



CAMRA NORTH DEVON

Minutes of the Branch Meeting held on Saturday 18th October, 2009 at 1.00pm in the Seven Stars, Winkleigh.

Present

Morris Elsworth (Chairman)	Bob Goddard
Terry Burrows (Secretary & Membership)	Brenda Goddard
Trish Burrows (Treasurer and Minutes)	Trish Hampson
Dave Budd (Pubs Officer)	Clive Hampson
Chris Franks (Press Officer & Social Sec.)	Dave Anderson
Phil Rogers	Sandra Anderson
Chris Smyth	Martin Lovett
Jackie Smyth	Margaret Lovett
	Adam Bunting (Guest)

1. Apologies for absence

Fiona Elsworth, Mick Gullick, Trevor Nash, Sarah-Jane Prew, Dave Glasscock, Charlotte Goddard, Allan Stephenson, Nigel Davis, Stuart McGuinness, Dave Adshead, Geoff Spicer, Barbara Spicer.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

- The Minutes of the brief meeting in September had been circulated and were accepted as being correct.

3. Matters Arising

- Outstanding actions from Branch Meeting in September are:
 - 3A – See Social Secretary's report in Agenda item 4.
 - 3B – Nigel Davies was not present and the production of a Database Survey Form is ongoing. **ACTION**.

4. Branch Officials' Reports

- Morris asked Margaret Lovett to update the meeting on Mick Gullick's latest medical condition. The Branch has sent a suitable card offering any help and assistance to Mick and his mother.
- Mail Outs:
 - Guidelines for on line publishing of GBG entries.
 - Motion 11 at the Members weekend to extend the 'What's On' section of What's Brewing newspaper not feasible after investigation. Questionnaire to be returned to Sarah Durham. **ACTION**
 - Real Ale in a Bottle (RAIB) retail award.
 - Window sticker initiative in October for pubs serving Real Cider. List of ciders that CAMRA does not recognise as being 'Real'.
 - GBG National Database feedback to Emma Haines by 19th October. **ACTION**

- Liaison with Pub Companies. No feedback has been received by CAMRA HQ. To our knowledge North Devon Branch does not have any pub companies located within its area.
- Real Ale Campaigner of the Year.
- Correct use of Temporary Membership cards.
- Sustainable Communities Act. Update and call for feedback. Although contact was initially made by the Branch with local MPs and Councils, no request to join any Citizen's Panel or Representative Group has been received.
- Article by Patrick McCaig from Otter Brewery in Western Morning News, where he asks his children what they think makes a good pub.
- Campaign Update:
 - 100,000th member celebration merchandise available.
 - JD Wetherspoons £20 Membership real ale voucher scheme to continue until October 2010 at least.
 - 'Beer Heads' campaign has run its course and a new membership campaign is being investigated.
 - National Cask Ale week will take place again over Easter 2010. SIBA will also be involved next year.
 - CAMRA HQ is interested in any celebrity photographed drinking real ale or promoting/saving a pub. Terry informed the meeting that he could send some photos of the Heddon Valley beer festival at the Hunters Inn which included one showing the owner David Orton sitting with BBC horse racing presenter Clare Balding. Agreed. **ACTION**
 - The Beer Tie – Super complaint submitted. Result expected soon.
 - LocAle – Nearly 90 Branches now running schemes.
 - Government has launched consultation proposing revocation of Land Agreements Exclusion Order.
 - Punch Taverns and Enterprise Inns have publicly agreed to cease imposing restrictive covenants preventing sold or closed pubs being used to sell alcohol in future.
 - BMA Under the Influence Report - CAMRA oppose the demonisation of alcohol and changes which will punish responsible drinkers.
 - Expenses – Guidance has been given to Branches on claiming expenses.
- Secretary – No report.
- Treasurer circulated latest financial report.
- Membership Secretary – New Membership Computer System to be activated by February 2010.
- Pubs Officer – No report but Terry informed members present of a web site that showed the following pubs in our Branch area as being up for sale: Globe Inn, Beaford; North Country, Barnstaple; Red Lion, Exbourne; Fountain, Okehampton; Plume of Feathers, Okehampton; New Inn, Roborough; Devil's Stone Inn, Shebbear; Kings Arms, Winkleigh.
- Social Secretary – The social planned for 31st October on the Rail Ale Trail has been cancelled. Re-scheduled for 23rd January 2010 when we hope to travel on a Tarka Line train from Barnstaple Station at 9.45 am and stopping at Exeter St. Davids and Topsham for some food and drink.
- Morris brought forward agenda item 8 concerning an e-mail received from Bob Goddard mentioning a letter from the licensees of the Portsmouth Arms who are complaining about the Rail Ale Trail. The complaint surrounds the lack of opportunity for Rail Ale users to actually visit the pubs mentioned in the brochure. Morris Action letter to rail ale trail. Proposed by Tricia Hampson. Seconded by Chris Smyth. Vote carried unanimously.

