



TONBRIDGE CAMERA CLUB
DRAFT MINUTES FOR THE 54th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 7th May 2020
HELD IN VIRTUAL FORM VIA THE INTERNET USING 'ZOOM' SOFTWARE



1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the 54th Tonbridge CC Annual General Meeting which was being held in 'virtual form', but nevertheless provided a good opportunity to 'see' each other again. His main priorities were:

- i When and how we next meet
- ii How we maintain the club through the current difficult times and possibly during a prolonged shutdown
- iii The need to recruit a "local" PDI Secretary to enable us to hold PDI Competitions; the need to recruit External PDI and Print Secretaries to enable us to enter external competitions e.g. the Ross Cup, the Diamond Jubilee, the Orpington Challenge, the competition with Battle PS and MIPS

2a Apologies for Absence

Richard Ames, Carmel Yearwood, Dave Brooker, Brian Whiston, Brian Barkley and Nick Ryan

2b Present

Colin Burgess, Philip Smithies, Marilynne Hill, Kevin Yates, Cathie Agates, Denys Clarke, Jeremy Stock, Colin Hurley, Liz Turton, Colin Nye, Jenny Nye, John Hunt, Peter Ditchett, Barbara Baldock, Philip Easom, Jim Verona, Tony Hill, Graham Bunyan, Pam Sherrin, David Godfrey, Roger Wates, Paul Fletcher, Colin Smith, Ray Crowle, Sue Pennicott, Simon Lane, Helen Mossman, Richard Gandon, Lesley Burnand and Rabah Ichadadene

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous AGM held on 9th May 2019

These were distributed as a global email last summer and by post to members not on email. They are available in the Members' Area of the website.

Unanimous approval for these minutes was given following a proposal by Cathie Agates which was seconded by Philip Easom.

4 Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous AGM held on 9th May 2019

None

5. Reports:

No reports were read out as they had all been distributed.

The Chairman thanked everyone who had provided reports and Philip Smithies for compiling them. There were no comments from the attendees on any of them.

5.01 Chairman's Report (Colin Burgess)

5.02 Secretary's Report (Marilynne Hill)

5.03 Treasurer's Report (Kevin Yates)

Adoption of the TCC Accounts:

Proposer: Kevin Yates on behalf of the Committee Seconder: Colin Burgess

Passed unanimously.

The Treasurer elaborated on some of the points in his written report. In particular, he emphasised that financially the club was in a very good position and that the Auditor had given the club a "clean bill of health". He was grateful that he was having to process far fewer cheques than previously and that payments were being made much more quickly. Despite there being fewer members, the club was still able to report a small surplus.

The club had easily been able to afford the new projector and was strong enough financially to afford a new laptop.

He noted that lecturers were more expensive than previously but that the quality was exceptionally high – thanks to the efforts of Liz and Carmel.

The Chairman thanked Kevin for his hard work and diligence.

5.04 Print Secretary's Report (Jeremy Stock and Steve Oakes)

5.05 PDI Secretary's Report (Ann Paine)

5.06 External Print Secretary's Report (Alan Cork)

5.07 External PDI Secretary's Report (Ann Paine)

5.08 New Members' Liaison (Philip Smithies)

5.09 Image Discussion Group Report (Nick Ryan)

5.10 Enhancing your Images Group Report (Ann Paine)

The Chairman thanked Ann for her massive contribution to the group and expressed the hope that one day she would return to the club. He pointed out that no plans had been made for the continuation of the group and invited the membership to write to him and Philip with suggestions about its future.

5.11 Distinctions Group Report (Marilynne Hill)

5.12 AV Group Report (Ann Paine)

The future of this group is in doubt following the departure of Ann and Dave Brooker.

5.13 TONDIG Report (Tony Hill)

5.14 Annual Outing Report (David Godfrey)

- 5.15 *Social Secretary (David Godfrey)*
- 5.16 *Grainmakers' Report (Keith Evans)*
- 5.17 *Webmaster's Report (Kevin Yates / Philip Smithies)*
- 5.18 *Publicity Report (John Hunt)*
- 5.19 *Programme Secretary's Report (Liz Turton)*
- 5.20 *Archivist's Report (Philip Smithies)*
- 5.21 *KCPA Report (Alan Cork)*
- 5.22 *Annual Exhibition Report (Alan Cork)*
- 5.23 *Photographer of the Year (Marilynne Hill)*

6 Chairman's Review.

The Chairman thanked all the members who made such a huge contribution to the success of the club. See Appendix A.

He mentioned his personal reflections after two years of chairmanship...

- He was proud to be Chairman of a club which has gone from strength to strength with (for example) many more mini-outings, strong subgroups, terrific photography, a great deal of success externally and some great new members.
- "Strictly Come Imaging" had been an enormous success thanks to Liz Turton (who organised it), Tony Hill, Colin Hurley, Penny Skoyles and Helen Mossman – as well as the willing "guinea-pigs".
- He appreciated the camaraderie of the membership – the friendly banter but urged everyone to welcome new members.
- He was pleased to see the increased participation on the club's Facebook page with lots of new ideas and techniques being shared during the period of lockdown and urged everyone to contribute.
- He paid tribute to John Butler who died suddenly very recently and who had been an active member of the club until his death.

