



Campaign for Real Ale
Stroud CAMRA
Minutes 13th March 2024



1. Attendance & Apologies

Attendees: Andy Burston, Bob Fletcher, George Hill, Tony Hill, Andy Long, John McMahon, Tim Mars.

Apologies: Nick Bishop, Bob Brooks.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting/Action Status/Matters Arising from December Meeting

a. February Minutes.

Minutes have two action 1 entries – update needed.

Action #1 Tony Hill

b. Action Updates

Reference	Description	Actionee	Status
Jan #2	Corner House Pubzilla survey/update needed (moved location)	Andy Burston	Ongoing
Jan #3	Fostons Ash Pubzilla data to be entered	Andy Burston	Ongoing
Feb #1	Reorder Tippler Stands	Tony Hill	Complete
Feb #2	Tippler Deadline Friday 16th Feb, need to ensure POTY article pics make the publication.	Tim Mars	Complete
Feb #3	Assess the Lazy Goose for continued entry in Pubzilla	Andy Burston	Ongoing
Feb #4	Arrange a date in March for C-PoTY presentation at Carpenters Arms	Tony Hill	Complete
Feb #5	Arrange a date in April for CoTY presentation at Chalford Sports & Social Club	Tim Mars	Ongoing
Feb #6	Investigate/propose weekday bus social	Bob Fletcher	Ongoing

c. Matters Arising

Action Feb #2, Stroud PoTY presentation made the Tippler, pages 26-27:

<https://tewkesbury.camra.org.uk/dl.php?id=217923>

Action Feb #4, The Cider PoTY presentation will be at the Carpenters Arms, Westrip on 30th March at 16:00, more details to follow. All welcome.

3. Officers Briefings

a. Chairs Report & Glos Branch Brief Out

As has been previously reported the Regional Review will bring into existence a new region, originally to be known as the West Central Region, made up of branches in Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Oxfordshire and Worcestershire

In the first instance, all branches within the new region should discuss whether they wish to nominate someone for the role of RD (Regional Director). To this end, a role description and nomination form is available to us if needed. This nomination must be returned by midnight on April 27th along with a candidate statement accepting the role nomination, a brief profile of themselves and outlining why they wish to be the RD. Once these have been received, they will be forwarded to the branch contacts so they may be discussed and a decision made on whom the branch would like to support in the election. The election itself will be held on Saturday June 8th at a location and time to be decided or if branches prefer, a virtual meeting can be set up. It is noted that there may be a need for the branches to engage with nominees in a Q & A session before casting their vote. This vote will be on a one branch/sub branch, one vote system. For those branches wishing to submit a proxy vote, email votes will be taken as well, these will need to be in by the Thursday before the actual vote. Obviously these may be withdrawn if a branch subsequently sends a delegate to the actual vote. Role description may be found here:

<https://www1-camra.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/24120138/Regional-Director-Role-Description.pdf>

Dursley will lose many of their pubs to Bristol and may need some others to make their sub-branch viable. Those suggested would in the main be those along the Severn (currently Glos) which makes sense but the Badger & George was mentioned which Stroud Chair questioned. In addition, this breaks the easy post code system for knowing which pubs belong to which sub-branch and means discussion when new venues open.

Beer dispense:

You might well have heard that Carlsberg Marstons Brewing Company (CMBC) have recently announced their intentions to launch "fresh" beer to be served via a hand pull - which will not act as a normal hand pull. This is not a cask or live beer – it is brewery conditioned keg beer. It is understood that CMBC, having trialled 'fresh beer' at some sites already, is very likely they have an outlets already in mind to stock their 'fresh beer' - and once this happens, it could be a major threat to cask-conditioned beer. This follows on from Otter Brewery launching a keg beer fronted with a hand pull last year. Please be on the look out for this in our pub estate. Misleading dispense is grounds for non-admission to the GBG.

b. Pub Officers report

The Pubs Officer was contacted via CAMRA official Email by Anne-Marie Smart to update opening hours for the George Inn Newmarket.

This was after she posted a question on Stroud CAMRA Facebook on how to get the data changed. The entry has now been updated.

Ian Mence of Tewkesbury CAMRA reached out to confer on how Stroud do down selection for POTY ballot.

c. Pub Data Officer's Report

The Pubs Officer has been away – no update this month.

d. Secretary's Report

No report Secretary's position is currently vacant, Chair is acting.