5. Pubs Database

- Nigel Davis not present.

6. BLO Reports

- Barum – Nothing new to report.
- Clearwater – Nothing new to report.
- Country Life – Nothing new to report.
- Forge – Trouble with beer exploding in the Summer. New beer brewed named ‘IPA’
- Jollyboat – Nothing new to report.
- Wizard - Nothing new to report.
- Cider - Stickers available from CAMRA HQ for pubs serving real cider.

7. Good Beer Guide (GBG)

- 2011 Nominations:
 - Seven Stars, Winkleigh – carried forward as 1st reserve.
 - Lacey’s Ale & Cider House, Bideford – carried forward as 2nd reserve.
 - Red Lion, Exbourne – Morris & Fiona.
 - Pig on the Hill, Pusehill, Westward Ho! – Trish & Terry.
 - Blue Ball Inn, Countisbury – South Herts member by e-mail.
 - Mariners Arms, Braunton – Dave Budd who would like other members to visit.
 - Kings Arms, South Molton – Nigel Davis.
 - Seven Stars, South Tawton – Keith Freak.
 - New Inn, Sampford Courtenay – Terry Burrows.
 - Kings Arms, Winkleigh – Trish Burrows.
 - Torridge Inn, Black Torrington – Chris Franks
 - Fox & Goose, Parracombe – Chris Franks
 - Three Pigeons, Bishops Tawton – Chris Franks
 - Hele Billys’, Hele, Ilfracombe – Chris Franks
 - Westleigh, Instow – West Midlands member by e-mail
- Suggestion from Dave Budd and Phil Rogers that the Branch POTY Judging form should also be used to score GBG entries, so that the top pubs are chosen with a degree of objectivity. Proposed by Chris Franks. Seconded by Tricia Hampson. Vote carried unanimously.

8. Beer Festivals

- Thursday 29th to Saturday 31st October, Okehampton RFC 125th Year Anniversary Beer Festival. Free entry for CAMRA members on the Thursday on production of membership card, including a Country & Western evening.

9. Any Other Business

- New Brewery called Fremington produced an ale called Puffin. Apparently brewed by ex-brewer from Dawlish Brewery. Monitor progress and report to BLC if necessary.
- Newly agreed judging form for GBG entries to be circulated with the minutes. **ACTION**
- POTY 2010 nominations to be received by November meeting date. Nomination forms distributed.

10. Date and venue of next meetings

- Saturday 14th November 2009, Brief Meeting/Social, 12.30pm, Rydon Inn, Holsworthy, EX22 7HU.
- Saturday 5th December 2009 (**NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**), Branch Christmas Social and beer tasting quiz with Exeter & East Devon Branch, 12.30pm, Tom Copley Tavern, Spreyton, EX17 5AL. Price held at £12 per person.

- Saturday 23rd January 2010, Branch Social, 9.30am, Barnstaple Tarka Line Railway Station. Details to be confirmed.
- Saturday 13th February 2010, Branch Meeting, 12.30pm, Lacey's Ale and Cider House, Bideford, EX39 2BU. To decide GBG 2011 entries.
- Saturday 13th March 2010, Branch AGM, Town Arms, South Molton, EX36 3BU.

Action List

No.	Action	Who?
3A	Produce a database survey form for members to update entries on the Branch Pubs Database.	Nigel Davis
4A	Reply to Sarah Durham re 'What's On' section of What's Brewing.	Terry
4B	Reply to Emma Haines with feedback for the GBG National Database.	Terry
4C	Send photo showing Clare Balding at the Heddon Valley beer festival to CAMRA HQ.	Terry
9A	Circulate newly designed Branch GBG Judging Form with minutes.	Terry