



TONBRIDGE CAMERA CLUB
MINUTES FOR THE 58th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 11th May 2023



1. Chairs' Opening Remarks

Denys thanked everyone for joining the club's 58th AGM.

2a Apologies for Absence

Helen Mossman, Geoff Shewry, Colin Smith, Colin and Jenny Nye, Roger Wates, Steve Oakes and Bill Wheeler.

2b Present

Denys Clarke, Cathie Agates, Philip Smithies, David Godfrey, Matthew Little, Nicola King, Pat King, Julie Salwey, Ken Ash, Jeremy Stock, Mick Dudley, Barbara Baldock, Marilynne and Tony Hill, David Lucy, Keith Evans, Rabah Ichadadene, Colin Burgess, Lesley Burnand, Philip Easom, Les Welton, Sue Pennicott, Simon Lane, Colin Hurley and Bryan Ellis.

3. Approval of Minutes of 57th AGM held on 12th May 2022

Agreed Unanimously

4 Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous AGM held on 12th May 2022

Average attendance is up on last season – 29 as against 24. See Appendix A in the Agenda which reported on a lengthy discussion held at last year's AGM. Most of these points were acted on with varying degrees of success.

There were no additional comments from the membership.

5. Reports:

No reports were read out as they were issued at the same time as the agenda. Additional points raised at the meeting are indicated below:

5.01	<i>Chairs' Report</i>	<i>Denys Clarke and Cathie Agates</i>
5.02	<i>Secretary's Report</i>	<i>Marilynne Hill</i>
5.03	<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	<i>Nicola King</i>

Adoption of the TCC Accounts:

Proposer: Nicola King on behalf of the Committee Seconder: Denys Clarke

Agreed unanimously

5.04a	<i>Internal Competitions Report</i>	<i>Philip Smithies</i>
5.04b	<i>PDI Secretary's Report</i>	<i>Philip Easom</i>
5.04c	<i>Print Secretary's Report</i>	<i>Jeremy Stock</i>
5.05	<i>External Competition Report</i>	<i>Philip Smithies/Colin Burgess</i>

Tony Hill agreed to take over from Philip Smithies who is standing down. Tony and Colin will organise the selection of images and Bill Wheeler will provide administrative support.

For the interclub TCC vs Torbay vs Aperture Woolwich, clubs will be asked to allow a maximum of one image per member.

5.06 *New Members' Evening* *Not held*

It was felt that these sorts of evenings are no longer appropriate for a variety of reasons e.g. members join at different times throughout the year. David Godfrey will continue to act as the first port-of-call for new members and will support them as much as possible.

In answer to a question from the floor, Philip said he did write to members whose membership left asking what the club could have done to encourage them to stay. Although a small number had specific criticisms of the club, most simply said it was down to personal reasons e.g. childcare, work commitments, etc.

5.07 *Mini-outings* *Philip Smithies*

Members were encouraged to arrange as many of these as possible.

5.08 *Image Discussion Group Report* *David Godfrey*

David noted that images which are submitted for discussion at the meetings tended to perform better at competitions than those which weren't

5.09 *Masterclass Group Report* *No meetings held*

Some felt that the term "Masterclass" discouraged people from volunteering to organise such sessions although the "Masterclasses" held on Zoom a few years ago had been well-attended and well-received. There was a great deal of interest in reinstating what used to be called "Chambers' Evenings" in which members were encouraged to give illustrated talks/presentations about aspects of photography which particularly interested them or in which they were particularly knowledgeable. The first meeting in September will be run along these lines and there is room in the programme for others to be added.

"Grainmakers" could be invited to participate.

5.10 *Distinctions Group Report* *No meetings held*

David Godfrey noted that people interested the PAGB offered a free and very effective mentoring system for those wishing to apply for its qualifications. David agreed to be the first port-of-call for those wishing to apply for PAGB or RPS awards.

5.11 *AV Group Report* *Philip Smithies*

Denys observed that the AV Competition held "live" in the Angel Centre had been particularly enjoyable and urged members to attend the next one.

5.12 *Social events (e.g. Annual Dinner and Outing)* *None held this season*

5.13 *Grainmakers' Report* *Keith Evans*

Since he'd submitted his report, Keith noted that there had been an increase in the number of clubs inviting them to attend.

