

Minutes of NAPC Meeting 28th March 2024
7.30pm via Zoom

Present: Chris Brown, Chris Marsham, Alan Boothman, Pete Browning, Dave Geeves, Mike Cowley, Gail Banham, Maria Selley, Kirsty Peake

Apologies:

Kevin Bennett

Welcome

Gail and Maria were welcomed on to the Committee and thanked for joining us.

Minutes of Last Meeting – Matters Arising

Website – covered in Publicity/Members' Secretary Report

Committee 24/25 – Maria volunteered to take on Programme Secretary and Kirsty agreed to help her and work with her on this.

Pop Up Exhibition – to take place again in 2025

24/25 Programme:

Dave raised concerns that the start date of 10th September is also the closing date for the first DPI competition. It was decided to leave it as 10th September to start the season but to push back the closing date to 12th September for the DPI.

It was also decided that the programme again be included in the handbook with the comment to always check the website for any changes.

Master Photographer

We need to collate themes for this for distribution at the AGM – themes can be added on the night. It is important that the Appreciation Evenings are classed as Open and members are encouraged to show work they are interested in. They have the freedom to choose.

Reports:

It was decided to attach the reports to the Minutes. Additional Note re Treasurer's Report: The apparent high cost of 'Printing, Postage, Stationary & Engraving' is because the handbook and MDA advertisement are included in this amount.

Additional Note for Members/Publicity Secretary Report: Ashley to be approached as back up to Kevin for website etc. Not necessary to join the committee this year but if he wants to that is not a problem.

Secretary & Programme Host Report:

A combined report as my role has morphed into multiple parts this season. It has been an extremely challenging season for me. The NAPC has taken far more of my

time than I wanted and it was never my intention to become this involved in the club. When I joined my aim was to expand my knowledge of photography. This I know I have not achieved this season.

When I was finally persuaded to join the committee I had my season of being 'without a portfolio' and during this time Gordon was saying how difficult it was to run a season as well as plan the next season. I suggested the role of Programme Host to run the current season leaving the Programme Secretary to book the following season. This has worked well.

When Dave retired as Secretary I decided that I could include that within my other role as Programme Host and still be able to mainly confine my input to a Tuesday. The role of Secretary this season appears to have also encompassed parts of the Chairman's role. I disagree with Chris Brown's comment that we do not need a Chairman. In my opinion we certainly do. Not only have I introduced the majority of Tuesday club meetings, I have organised committee meetings, I have chaired them while taking the minutes as well.

At the AGM last year I stated that I would not do the Programme Secretary role by default. This season I forgot what I said and ended up doing the Programme Secretary role of setting the programme for 24/25. My thanks to Alan Boothman for his judge's list of the 'good, bad and ugly'! Despite his help I have felt at times as if I am just sticking a pin in a list of names. Thank goodness for the WCPF. All this has culminated in too much time being spent on the NAPC. This has become unacceptable.

Having said all that I am particularly proud of the Pop Up Exhibition this year and thank the committee for their support with this, in particular Kevin and Dave. The feed back from the schools has made me feel very proud that the NAPC is helping develop photographers of the future as well as raising our profile in the area.

I am under a certain amount of pressure to stand down from the committee at the end of this season. However at the risk of upsetting someone I have decided to stay on the committee for one more year. I will not do Programme Secretary and this time I mean it!

Treasurer Report:

| Balance Sheet | 1-Apr-23 | Current | Increase | Bank Balance |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|--------------|
| Barclay's Current | 7,048.96 | 5,686.91 | -1,362.05 | 5,841.91 |
| Cash | 5.52 | 260.00 | 254.48 | |

| | Total | 7,054.48 | 5,946.91 | -1,107.57 | |
|---|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|--|
| Income & Expenditure | FY22/23 | FY23/24 | Increase | % | |
| Income | | | | | |
| Raffles & Refreshment Sales | 291.38 | 267.30 | -24.08 | 54% | |
| Sponsorship | 310.00 | 310.00 | 0.00 | 100% | |
| Subscriptions | 1,770.00 | 1,612.50 | -157.50 | 91% | |
| Total Income | 2,371.38 | 2,189.80 | -181.58 | 85% | |
| Expenditure | | | | | |
| Competition Judges | -221.00 | -222.80 | -1.80 | 100% | |
| Donations & Gifts (Auditor) | -20.00 | -20.00 | 0.00 | 40% | |
| Equipment & Public Liability Insurance | -294.65 | -99.44 | 195.21 | 96% | |
| Equipment Repairs & Renewals | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0% | |
| External Competitions | -30.00 | 0.00 | 30.00 | 0% | |
| Printing, Postage, Stationary & Engraving | -137.01 | -528.80 | -391.79 | 1361% | |
| Raffle & Refreshment Expenses | -35.28 | -160.68 | -125.40 | 130% | |
| Speakers | -550.00 | -430.79 | 119.21 | 76% | |
| Travel & Hospitality | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0% | |
| Venue Costs & Zoom | -1,601.38 | -1,685.13 | -83.75 | 113% | |
| WCPF Fees & Insurance | -71.60 | -96.20 | -24.60 | 103% | |
| Website & Computer Costs | -42.00 | -55.20 | -13.20 | 142% | |
| Total Expenditure | -3,002.92 | -3,299.04 | -296.12 | 120% | |
| Surplus Income over Expenditure | -631.54 | -1,109.24 | -477.70 | 653% | |
| Equipment Purchases | -35.68 | 0.00 | 35.68 | 3240% | |

Total Income

-667.22

-1,109.24

38.99

653%

Competition Secretary Report

As my first year as Comp. Sec. draws to a close, I have a better appreciation of the work that this job entails and am continually appreciative for the help and guidance that Alan Boothman has given as we have transitioned the role. His enthusiasm for the post over previous years, together with the way in which he has set up the procedures and technology, have made this transfer, if not entirely seamless, as painless as it could possibly be!

