ST IVES
PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING – 29th MAY 2024 at 19.30 hrs

Venue: 53 Dartmoor Drive, Huntingdon

Present:

Graham Shirra	President
Brian Sibley	Communications Officer/Vice President
Jennifer Horn	Secretary
Nicky Cope	Membership Secretary
Steve Eeley	Programme Secretary
Aliette Bretel	Programme Secretary
Jonathan Sayer	Equipment Officer

1. **Apologies for absence**: Louisa Christie, Paul Dobson
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** (6th March 2024) were approved.
3. **Matters arising**
   All matters arising completed including presentation of awards at annual dinner. Photographs of award winners were included in newsletter.
   Nicky requested copies. **Jonathan**
4. **Matters arising from AGM**

4.1. Louisa was appointed as Internal Competitions Secretary but, as Louisa is also Treasurer Nicky and Louisa have agreed to share organising internal competitions, each organising alternate months.

5. **Vacant Committee Posts**

5.1. Vice President: Brian has agreed to stand in as Vice President for the time being but a replacement must be found before the next AGM. **Graham**

5.2. External Competitions Secretary: Steve offered to act as External Competitions Secretary if Aliette could take over more of the programme work. They agreed to get together to organise. (Steve and Nicky outlined the club's participation in external competitions for the benefit of new committee members.) **Steve, Aliette**

5.3. Note: all emails relating to external competitions should be forwarded to Steve. Brian will create a specific email address for Steve to use as external competitions secretary. **Brian**

6. **President's Report (Graham)** Not much to report as yet as new president just getting started.

6.1.1. Graham summarised club way of working – email, WhatsApp and Dropbox for new committee members and also explained membership of EAF (East Anglian Federation of

Photographic Societies) which is a member of PAGB (the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain). PAGB can be used to find/book judges and speakers but each user of the scheme has to register personally.

6.1.2. Committee members should use the SIPC email addresses rather than personal ones whenever possible.

6.1.3. Brian will send out invitation to join DropBox to those not yet with access. DropBox is used mainly for key documents such as agendas, minutes, club rules, etc. (not photos which take up too much of the free storage).

6.1.4. All committee members now have access to club WhatsApp.

6.1.5. If an email is to be circulated to all club members, sent it to Brian for distribution.

6.1.6. Email address for all committee members is committee@stives-photoclub.org.uk

7. Finance (Louisa in absentia)

7.1. Louisa reported she had a meeting with Peter and received all the treasurer's files from him. She hasn't room to store all so Graham will keep some in his garage (legally need to keep for 6 years so will retain last 7 years). Should retain information on last grant which was received to purchase projector as this may be needed if applying for another grant. Information will be put in DropBox. **Graham, Jonathan**

7.2. Need to sort signatures for SIPC Cambridge Building Society account – remember to remove Mark Human from list. **Louis, Graham, Brian**

7.3. Louisa will investigate free accounting software package offered by Lloyds which might be easier to use. **Louisa**

8. Programme

8.1. **Summer Programme (Brian)** – reported all in hand, unfortunately 1st had to be cancelled due to wet weather, 7 people already booked on walk on Tuesday 4th June.

8.1.1. Studio session has now been organised by Stuart Turnbull for 14th September, mentioned on Facebook, Brian asked to set up event for members to register interest. **Brian**

8.1.2. Another possible visit suggested by Peter Hayward for a photo walk to the back of Houghton Grange. Add to summer programme. **Brian**

8.1.3. Organisation of BBQ on 22nd June needs finalising. Repeat last year's arrangements, members bring own food, club supplies the means of cooking it. Steve has burger buns in his freezer if required.

8.2. **Main Programme (Steve)** - copy attached

8.2.1. Estimated cost about £1000. Including fees and expenses. Expenses can be high due to size of EAF area.

8.2.2. The EAF are holding an Awards for Photograph Merit advisory day workshop supported by the PAGB on 1st September at Foxton Village Hall which may be of interest to members and this should be promoted on our Facebook page as soon as possible. The workshop they are holding on 3rd November is for new or existing judges. **Brian**

8.2.3. Graham mentioned that the EAF also hold an annual exhibition for which club members may enter their work, however SIPC members have not shown interest in entering recently, possibly because of the location, Wingfield Barns which is both remote and difficult to find. However in May 2025 the venue will be in Bury St Edmunds. As this is much more convenient, SIPC members might be encouraged to enter this year.

