

Nantwich Camera Club

Annual General Meeting 2009/2010.

Minutes of Meeting held on the 27th April 2010 at The Gables.

Copies of the Agenda together with the minutes of the previous AGM and the financial balance sheet were distributed to the members present.

1 Opening welcome by the chairman.

The chairman welcomed 33 members to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from David Foster, David Hoyle and Arthur Tingle.

3 Reading and adoption of the 2008/2009 minutes

The minutes of the above meetings were read. They were proposed to be accepted as a true record by Paul Topham and seconded by John Dodd and adopted without dissent.

4 Chairman's Address

As a founder member, David Nicholls, the chairman took a retrospective look back to the initial inception of the club some thirty years ago. From a published request to the local community for an expression of interest in forming a photographic club in Nantwich, some seventy potential members provided overwhelming support at the inaugural meeting. Thus were sown the seeds that lead to the current situation where the club is recognized as a club of substance within the L&CPU, progressing from mostly black and white workers in the early years, through colour to the present pre-eminence in the digital age.

Having enjoyed with pride the great pleasure of receiving the many awards on behalf of the club membership for the past ten years he confirmed his intention to now step down from the chairman position.

In so doing he re-assured his successor that the club functioned so successfully principally through the combined efforts of the elected committee, who were adept in anticipating situations prior to them presenting a serious problem. Consequently he urged the new chairman to place his trust in the committee.

He extended his thanks to all of the members and further assured that he would still have a presence at meetings in the future.

5 Treasurer's Report

A balance sheet was provided to all attendees and the treasurer, Brian Sankey, provided a review of the contents. Key items included 1) Increased membership count at 62 resulting in substantially higher receipts from membership fees and levies. 2) Increased payments just made for the Gables room hire at £25 per session. 3) Speaker's and Judge's expenses reduced. 4) Biannual web hosting and domain name renewal cost increase.

He thanked the secretaries for absorbing many operational costs and thanked Bryan Averill for performing an audit of the balance sheet.

From the above and our projected costs for the next season, he advised that the club enjoyed a healthy financial situation and without hesitation recommended that for the seventh consecutive year, no change be made to membership subscription charges.

Paul Topham observed that the current asset figures for the laptop computer and the digital projector placed them at too high a value. The treasurer advised that he applied a standard annual depreciation factor of 10% to all of the club's equipment assets.

The report was proposed for acceptance by Wray Douglas and seconded by Jack Boston and the report was unanimously accepted by a show of hands.

6 Competition Secretary's Report

On behalf of the competition secretaries Bryan Averill presented the report in which he revealed another reasonably successful year as below.

Inter-club competitions against Whitchurch, Sandbach and Alsager reached favorable verdicts with our only failure against Crewe.

In the May 2009 Five Towns Competition, Nantwich in coming third overall was only five points behind the winning club, Whitchurch.

At the Chester external club competition, the club came second, but did enjoy having the Best Print of the night with Wray Douglas's "Provencal Tree".

At Bramhall, Nantwich came third in both the print and PDI sections.

At Poynton Nantwich enjoyed a sixth place ranking in the prints section, related to the twenty three competing clubs.

Fifty-one prints from ten members and twenty-four PDIs from eight members have been entered in this year's L&CPU annual competition in the hope of securing some Certificates of Merit awards.

Internal competitions were well supported, with thirty members in total entering PDI competitions with an average of twenty entering each competition. Similarly in print competitions in total thirty members entered with an average of eighteen in each competition. Support for the set subject competition "Dereliction" was disappointing with only thirteen members providing entries.

Bryan confirmed that he and Andrew were stepping down from the competition role and extended joint thanks for the support enjoyed during the many years in office and most importantly for the high quality work, work which had enabled the club to win the vast majority of battles and to mount successful exhibitions.

Bryan expressed assurance that their successors would be equally competent and that with the support of the membership would take the club onwards to even greater success.

Bryan then announced the overall competition winners for the 2009/10 season as below:-

<u>Prints</u>	1 st Andrew Charlesworth	275.5 pts	<u>PDIs</u>	1 st Andrew Charlesworth	276.5 pts
	2 nd Roslyn Walmsley	255 pts		2 nd Bryan Averill	249.5 pts
	3 rd Bryan Averill	239 pts		3 rd Roslyn Walmsley	241 pts

<u>Clubman of the Year</u>	1 st Andrew Charlesworth	552 pts
	2 nd Roslyn Walmsley	496 pts
	3 rd Bryan Averill	488.5 pts

7 The Election of Officers.

The chairman read the list of nominees as below.