The results of the competitions over the season speak for themselves, and final accolades will be celebrated at the awards dinner, but a few statistics may prove to be of interest!

Over 5 monthly competitions and Master Photographer, 24 club members have been actively involved in entering their work. A total of 84 prints and 226 digital images have been entered, which in turn have provided ammunition for the inter club battles.

External Competition Secretary Report

Alan Boothman

Breaking News is that we finally finished the 2023/4 External Competition Season by having a clean sweep of wins in the local interclub events.

We beat Plymouth, Kingsbridge and Ivybridge at Ivybridge last November. Same with Exmouth, Dawlish & Teignmouth, and Crediton with the overall Print and PDI results (actually winning both). Finally Torbay and Paignton in the Paul Stevens Trophy hosted by Paignton in March.

Torbay actually won more points on the night, but, due to their mistake of including two repeat images from last season they were in effect disqualified. Paignton and NAPC actually had equal points, but it was agreed that NAPC should take the win due to the maximum 20 points received by Maria's Mandril image.

The WCPF regional competition continues to be a challenge, both Prints and PDI, where in February we achieved 16th position in both. Total club entrants were 25 and 47 for Prints and PDI respectively.

We are due to host two events in 2024/5. The first is the PDI Challenge Shield in November (v Plymouth, Kingsbridge, and Ivybridge), where judging is carried out by one member from each club, and the second is the Paul Stevens Trophy in March 2025 (v Torbay and Paignton) where we employ a visiting judge. SDPL events are at Exmouth in November and Dawlish & Teignmouth in March.

Members/Publicity Secretary Report

We currently have 35 paid members, 2 Hon members.

Attendance has been fairly consistent, averaging 23, the lowest being 16 and the highest being 31 (Round 3 images). The SDPL Round 2 meeting was attended by 25 members, 1 guest, and 16 members from the other three clubs. I don't have exact figures for the two (so far) Zoom meetings, but I recall a total of approx. 35 for the talk by Cindy Goedell talk, including 22 or so members.

Attempts to attract new members have been made, particularly with the high-profile 6th Feb Pop-up Exhibition. So far, this has attracted one new member. It is possible that more will follow in September. This is because we were aiming at younger potential members who will currently be in exam season. Bearing in mind how much the club paid for the MDA advert, we will have to consider the benefits in the 2024/25 season, as it is too soon to tell. The publicity for this included -

- Half page MDA article
- Paid advert in MDA
- The Kirsty/Kevin/School interview on Radio Devon
- Follow-up article in MDA
- Article in PAGB eNews - <https://pagbnews.co.uk/newsletter/issue-351>
- Website articles (before and after)
- Social media by NAPC & schools
- Posters in shops around Newton Abbot

NOTE that Amateur Photographer were approach but did not respond to me.

The website is stable: I still have a lot to add to it, and I would appreciate it if someone could provide me with Round 1 & 2 images and results, and the SDPL results (inc name of winning photo), please.

Our domain name expires in May and needs to be renewed in April to ensure another year – cost £11.99. Once paid I will email the invoice to Pete Browning. This distinct from the web hosting package, which will run until Jan 2025 (invoice in Dec 2024)

In the summer break I will be seeking members' images for the members' galleries. I am in the process of putting committee meeting minutes on the site (the last AGM minutes are there already - <https://newtonabbot-photoclub.org.uk/agm-minutes/> . I don't think we need to go too far back.

Here's risk: I am the only person with access to the website files, etc. If a bus wipes me out, no one can access it. I need a deputy with some kind of interest and ability to update it. This needn't be a committee member.

Also, during the summer, I will need to find out if our advertisers in the Handbook wish to continue paying us a lot of money for a limited circulation (37 people!). As a

precursor to that, I have created a webpage <https://newtonabbot-photoclub.org.uk/external-links/> which contains links and a copy of the adverts for all of our advertisers, thus increasing their exposure. This might sweeten them slightly. I do know that Vision Express queried their future support last year. We will have to wait and see if the handbook remains viable if anyone drops out.

Kevin Bennett

NAPC Constitution

This has stood the test of time. The only additions made are to bring it up to date with how the club is now working, eg. Facebook pages.

The fact that the handbook is now to include the programme will be added to the constitution. Chris Marsham suggested the following wording: 'if a handbook is produced then a programme must be included'.

Adult/Guardian accompanying Juniors should not pay a subscription and cannot take part in Club events.

AGM

Nomination forms will show all posts including vacant ones.

Agenda must include, as well as standard items:

To be put to members:

- Membership fees increase to £55 single £95 Couples £25 Junior and Student
- Master Photographer themes
- Revised Constitution

END OF SEASON DINNER UPDATE

Gail reported that she has already had replies to the invitation. Chef is happy to be flexible on the evening.

DONM

August 2024 – date tba