5.14 *Webmaster's Report* *Philip Smithies*

- 5.15 **Publicity Report** **John Hunt**
Matthew Little offered his services to find ways in increasing publicity for the club.
- 5.16 **Programme Secretary's Report** **Lesley Burnand and Marilynne Hill**
- 5.17 **Archivist's Report** **Philip Smithies**
- 5.18 **KCPA Report** **Alan Cork**
- 5.19 **Exhibition Report** **Colin Burgess**
Colin was trying to finalise dates for another Exhibition in the Tunbridge Wells Arts Society Rooms in the Autumn.
- 5.20 **Photographer of the Year** **Marilynne Hill**
Congratulations went to Philip Easom who had been confirmed as Photographer of the Year since the Reports were issued.
- 5.21 **Awards/Trophies** **Philip Smithies**
Philip thanked David and Sonia Peek for making such a terrific job for arranging for the trophies to be engraved and the certificates to be printed. All would be available at the presentation Evening on May 18th.

6 Chairs' Reflections

Denys thanked the many members whose hard work had resulted in the club having had such a successful season. He expressed his concern that at the moment there was no one to take over from Colin and Philip when they stood down as chairs in May 2025 and that it was difficult to see how the club could continue if those positions were unfilled.

NOTE: In items 7, 8 and 9, all post-holders were elected unanimously.

7 Election of Officers 2023-2024

Co-Chairs:	Philip Smithies	Proposer: Ken Ash	Seconders: Mick Dudley
Co-Chairs:	Colin Burgess	Proposer: Nicola King	Seconders: Mandy Verney
Vice-Chair(s)	Vacancy/Vacancies	-----	
Secretary:	Marilynne Hill	Proposer: Cathie Agates	Seconders: Colin Smith
Treasurer:	Nicola King	Proposer: Philip Easom	Seconders: Roger Wates

8 Election of Committee 2023-2024

Cathie Agates	Proposer: David Godfrey	Seconders: Kevin Yates
Lesley Burnand	Proposer: Julie Salwey	Seconders: Mick Dudley
Denys Clarke	Proposer: David Lucy	Seconders: Bryan Ellis
Jeremy Stock	Proposer: Ken Ash	Seconders: Nicola King
Bill Wheeler	Proposer: Sue Pennicott	Seconders: Cathie Agates

9 Election of Auditor 2023-2024.

Kevin Yates	Proposer: Bryan Ellis	Seconders: Denys Clark
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10 Proposals by Outgoing Committee.

10.01 Subscription fees

Proposer: Denys Clarke Seconders: Nicola King

Subscription fees will increase as shown below in the 2023-2024 season

Membership Category	Current	Next season 2023-2024
Adult	£55	£65
Joint (2 at same address)	£88	£105
Junior (under 18)	£6	£7
Student/Jobseeker's Allowance	£17	£20
Full Country Membership	£33	£40
Ordinary Country Membership	£17	£20
Door fees	NONE	£2

Rationale:

The proposed increases in fees follow on from the discussion document (Subscription Option Appraisal) attached to Marilynne's global email of Thu 06/04/2023 00:09 in which members were asked for their thoughts on various options. 19 members replied and the vast majority supported Option 3.

Every effort will be made to find ways of allowing door fees to be paid electronically: we experimented with this on 20th April and it seemed to be successful.

Important Note: You can also pay for 20 meetings in advance – effectively for the entire season – by adding £40 per person when you pay your subscription.

Room rates and judges' and guests' travelling expenses are certain to increase next season.

Refreshments will not be served next season.

The proposal was agreed unanimously.

The committee will investigate the possibility of allowing part-time membership for people whose circumstances prevent them from attending all the meetings.

11 Proposals received from Individual Members

None

12 AOB

- 1 Pat King suggested that one way to gain valuable publicity for the club was to invite the Princess of Wales (or another high-profile person such as the Mayor) to be the guest at a future presentation evening.
- 2 Marilynne noted the difficulty of finding judges (although Paul Parkinson and Paul Adams had expressed an interest in returning) and asked if there would be any objection if some of the judges who had gone down well with members were asked to judge twice in one season. There was no objection to this proposal. Tony wondered if we could run combined mixed Live/Zoom PDI meetings to attract judges from further afield but there was concern that the school's Wi-Fi was not good enough. It was also noted that the KCPA is not alone in finding judges.
- 3 Keith Evans encouraged members to apply to become KCPA judges. He felt that the KCPA provided particularly effective training and support for potential judges.
- 4 Tony Hill thanked Denys and Cathie for all the hard work that they had put in to the running of the Club during their tenure as Co-Chairs and this was endorsed by all present.