

## **THANET CAMRA – MINUTES OF THE BRANCH MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018 at THE RED LION, RAMSGATE.**

### **PRESENT**

Dennis Brandrick, Martin Baldwin, Barry Branchett, Nick Gurr, Danny O’Sullivan, Damien Clark, Jon Stringer, Terry Monaghan, Chris Welsh, Peter Jaquiss, Mike St. Clair Newman, Graham Rickett, Michael Fielding.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from** Jo Walbank, Tony Walbank, Jez Laming, Julian Dungey, Mark Sharratt, Steve Saunders, Debbie Aris, Barry Parker, Freda Parker, Philip Chandler.

In the absence of Jo, she asked the secretary to chair (who deputised to Nick) the meeting and update those present.

**THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**, held in September were circulated and proposed as a true record. Proposed Graham, Seconded Mike

### **The following matters were arising:**

- **Auditors:** It is believed that Jez has appointed two auditors.
- **Newsletters:** This is in progress
- **AoT Distributors:** Nick has some more bodies.
- **GR Accessibility:** The member has not replied to Graham’s email asking for suggested venues.
- **Cider Rep:** No one has come forward as far as we are aware.

### **FINANCE REPORT**

In Jez’s absence his report was presented by the secretary: We have **REMOVED**. As part of the year end accounting we have been asked to send to HQ any amount over **REMOVED** that is not needed for future costs, having looked at last year's figures it appears we will need to spend around **REMOVED** before any money comes in from the 2019 Beer Festival (April), therefore I am not planning to send any funds up to St. Albans.

There are 4 outstanding AOT advertising invoices due, I will be sending out reminders at the end of the week (1 month since 1st invoices).

Items for discussion -

There is one Thanet pub which still owes us for 3 (spring, summer & autumn) full page adverts, I propose that if we do not receive payment before the end of December, we should refuse them any space in future issues until payment has been made.

Please remind the membership that AOT adverts never pay for enough for the print costs, so if they know anybody who would like to place an ad in the AOT (they don't need to be pub related), we offer very competitive rates, and circulation of 2500, please contact Steve Saunders for details.

He has circulated the budget to the Festival committee for feedback before submission sometime this week, due to the increased venue costs we are having to apply for a larger loan this year. Until the budget & Loan have been approved, **WE ARE NOT HOLDING ONE**, please wait before announcing anything to the public.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

In Julian’s absence, his report was presented by the secretary: We have 567 locally, up 4 from last time; Nationally 191,949, up 94. He’s also done some number crunching and is pleased to report we are not the smallest branch in Kent – DDS have 100 less than us and AFRM are 30 less, Swale are an equal number.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITE REPORT**

Nick reported that we have 500 likes on Facebook, 169 on Instagram, 548 on Twitter. We are averaging 91 hits a day on the website.

### **SOCIAL REPORT**

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Danny reported that the trip to Canterbury Food Festival and the Herne/Herne Bay trips were very successful.

The diary for the coming months is as follows:

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Northdown Brewery Tap opens

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Party - NauticAles, 1pm

Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Jan - Pub crawl Start at Banks, Cliftonville, heading towards Broadstairs

Sat 19<sup>th</sup> January - AGM - Bradstow Mill, 12 noon

Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> January - Ramsgate Crawl: Conqueror, Artillery, Churchills, RVP 7:30pm

Fri 1<sup>st</sup> February - White Cliffs Festival of Winter Ales, Meet at the venue.

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> February - Margate crawl, Fez, Wig and Pen plus more, 7:30pm

Tues 26<sup>th</sup> March - Broadstairs crawl: Mind the Gap, The Pub (a new micro in Broadstairs) 39 Steps and onwards, 7:30pm

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> April - Bus tour, Start at the Wheel Alehouse, Birchington. 12 noon

### PUB UPDATES

- **East Kent Arms:** Undergoing an internal refit
- **Chiltern Tavern:** Sold with plans to convert to flats
- **Neptune's Hall:** Closed for refurbishment – no tenant as yet
- **London Tavern:** Still up for Sale
- **Rose in June:** Up for sale
- **Swan, Westgate:** Building is for sale, business is not.
- **Honeysuckle:** Up for sale.
- **The Pub:** Opened 3<sup>rd</sup> November
- **Brown Jug:** **REMOVED**
- **Walmer Castle:** Graham asked about presenting a certificate relating to their ACV status. We will need to check with HQ regarding our involvement in ACVs as a branch; Graham will investigate suitable dates. We are unsure at present if they will be serving real ale.

### BREWERIES & PUB CHAINS

- **By the Mile:** Jon reported that the brewery has been de-registered.
- **Four Candles:** Dennis reported that it's business as usual at the Candles.
- **Isla Vale:** Nat is now brewing alone as Steve has left the business. The core range has been recommenced.
- **Margate:** Nothing new to report – 2019 earmarked for opening
- **NauticAles:** Nothing new to report, business as usual.
- **Northdown:** Graham reported that Northdown are now well established in their new unit, with some cuckoo brews still being done in London. Beers can be found in many locations around the Island, as well as further afield, including Norwich and Derbyshire. Tap Room will open on 1<sup>st</sup> December.
- **Ramsgate:** Martin reported that it's business as usual.
- **Wantsum:** Graham reported that 13 of their 14 ales are currently available. They now distribute to Portsmouth/Bournemouth and the Cambridgeshire/Northamptonshire areas. Also distilling their own gin called 'Old Bakery' from a recipe that was originally use with an illicit still in the back of a bakery in Enfield.

### PUB OF THE YEAR & GOOD BEER GUIDE

Jo asked that judges send their scores to her by the agreed date.

AOB

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- **JW:** AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> January. Nominations for committee to the secretary in advance if possible please.
- **MN:** Mike proposed a brewing talk under the education remit of CAMRA. Should there be a budget allocation for education purposes? Peter suggested that we could educate members about Cider as a lot of members are very inexperienced in this area. Gauge interest from members.
- **GR:** Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Kentish Pip Cider Talk (with Gabe Cook) and Open Day.
- **GR:** Updated photos for WhatPub – ask pubs to send photos to us.
- **GR:** Runners Up presentation for Cider PotY – What is happening?
- **GR:** Suggested presenting Pub of the Month. This was voted down by the meeting.
- **NG:** Copy Date for AoT – 23<sup>rd</sup> November.
- **DS:** Extra proof-readers for AoT. Make sure you check photos.
- **CW:** Introduced himself as one of CAMRA's new representatives on the European Beer Consumers Union (EBCU).
- **GR:** Email from someone in Canterbury praising an article in Ale of Thanet about Cask vs Craft. Graham asked who to pass it on to. It was suggested that this is sent to Steve.

The next meeting will be the AGM on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January at The Bradstow Mill, Broadstairs.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21:35