



ST IVES PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

MINUTES OF 2018/19 AGM

Time and Date: 8.00 pm; 30th April 2019

Attendees:

Office and Committee Members:

| Role | Name |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| President | Steve Laws |
| Vice-President | Brian Sibley |
| Treasurer | Peter Wills |
| Secretary | Tim Norman |
| Programme Secretary | Mark Hudson |
| Competition Secretary | Alice Kendrick |
| Asst. Comp. Secretary, Prints | Hayley Howatt |
| Equipment Office | Jonathan Sayer |

Together with 20 Club Members

Apologies for absence from: Nick Kirk, Judy King, Debbie Hall, Bobbie Zajkowski, Don Ives, Ivan Barrett, Richard Berridge, Ise Berridge, Naomi Peel, Steve Tyrell and Gary Dean.

1 Minutes of last AGM of 1st May 2018

Minutes produced by Stephen Laws last year were formally approved by the members.

2 Matters Arising

None

3 President's Report

Steve presented his report (see [Annual Report 2019](#)) highlighting that a new set of club officers had worked effectively to deliver the 2018/19 programme.

One of the biggest challenges had been a decline in membership and he delivered Debbie Hall's membership report. This report records that membership has dropped from a peak of 81 members last season to 54 this year, which was closer to the average over previous years. When new members were taken into account more than 30 people had not renewed their membership and further

encouragement is required to attract new members. It was announced that the way in which membership will be renewed will change next year with a pre-populated form to be provided to members for them to confirm, including in relation to GDPR.

With respect to the programme, Steve thanked Ian Montgomery and Anthony Hans for putting together a full and interesting summer programme last year. Some talks during the winter programme were excellent and a note will be taken of those that were less interesting for future reference.

The Club's presence in external competitions has increased this year, with some improvement in results, particularly in relation to DPIs. Prints continue to be a challenge and further thought needs to be given to how production of good prints can be encouraged.

Steve thanked the Interprint team, newly led by Alice Kendrick, for the successful delivery of the 37th Interprint Competition.

Steve also thanked the Committee for its work during the year and Tony Barraclough for his regular production of the Club newsletter. He encouraged all members to get involved with the Club and its activities.

Steve then announced Alice Kendrick as new club member of the Year for her work as Competition Secretary.

Steve invited questions and comments. Anthony Barraclough noted that some clubs encourage feedback on speakers. There was wide agreement that this would be useful and some discussion about how this could be achieved in practice. **Action: Karen Laws to implement a system to record feedback on sessions involving external speakers.**

4 Treasurer's Report

Peter presented his report (see [Link]) and highlighted the profit of £1,212.82 for the year. Club assets have increased to over £16,000 and Peter proposed that membership fees be frozen at the current level for the coming season and that a further £1,000 be transferred to the savings account.

Stan Mace and Ian Montgomery asked for clarifications on some items of expenditure and Peter provided an explanation of each of these.

Steve Laws proposed that the accounts be accepted and a majority of members accepted them.

5 Competition Secretary's Report

Alice presented her report (see [Annual Report 2019](#)) and highlighted a good season of internal competitions and mixed results for the externals.

Alice thanked Naomi Peel and Hayley Howatt for their assistance and Steve Eeley and Graham for Shirra for their advice and support.

Alice provided details on the winners of each competition, noting that, this year, each competition was won by a different member.

It was noted that the number of print entries has declined and that this is an issue for many external competitions. Further thought needed to encourage more print submissions.

Alice noted the difficulties with the FFP online submission platform and that discussions with the developer of that software indicated that improvements were unlikely. Over the summer an alternative solution would be trialled.

It was noted that the club had entered 6 external competitions which was higher than previous years. Some of these have been closely fought and the Club should be pleased with its performance, although there is room for further improvement.

Alice noted that Interprint had been run for many years by Gary Dean with help from other members, This year its organisation was brought into the Committee and was successfully delivered with the help of a large number of members.

There were no questions.

6 Re-Election of Club Officers

Nomination of Peter Wills for re-election in the position of Honorary Treasurer.

The majority of members accepted re-election.

7 Election of Committee Members

Nomination of Jonathan Sayer for the position of Equipment Officer.

Nomination of Naomi Peel for the position of Assistant Competition Secretary External

Nomination of Hayley Howatt for the position of Assistant Competition Secretary Prints

All nominations were accepted by a majority of the members.

8 Proposals

1. Proposal B.1 Proposal for E-Membership Option
2. Proposal B.2 Rule 5.3 Annual Competition
3. Proposal B.3 Rule 5.3 Annual Competition
4. Proposal B.4 Rule 5.2 Quartet Competition
5. Proposal B.5 Rule 5.4 Monochrome Trophy
6. Proposal B.6 External Competition
7. Proposal B.7 Allow prints to be used twice in the monthly competitions

Proposal B.1 Proposal for E-Membership Option

Brian Sibley outlined the proposal and the need for the new form of membership.

Tony Cole supported the proposal and asked whether it was possible to contact recent members to offer them the opportunity to re-join on this basis. Brian confirmed that, providing we complied with GDPR requirements, then yes we can.