Chairman	John Kay
Vice Chairman	David Foster
General Secretary	David Foster
Treasurer	Brian Sankey.
Programme Secretary	Trevor Clowes
Competition Secretaries	Alison Wood and Wendy Williams
Events Secretary	Wray Douglas

Non-Executive Members David Hoyle and Bryan Averill.

It was proposed by John Dodd and seconded by Andrew Charlesworth that the list of officers be elected en-bloc and the motion was carried unopposed.

John Dodd raised a vote of thanks to David Nicholls in recognition of his fronting the club's activities for the preceding ten years and also to Bryan and Andrew for progressing our competition activities in a superb way and welcomed John, Alison and Wendy to their new roles in committee.

8 Amendments to the Club Constitution

Proposal 1

In order to make committee meetings more manageable and more easily accommodated, it was proposed that the number of non-executive members be reduced from six to two.

The chairman pointed out that since the constitution was produced there has been an increase in the number of executive officers.

Jean Kay spoke in support of the motion and pointed out that the additional option already existed to co-opt members should the need arise.

The motion was proposed for adoption by John Dodd and seconded by Wray Douglas and carried unopposed.

Proposal 2

It was proposed that the season be extended to run until the end of May rather than end at the end of April, as was now the case to come into line with many other clubs within the L&CPU.

Bryan Averill could see benefits in terms of the logistics of resourcing the Five Towns competition which traditionally is held at the end of May, but is currently being considered for being re-located to a different period of the year.

Jack Boston made an impassioned plea for more true photographic content and activity within the programme as distinct from computer technology items.

In supporting the proposal Roslyn Walmsley suggested that photographic outings rather than club room activities should form the basis of the extended programme.

John Dodd built on this suggestion in the belief that rain or shine there are photographic opportunities in the local vicinity.

John Wornell strongly supported utilising the extension for the inclusion of photographic excursions.

The motion was proposed for adoption by Jean Kay and seconded by John Dodd and carried unanimously.

9 Subscriptions for the 2010/2011 Season

The treasurer's recommendation to maintain the current membership subscription fee without change was proposed for adoption by Wray Douglas and seconded by Valerie Gibson. The motion was carried unanimously.

Membership fees Single Member £35 Couple £50 Visitor £2 per night.

10 Announcement of Competition Awards

The chairman offered congratulations to all of the winners mentioned in the competition Secretaries report.

Unfortunately there had been a delay in the printing of the winner's certificates and presentations would have to be performed at a later date.

11 Any Other Business.

Andrew invited more members to post their images on the website gallery, as we are only using a fraction of the capacity which we have paid for. Also he reminded existing exhibitors that they were welcome to update their current postings.

Submissions of up to thirty images would be accepted for display from any member. Image file names are to include a numbering sequence by the author to determine the order of display.

Paul Topham indicated that as he had stood down from committee, he had brought along the laptop computer and digital projector luggage item, which he had cared for and accommodated, and now wished to pass back to the new committee's care.

John Kay took possession until such time as new equipment monitors were agreed at the next committee meeting. Brian confirmed that the club's insurance allowed storage of the equipment at private residences.

Alison revealed that the ballot for the set subject competition title in the 2011/12 season resulted in the selection of "Book, Film or Song Title" as the set subject.

The programme secretary pointed out that there would be two nights in the next programme set aside as self help to address member's problems. The intention was to provide the opportunity for members to identify photographic problem areas and also for members to pass on quick tip solutions to problems which they had resolved. To facilitate and ensure the relevance of the sessions a form will be made available as soon as possible on the web site, for members to use to provide their input and a small number of printed forms are available for those who do not have internet access.

Bryan Averill informed that the Five Towns Competition on the 11th May was to be hosted by the Whitchurch club at the Whitchurch C of E Infant School, Station Road, SY13 1RT and that the judge would be Tilman Kleinmans.

The chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm and reiterated his welcome to the incoming chairman and wished him good luck.