ST IVES
PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

MINUTES of Committee Meeting held on 15th October, 2025 at 7.30pm, location Mark Hudson's house

Present: Graham Shirra, Mark Hudson, Nigel Sandbrook, Nicky Cope, Brian Sibley and Jennifer Horn

1. Apologies for absence received from Louisa Christie, Gary Dean and Jonathan Sayer.
2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 12th August 2025 - taken as read.
3. Matters arising 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 both dealt with.
4. **President's Report** – Graham said that there was not much to report so early in the season, all ticking over well; he thanked everyone for their help
5. **Treasurer's Report (Nigel)**
   Income received from membership fees - 52 members, 43 full, 7 e-members and 2 student members (3 previous members not yet paid, special arrangement for Josh who will pay over next few months, 5 previous members to be removed from members' list).
   Income also received from Interprint - 9 clubs so far.
   We have £128 in current account, £3602 in savings account plus £10K in Cambs. Building Society.
   Currently owing - £180 to pay to Free Church for room hire.
   Nigel reported that the new software system seems to be working OK.
   Only outstanding requirement, signatures still need to be finalized; Nigel has necessary forms.
   Action Nigel
6. **Programme report from Nicky.**
   Current year's programme going OK so far.
   Feedback forms look as if they will be successful.
   The summer programme review not popular, Nicky suggests maybe will not have this in next year's programme, certainly not for first meeting of the season.
   The equipment night wasn't well supported as only a few people brought equipment (although a few items sold) so maybe not repeat this either.
   Nicky has started on next year's programme, Richard Houghton (who judged St Ives/Swavesey Competition) has offered to judge one monthly comp and our annual DPI (although a little more expensive, considered a particularly good judge).
   Christmas social - Nicky asked if we should hold elsewhere with outside caterer, but this rejected as too expensive. Nicky then suggested we varied what we did at the social, something different from the quiz.
   Buddy scheme has got off to good start.
   This year Stuart Turnbull was going to do a presentation on model photography; his last two competition photo entries were rejected as they included nudity, maybe will have to change this presentation. Mark offered to do an evening on prints.
   Nicky emphasized need to push knockout night to members as we don't have entries yet.
   Action Brian
7. **Competitions**
   7.1 **Internal** (see attached report supplied by Louisa) - everyone agreed competition secretary should use her discretion as to how many DPIs or prints to cull to.
   7.2 **External** (Gary not attending) however Nicky commented Swavesey comp was a good, fun evening and Swavesey will organise something similar for next year. In Gary's absence,

Graham reported - Entries have gone in for Cambridge digital, EAF not urgent, the next external competition is the 4 way competition in December; Gary back from holiday in time to sort out our entries. Action Gary

8. **Events**

8.1 **Annual Exhibition** (30th October/1st November)
Transport - Steve has access to a van, will just ask for payment for petrol, and we now have several volunteers for lifting the boards.
8.2 **Interprint** (28th February 2026) - see attached report from Graham although now 9 clubs have paid and a couple more have said interested. He has not heard from everyone invited yet, will send a reminder. Action Graham
Pleased that Bedford are one club who have entered and paid as it has been some time since they entered.
Louisa will be available to run the presentation with Nicky's help.
Clive Tanner from Kent has been booked as judge.
Transport decision to be deferred until we see how exhibition goes although need to make sure dismantling of boards doesn't clash with arrival of visitors for presentation.

9. **Communications (Brian)**

Brian asked Nicky to request photos from speakers that he can post on social media prior to their talks. Action Nicky
Brian also asked for a short write up on the Swavesey competition evening for the newsletter as he wasn't there; Nicky will provide. Action Nicky
Nigel requested that, for the benefit of new members, the next newsletter should include detailed instructions for print delivery to exhibition Action Brian
Brian reported he has been pushing Interprint on social media.
Brian will remove members not renewing and will be setting and circulating new passwords to members. Action Brian
Web site is up to date.
9.1 **The Next Chance Bookshop Huntingdon** - Graham reported prints mounted, to be delivered tomorrow. Brian asked for a photo of the display for the newsletter when display in place in the window. Action Graham

10. **Membership** (Nicky) mostly already coved by Nigel.

New software, Nicky is putting new members on system but needs discussion with Nigel how to invoice, etc. Action Nicky/Nigel
10.1 **Potential Members' WhatsApp Group** - Brian will put something in newsletter to advise members what is going on before WhatsApp invitations sent out. Action Brian

11. **Equipment** - In Jonathan's absence Graham reported he has contacted Cambridge Photo club as they had same projector as us, but their projector has now failed, and may or may not be repairable. They have paid about £2000. for a new projector and they sent Graham a report on options considered and what they thought of the one they bought; this has been forwarded to Jonathan.
Would a new screen help with current projector? Discuss at future meeting.

12. Any other business

Cambridge camera club exhibition Monday 27th October, Graham, Jennifer and Mark will attend - JH to reply accepting invitation. Action Jennifer

13. Date and venue of next meetings

26th November at Nicky's house
21st January
4th March

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Minutes (corrected version) written by Jennifer Horn, Secretary, 17 October 2025

Internal Competition Secretary's Report October 2025

Month 1

Month 1 competition went well, but it was a long evening. It was good to see a high number of entries across both print & DPI. Newer members seem to have taken the bull by the horns & entered, which is great news. There was a good mix of genres, too.

Having said this, whatever we say to judges about time keeping, DPI seems to go on forever; we had six images (3 print & 3 DPI) removed at the last hour. If these had remained, the evening would have gone on much longer.

On the basis, we don't start until around 8.10/8.15 pm after club notices have been read out, 45/50 minutes for 26-29 prints is manageable, taking us up to roughly a 9 pm break. To then have 45+ DPIs to get through in the last 45 minutes is too many. We used to cull when it was over 50. But I think 35-40 DPIs in the second half is ample.

Colin Mills didn't use any half marks; he also didn't hold any back. When we moved him on, he did for a few images, but then reverted to at least 2 minutes per image, which is too long.

I will automatically be culling to two DPI images per person in November & see how that goes. We really want a steady pace in both halves to make it fair for both sections of the competition.

Obviously, if there is a low number of entries across both sections. I will take a view, but over the whole evening we need to be looking at 60-65.

Mix & Match with Swavesey

A very fun evening, enjoyed by all. A great format to look at quality images. One I think that should be repeated, & maybe one we could use as an in-house competition.

FFPX does have a few small quirks, which showed when we were setting up, but other than that a very enjoyable evening.

Knockout Competition 11/11/25

If this is going to be a successful evening, we need to push the event, as currently there is only one entry.

Louisa Christie
October 2025

Interprint Secretary Report

Email notifications went out to previous entrants on 29 September. As of now, we have 7 paid-up entrants (Ampthill, Cambridge, Chingford, Deepings, March, Norwich and Swavesey) plus ourselves. Another 4 (Bedford, PICO, Stevenage & Ware) have filled in the online form but haven't yet paid, and from what Colin Mill said a couple of weeks ago I am expecting to hear from Milton Keynes. Brian has also started publicising on social media. The increase in entry fee hasn't caused too many issues so far.

Graham Shirra