print Competition, to allow the Committee flexibility.
- d. The end of the season looked a bit bare so the Committee thought there should be a good (Keynote) speaker on 11th May, the week before the end of season social.
- e. There were two empty weeks for Easter Monday and the week after - a third Monday - so a Club Night should be put in on the 3rd Monday, 20th April.
- f. PD suggested an informal discussion of work on a Club night, this could even be work in progress by members, allowing feedback by other Club Members. This could replace a



speaker proposed for 30th March. It would be a version of Show and Tell, but **PD could think about** how to make it more attractive and inclusive for members.
SuW will contact SaW about the decisions (done 22nd Jan).

The scoring method will be kept the same as this year for next so that there are not too many changes at once.

(We have a lot of Club Nights - note the suggestion last meeting that something could be done on i-phone photography?)

6. Exhibition

The confirmed dates are : Set up on Tuesday 4th June, exhibition opens on 5th June, close on Saturday 15th June, take down on Monday 17th.

The Private View / opening is on Thurs 6th June, with Saturday as an alternative if there are any problems with Thursday.

Our Print Final is on 13th May, so that is the final submission date for prints, and we then have 3 weeks to arrange the Exhibition.

DM and Roger Lee will probably be organising their own exhibition of Bat and Ball Photography in the Sevenoaks Festival, so **DM may have to stand back** from the organisation this year. He should be able to do the PDIs as this will be easier this year with no judging.

DG will find out more about special tape that can be used for picture hanging.

(This is too expensive for use for the whole exhibition : https://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_1?url=search-alias=aps&field-keywords=command+strips)

MR sees no problem in returning money to people if their 4th print has to be left out to get the panels included.

DG will design the leaflet.

BT will ask at the Club for people to help with publicity. The leaflet distribution needs to be done close to the exhibition time, but the free magazines need to be done earlier.

7. Succession

Brian Tabor and Peter Dillon want to retire from the committee after this year's AGM. All the other people present at the meeting are happy to continue in their present roles. Derek Griffin will be PDI secretary and Chairman, with other committee members taking some of the Chairman's work.

We would like to find someone to shadow the role of PDI Secretary, or at least to agree to help, as the PDI job needs more than one person who can do it.

9. A.O.B

- a. Members are happy to continue photographing for Henry Desmond musical events at Shoreham Church for the moment, with MR as the Club contact for this.
- b. DM has had a request to come to Robert Canis's talk from three people. It was agreed that they could come and might be asked for a voluntary donation. **Athene will be asked** about whether there is a maximum capacity of the Mencap Hall e.g. for fire regulations. She will also be asked for another key. (*SuW e-mailed Athene on 22nd Jan*).

Reply 25th Jan : Athene is not sure about numbers but 80 would be well within the limit. She thinks it is 100, but varies on whether they are sitting or standing. At the moment there are no spare keys, but she will keep us in mind if one becomes available. We are not allowed to have an extra key cut as they are special security keys.

- c. **DG is considering another bluebell day** and possibly an evening outing in the summer.
- d. The Monotones is in abeyance at the moment. Roy is not a member this year. However, if anyone expresses a desire to continue with the group they should be encouraged.
- e. SuW raised the issue of recycling of cups for coffee and tea. If the present cups can be recycled then they should be rinsed and put in a different container. People could bring their own mugs and take them home if they wish (half a mug-full of drink allowed only).
- f. It was suggested that 70 is too many images for a PDI competition, but no decision was



made about what we could do about this. The judge for the 3rd PDI has asked to see the images beforehand, but though this should make the numbers easier for the judge, it is extra work for DG as the judge has to have versions with no names.

The meeting closed at 10.15 pm

The next meeting was arranged for 18th March. Brian Tabor will be away so the meeting will be run by Derek Griffin.

Signed :

Date :