Anthony Barraclough asked whether e-members would receive the newsletter. Brian confirmed that they would. Jonathan Sayer clarified that they would still need to give approval for the use of their images.

Jonathan Sayer and Tony Cole suggested that e-members could still be allowed to attend some meetings for free and Ray Houghton proposed that this be limited to specific meetings and suggested the James Bunn lecture. There was wide agreement for this proposal, provided it was limited to a few meetings, such as the first meeting of the year and the James Bunn Lecture.

Jason Archontides asked if e-members would be able to participate in critique evenings. Brian confirmed that this was not included in the proposal.

Peter Wills noted that management of the membership scheme would be assisted as all members are required to sign in prior to each meeting.

The proposal for e-membership including 2 free visits (1st meeting of the year and the James Bunn Lecture) was put to the members and a majority voted in favour.

Action: committee to implement e-membership option for past and future members.

Proposal B.2 Rule 5.3 Annual Competition, and Proposal B.3 Rule 5.3 Annual Competition

Steve proposed that proposals B.2 and B.3 be considered together as they both relate to the configuration of the Annual Competition. Andrew Chitty was invited to outline proposal B.2 which is to reduce the number of categories entrants are required to submit images for and Anthony Barraclough who proposed that the number of categories was increased.

There was discussion of the proposals and several members confirmed that the current requirement to submit 5 images from different categories was inhibiting their participation for one reason or another.

Alice Kendrick suggested that a requirement for fewer entries could encourage more people to enter, particularly in relation to prints. On the categories used in the Annual Competition she noted that these were based on RPS categories and it was felt that alignment with these was beneficial.

Several members noted that the categories were already quite broad and that images in some of the new categories proposed in proposal B.3 could already be submitted in existing categories, although others disagreed and highlighted examples of where this was not possible.

Rob Slusar proposed an Open category where an image of any kind could be submitted. Alice Kendrick responded though to point out that most of the Club's competitions are open and that the purpose of the Annual Competition is to try to compare photographs of similar topics.

There was discussion about whether the definitions of categories could be reviewed, but it was noted that this was not one of the proposals that members were being asked to consider at this AGM.

Steve invited members to vote on different options and a clear majority voted in favour of reducing the number of entries from 5 to 4 within the existing categories.

Action: update competition rule 5.3.1 to reduce required number of entries from 5 to 4

Proposal B.4 Rule 5.2 Quartet Competition

Andrew Chitty was invite to discuss his proposal to the Quartet Competition. He noted that the way in which DPIs and prints are treated in this competition is different, although the rules indicate that they should be the same.

There was discussion about how DPIs and prints are treated, noting the practical differences between the 2 mediums. It was agreed that there is a difference in how judges treat a panel of DPIs and a panel of prints and that the rules should be clarified. This could be implemented without a need for a rule change and so no vote was required.

Action: Committee to initiate a clarification of the rules relating to the treatment of DPIs and prints in the Quartet competition.

Proposal B.5 Rule 5.4 Monochrome Trophy

Andrew Chitty was invited to describe his proposal for a change to the rules to the Monochrome Trophy to allow the inclusion of images that scored less than 20 in other competitions and to allow new work to be entered.

There was discussion about the origins of this competition, which is different in nature to other competitions run by the Club. In this case the aim is to look for the 'best of the best' monochrome images submitted during the year. The judge for this competition is not asked to comment or mark entries, just to pick the image they consider to be the best from those presented.

It was noted that it would be possible to increase the score range for qualifying images to those receiving 18 or more during the year and members were asked to vote on this option. This proposal was passed by a majority vote.

Action: Committee to amend and clarify qualifying criteria for the Monochrome Trophy to include images scoring 18 or above during the year.

Proposal B.6 External Competition

Andrew Chitty was invited to describe his proposal which was for the Club to pay for the production of prints used in external competitions. It was noted that there are some excellent DPI images which might be used in external competitions if the authors were able to recoup the cost of producing a print version.

Alice Kendrick noted that the Club would already reimburse members if a DPI image was identified that could be submitted to an external competition only as a print. Many members were unaware of this option.

Tony Cole pointed out that he, and other members, were willing to assist other members to prepare and mount prints.

As support is already available, it was decided that a vote was not required.

Proposal B.7 Allow prints to be used twice in the monthly competitions

Stan Mace was invited to describe his proposal which is to enable prints to be used more than once in competitions. Alice Kendrick pointed out that this was already the case and it was clarified that the proposal relates to re-use in the monthly competition.

There was discussion about how this would work in practice and it was noted that the general issue of reusing images had been considered and voted upon at a recent AGM.

The proposal was put to the vote and rejected by a majority.

9 AOB

Peter Wills suggested that in light of the discussions during the evening that it would be helpful to clarify when and how images could be used in different competitions. This was a matter for the Committee to discuss and action as appropriate.

Brian Sibley thanked Steve Laws for his efforts this year.

The meeting closed at 22:05.

Tim Norman
Secretary St Ives Photographic Club
30th April 2019