7 Election of Officers.

Chairman (joint):	Colin Burgess and Philip Smithies	Proposer: Keith Evans	Seconder: Liz Turton
Vice-Chairman (joint):	Cathie Agates and Denys Clarke	Proposer: David Godfrey	Seconder: Keith Evans
Secretary:	Marilynne Hill	Proposer: Keith Evans	Seconder: Carmel Yearwood
Treasurer:	Kevin Yates	Proposer: Liz Turton	Seconder: David Godfrey

All elected unanimously

8 Election of Committee.

Colin Hurley	Proposer: Colin Smith	Seconder: Marilynne Hill
Jeremy Stock	Proposer: Cathie Agates	Seconder: Carmel Yearwood
Liz Turton	Proposer: David Godfrey	Seconder: Colin Smith

All elected unanimously

9 Election of Auditor.

Tony Barnes	Proposer: Kevin Yates	Seconder: Philip Smithies
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Elected unanimously

10 Proposals by Outgoing Committee.

10.01

It is proposed that Subscriptions for 2020-2021 Season will be the rates shown in the table below:

Proposer: Kevin Yates Seconder: Colin Burgess

Membership Category	Proposed Current Members	Proposed New Members	Current
Adult	£40	£50	£53
Joint (2 at same address)	£64	£80	£88
Junior (under 18)	£4	£5	£8
Student/Jobseeker's Allowance	£12	£15	£19
Full Country Membership	£24	£30	£34
Ordinary Country Membership	£12	£15	£19
Door fees	£2	£2	£2

Rationale: We recognise that the coronavirus pandemic has had a significant financial impact upon many people, either directly or indirectly. We are also conscious that, through circumstances entirely beyond our control, we were not able to complete our current season's programme.

We are therefore proposing to REDUCE the club subscription fees for new members, and in addition to offer all current members a one-off discount of 20% for the 2020/2021 season. This discount would not apply in subsequent seasons. Although this will result in a loss of income, we have sufficient reserves available to cover that shortfall for one year and feel that it is important to

try to support our members in these financially challenging times.

In response to a question, the Treasurer said that anyone who preferred not to take advantage of the reduced fees could make a donation directly to the club.

The proposal was passed unanimously.

10.02

Proposer: Colin Burgess Seconder: Philip Smithies

Because of the limited opportunities for photography caused by the coronavirus pandemic, we are proposing to suspend for at least one season the “Themed” part of the Open Competitions in the 2020/2021 season.

Additionally, we will reinstate 5 Open PDI and 5 Open Print Competitions next season (although this assumes our programme will resume in September) and both the PDI of the Year and Print of the Year Competitions.

The proposals in 10.02 were passed by large majorities of around 90%.

Note: Unfortunately, because of the vagaries of the electronic voting system, it is not possible to give exact numbers. Two members recorded their abstentions verbally and a small number voted against.

11 Proposals received from Individual Members

None received

12 AOB

There was a debate about Honorary Memberships following a proposal from a member to award one to a colleague. It was agreed that the matter would be discussed by the new Committee.

Note from Philip Smithies: Section 3h of the Constitution states: Honorary Members may be appointed from time to time at the discretion of the Committee.

Graham Bunyan proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Committee for their hard work throughout the season.

Appendix A – Details of Section 6

Colin thanked **the Executive Officers and the rest of the Committee**

Philip Smithies – Vice-Chairman, Webmaster and Electronic archivist – and multi-tasker extraordinaire!

Kevin Yates – Treasurer working hard to keep our finances on track and up to date

Marilynne Hill – An amazing secretary who provides great support

Liz Turton (supported by **Carmel Yearwood, Mick Dudley & Cathie Agates**) – Programme Secretary:

Ann Paine (supported by **Dave Brooker**) – PDI and External PDI Secretary plus AV Group and EYI Group

Jeremy Stock & Steve Oakes – Print Secretaries:

Cathie Agates – who gives a warm welcome to everyone as our greeter

Alan Cork (supported by **John Butler & Ann Paine**) – External Print Secretary and Exhibition Organiser

‘Social ‘Secretaries’:

Paul Fletcher – for doing such a great job of organising our tea and coffee each week (but he still needs **your** help to make and serve it!)

David Godfrey – Annual Outing, Annual dinner and some mini-outings

Marilynne Hill & team – Presentation Evening

Subgroup Leaders

Tony Hill – TONDIG

Marilynne Hill – Distinctions Group

Ann Paine – Enhancing your Images

Nick Ryan, supported by **Sean Aidan, Alan Cork, Keith Evans, and David Godfrey** – Image Discussion Group

Ann Paine, supported by **Dave Brooker** and **Philip Smithies** – Audio Visual Group

(A special thank you to **Marilynne Hill** for supporting the Groups by providing Tea & Coffee at the AV & IDG subgroups)

Philip Smithies & Kevin Yates – Website

Helen Mossman and **Liz Turton** – Trophy Coordinators

John Hunt – Publicity

Keith Evans – Grainmakers

Dave Brooker – Much work for the club, often behind the scenes

Despite having to cancel our Annual Exhibition, most of the significant preparatory work had already been undertaken, so my sincere thanks go to **Alan Cork, Nick Ryan, Ann Paine Philip Smithies** after they had put in so much work and for our judge, **Andy Smith LRPS** who spent a whole day judging the images that had been submitted and awarding prizes and commendations.

Ray Crowle and **Philip Easom** – our competition announcers
Philip Easom, Alan Cork and Ann Paine – our projectionists
Alan Cork and **Peter Ditchett** for setting up the sound system

And last but not least, **everyone** who has done their bit to make the Club a success.