8.2.4. The attached programme shows 4 possible in club events and 4 void dates. Steve will fit these together as and when convenient unless something better comes up. **Steve**

8.2.5. As we cannot use the church for the evening meeting on 4th March 2025, an outside photo session was suggested. Nicky suggested a visit to Cambridge, perhaps meeting at the Park and Ride and using the guided bus.

8.2.6. Brian asked Aliette to chase speakers 2 weeks in advance, and also to ask them for a photo to promote their talk (if Steve hasn't got one already)> **Aliette**

8.2.7. Brian suggested a change of dates within the programme -
Move the London Salon to the 14th January, the Equipment evening to the 10th December and hold the Knockout Competition on 18the February. This change was approved.

9. Competitions

9.1. Internal Competitions

Louisa has updated entry system ready for next season. Louisa will do one month then Nicky will take the computer home to do the next one, etc. Graham mentioned he had the second laptop so they could have one each (if the second one is shown to be working OK).

9.2. **External Competitions**

Already partly discussed (see para 5.2)

9.2.1. Graham mentioned that the Cambridge Camera Club inter-club digital competition details are issued towards end of summer but with a tight deadline. However last year they struggled to get enough entries.

9.2.2. Nicky will pass on the information she has on external competition details and rules to Steve.**Nicky**

10. Events

10.1. Annual Exhibition

10.1.1. Still need to choose date and book church. 1st/2nd or 8th/9th November best avoiding the choir booking. (Ask Tom Lane if he knows choir date).
Who will organise? Nicky offered to do annual exhibition as long as she is **not** doing Interprint.

10.1.2. Brian to contact church and choose 8/9th Nov. if available and advise Graham when confirmed and will also check if van man is available to move boards. (Debbie or Louisa will have van man contact details). **Brian**

10.1.3. Yet to be decided if we will charge for entry to exhibition - agreed to discuss later, Jonathan, Brian and Nicky suggested an entry fee of £1. Although Steve questioned if that would put visitors off – perhaps instead suggest a donation of £1.?

Discuss at latest at October Committee meeting

10.2. Interprint

Last year the Interprint event didn't make a loss but the profit was much smaller than before due to the smaller number of clubs entering. (about 25 out of 100 eligible). Graham organised last year and offered to do so again provided he has help with projection etc. on the day. **Graham**

11. Communications (Brian)

11.1. The web site has now been moved to IONOS, so domain name, site and email are all with same provider. All new committee members now have emails and Brian will create one for Steve for external competitions. The web site has been updated following AGM adding updated rules, this year's categories for annual competition and president's challenge and updated membership fee. Brian will email about setting up a social team. Brian asked for people to keep updating him on any coming events for regular postings.

12. Membership (Nicky)

12.1. Nicky reported that she had not yet had a meeting with Debbie but already has a lot of the information necessary to take over as Membership Secretary. **Nicky, Debbie**

12.2. Nicky is planning a new member meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at the Golden Lion prior to the regular meeting to welcome new members and have a chance to tell them about the club and answer any questions. **Nicky**

12.3. Nicky will be sending out membership renewal forms shortly with information based on what was sent out last year. She would like to add a tick box to ask if members are happy to have their images used in external competitions. It was agreed this would help the external competition secretary. **Nicky**

13. Equipment (Jonathan)

13.1. Do we want to replace laptops now? Will shortly be necessary to have Windows 11.

13.2. Also do we want to replace the projector? Ours is "a bit long in the tooth" and better ones are available with better contrast ratio in projected images. (We currently have a spare projector but it is not very good.)

13.3. Brian though at least one new laptop most urgent and suggested purchasing one now and using the better of the two we have as the spare.

13.4. It was agreed to buy one suitable laptop now (estimated cost between £1500. and £1800.) and defer decision on projector and maybe consider applying for a grant for second laptop and projector. Meanwhile Jonathan said best available type of projector is by Epson and he will re-check approximate costs. **Brian, Jonathan**

13.5. A replacement screen was discussed but a suitable one has not been found.

13.6. Also discussed replacement exhibition boards but ones of a similar size are no longer available. Graham asked the committee to keep a look out at any exhibitions attended to see what other clubs were using. **All**

14. Any Other Business

14.1. None

15. Date and venue of next meeting(s)

15.1. It was agreed to hold committee meeting alternately at Graham and Nicky's homes.
Graham, 53 Dartmoor Drive, Huntingdon
Nicky, 17 High Street Needingworth

15.2. Dates set (all Wednesday evenings):

before next season	21st August
before exhibition	2nd October
before Christmas social	4th December
before Interprint	22nd January
before AGM	5th March

The meeting closed at 9. 35pm

Minutes taken by Jennifer Horn