

Brighton and Hove Camera Club
Minutes of Committee Meeting
28 March 2012
Dave Gerrard's Place

Members Present

David Gerrard (President)	John Francis (Treasurer)
Tony Crowther (Secretary)	Colleen Slater
Jerry Webb	Ant Hunt
Paul Stillman	

1 Welcome and apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Tony Bowall (Vice-President), Steve Boyle, Norman Atkinson, Claude Lester and Rod Orrell.

2 Actions from previous meeting

Job Descriptions – David Gerrard confirmed he had received the job description for Competition Organiser, Website Co-ordinator and Projection Team. The Summer Programme and Exhibition Organiser posts were awaited and it was pointed out that we needed also to request job descriptions from the organisers of the Distinction Group, the Workshops and the Entry Group. Paul Stillman agreed to prepare a draft for the workshop post and David Gerrard said he would speak to Tony Bowall about the Distinctions group and to Audrey Marshall and Jean Gerrard regarding the Entry Group.

PS
DG

Library – Ant Hunt reported that he and Claude Lester had made an initial selection of books. Books that were in poor condition or seriously out-of-date would be disposed of. The remainder could either be auctioned off at the club or given to a charity shop. There was, however, an issue regarding books donated to the club, often following presentations at the club by their photographer authors. Ant said he would assess the extent of the disposal “problem” and report back to the committee with a proposal.

AH

Early Leaving Notice – Jerry Webb confirmed he had produced the necessary notice and had e-mailed it to Claude Lester for printing.

CL

Archive Update – Steve Boyle sent a report to the meeting confirming he had met with Colin Miller and they had identified a set of images worthy of consideration for the archive. Colin had emailed these to a select group of interested members and asked them to vote on those they felt deserved a place in the archive. Steve said there had been some technical problems but that they had been resolved. Colin was awaiting all of the votes. Steve explained that the images had been selected from club competitions and exhibitions and that, as the season was not complete, further images may be identified before the Summer.

SB
(CM)

Steve also reported that Colin was arranging a visit to the archive to establish the condition of the digital work which may need reprinting/copying

David Miles Trophy – David Gerrard advised the committee that he had spoken to Sue Miles about the use of her donation to purchase mount-cutting equipment and that she had agreed that it would be an appropriate memorial. David agreed to purchase the equipment before the summer. DG

The committee expressed some concern over the procedure for lending this equipment and ensuring it's safe return. After discussion it seemed most likely that tracking the loans by using the members lists held at the sign-in desk may be wisest. Committee

John Francis also felt that there was some justification in trying to find some kind of protective case for the items.

Display Frame Modification - Steve Boyle sent a note regarding the cost of modifying the display frames. He confirmed that modification is feasible for their use in our present club room. The material cost would be about £20. However, permission would be needed, from the management of the Methodist Hall, to drill, plug and screw fix 4 hooks into the wall a few inches below ceiling height to hang the rack. These issues were discussed and it was decided that the existing panels could be used for this purpose if sited on one side of the room (rather than at the front). It was decided to test this at the next print competition. AH

Rattletales – David Gerrard confirmed this project was now included in the Summer Programme.

Briefing document for judges – Jerry Webb reported that Peter Charnaud had e-mailed a copy of the briefing notes to him and he would forward to all committee members. JW

Scheduling of non-photographer judge – Jerry Webb agreed to send some possible dates to Colleen Slater who, in turn, would discuss these with Eileen Flynn. JW
CS

Scheduling of Summer Programme Photographs – Jerry Webb confirmed this had been agreed for 23 October 2012. The meeting, however, needs planning. The committee felt Leo Jago was the most appropriate person to take this on and Tony Crowther agreed to contact him about this. TC

Attendance figures – Colleen Slater confirmed she had sent the attendance figures to David Gerrard. David had found some problems with them and needed to clarify these before he could attempt an analysis. When this had been done he would distribute to the committee. DG

3 Treasurer's Report

John Francis presented an interim Statement of Accounts for the current year. These indicate we have increased our cash balance by about £2000 which will be closer to £1500 by the end of the year. On the basis of this John recommended no increase in the member's subscription for next year.

John also explained that our bank, the Co-operative Bank, was changing its security arrangements and required the club to formally accept their new terms and conditions. The committee was specifically asked to agree to the use of The Co-

operative Bank Customer Services Terms and Conditions, a copy of which was produced at the meeting. It was understood these were in addition to the Terms and Conditions in our main business account and that our mandate with the bank would continue unaffected. The committee considered these and agreed to them.

4 Workshops

Paul Stillman discussed his intention of including workshops in the 2012 programme. There was some discussion about what should be included, what skills we were able to offer and what facilities would be required. All were enthusiastic about the idea and several committee members made it known that they would be interested in being involved as tutors. Paul agreed to contact members to discover whether there were any who would be prepared to contribute their knowledge and experience. Paul also agreed to identify a list of possible workshops. It was pointed out that typically copy for the programme booklet has to be confirmed by late June at the latest so the workshops need to have been finalised before then.

PS

5 Summer Programme

David Gerrard reported that the Summer Programme events had now been placed on the club website and that members were able to register for them online. He was, however, somewhat concerned that relatively few members had actually signed-up for anything. He said he would send an e-mail to the membership reminding them of the summer programme and advising them of how to register.

DG

6 Review of Club Officials 2012/2013

Tony Crowther suggested that in preparation for the AGM on May 8, it would be wise to ensure that all official posts in the club were actually staffed. The list of current officials was checked and the following changes noted.

1. Jerry Webb was standing down as a Committee Member. Nominations were currently being sought for this position.
2. Anthony Hunt was standing down from being Front-of-House Organiser. Andre Jolley had agreed to take this on but felt he needed a "deputy". Ant had suggested Tony Knight may be interested.
3. Peter Charnaud was standing down from being Competition Convenor. Ant Hunt had agreed to take on this position.
4. Rod Orrell was standing down from being Programme Secretary. Jerry Webb had agreed to take on this position.

In addition there was some vagueness about the future intentions of some members who had not been to club meetings in recent months. These included Rich Cutler and Paul Kondritz. Ant Hunt agreed to speak to Paul and David Gerrard to speak to Rich.

AH
DG

In discussing the roles of the officials the contribution of John Hazard was again acknowledged and David Gerrard proposed John should be made an Honorary Member of the club. This was agreed unanimously and will commence from the beginning of the 2012/2013 season.

7 AGM Planning

Tony Crowther presented an updated agenda for the AGM on May 8 which was accepted as suitable for the meeting. It will be distributed to members by e-mail and copies will be available on the evening of the meeting.

Tony Crowther confirmed that he had not received any nominations for the vacant committee position.

9 AOB

A discussion took place on the manner whereby our competitions were graded. Some members felt the four grades, Gold, Silver, Bronze and "Pass" were not serving a useful purpose. There was particular concern about the over-use of Gold and the inconsistent or reluctant use of Pass. Some members felt more steps were needed; a 1 to 7 or 1 to 10 scale, perhaps.

The discussion was inconclusive and committee members were asked to come to the next meeting with concrete proposals for any change they felt would help the grading be more of a positive stimulus to photographers entering competitions.

Committee

Date of next meeting 7.30 on Wednesday, 6 June 2012 at Dave Gerrard's place.