4. GBG and County Judging for POTY, C-POTY, COTY

The following data 2025 GBG candidate data was presented to committee:

Gloucestershire has 37 entries for the 2025 GBG:

Cirencester (6):

[Redacted list of 6 entries for Cirencester]

Dursley (8):

[Redacted list of 8 entries for Dursley]

Forest of Dean (7):

[Redacted list of 7 entries for Forest of Dean]

Reserve Priority for GBG25:

[Redacted list of 5 entries for Reserve Priority for GBG25]

Red Hart, Blaisdon
Fountain Inn, Parkend

Lyon Inn, Westbury-on-Severn (reserve)

Gloucester (8):

[Redacted list of 8 entries for Gloucester]

Stroud (8):

[Redacted list of 8 entries for Stroud]

First two reserve pubs are fixed. Other reserves places are flexible (at the moment).

The following information was presented to committee related to county judging for POTY, C-POTY, COTY:

Judging Venue etc.	Judges and Date
Gloucester COTY BMI Club	Tony/George Hill 06/03/2024 – Complete
Dursley POTY Old Spot	Bob Fletcher/Nick Bishop 11/03/2024
Dursley C-POTY Salutation Ham	Tony Hill/George Hill 11/03/2024 – Complete
Glos C-POTY Pelican Inn	Tony Hill/George Hill 11/03/2024 – Complete
Glos POTY Pelican Inn	Tony Hill/George Hill 11/03/2024 – Complete
Forest of Dean POTY Hearts of Oak Drybrook	Tony Hill/George Hill 16/03/2024
Cirencester POTY the Hop Kettle	Andy Burston/Bob Fletcher 14/03/2024

5. 2024 Spring Gold Card Allocations

The various venues were reviewed and aligned with teams that had not completed any reviews of that venue during the previous year’s round of gold cards. Partial allocation being achieved at the February meeting with some gold cards having been completed since then. Allocation completion was agreed as follows with status indicated:

Venue	Location	Spring Assessors	Compete
		All March Meeting	13/03/24
		Nick Bishop/Bob Fletcher	
		Andy Burston/John McMahon	
		Tony Hill/Bob Fletcher	27/02/24
		Bob Brooks/Andy Burston	
		George Hill/John McMahon	28/02/24
		George Hill/Tony Hill	24/02/24
		John McMahon/Andy Long	
		Tony Hill/Andy Burston	
		George Hill/Bob Fletcher	
		Tim Mars/Andy Long	
		Tim Mars/Bob Brooks	

6. POTY, C-POTY, COTY Presentation Planning

Stroud CAMRA presented Nigel Croft of Stroud Ale House with the POTY 2024 Certificate on February the 18th. The event was attended by the previous winning pub licensees Lottie and Miles of the Price Albert. Matt Bigwood of Stroud Times attended and took photos for their publication our usual CAMRA photographer Bill Hicks and backup Rachel Andrews were both not available. Mike Gallagher, an Ale House local kindly volunteered. Tim Mars wrote the article and it was published By Matt on 21st Feb.

<https://stroudtimes.com/stroud-camra-reveals-pub-of-the-year-2024/>

Further coverage was solicited by Tim Mars from Stroud News & Journal who published it on 3rd March:

<https://www.stroudnewsandjournal.co.uk/news/24153761.winner-best-pub-stroud-award-revealed/>

Tim submitted an article to the Tippler which may be found on page 26/27 of the Spring edition of the Tippler.

The winner of the 2024 Cider POTY award was Carpenters Arms, Westrip. The 30th March coinciding with a pub cider event is the agreed presentation date. More details will be posted on our Facebook page shortly.

Action #2 Tony Hill

The winner of the 2024 Cider COTY award was Chalford Sports & Social Club. A date needs setting in April.

Action #3 Tim Mars

7. Breweries Update

The Fresh Standard Brewing Co Tap Room reopened on Friday 1st March.

Keep Brewing, no news.

Stroud Brewery has crafted a special SMaSH brew using a brand-new Organic hop variety, and are asking for people to review. Swing by the taproom, grab yourself a pint of this experimental brew, and share your thoughts by filling out a simple questionnaire.

8. Future Socials

Organisation ongoing.

9. Pub Data/Surveys

Tony Hill visited Bisley House and collected data and photos. Whatpub important data now correct but photos and description require further work.

Action #4 Tony Hill

Survey data should be captured on the form provided in our WhatsApp group and returned to Andy Burston or Tony Hill. As many Photos as possible should be taken in landscape format and again returned to the aforementioned. Outstanding surveys are as follows:

Pub	Reason	Surveyor
Britannia Inn, Nailsworth	Tenancy Changes	Jez Waring
Cross Hands, Stroud	Aged data	Andy Burston/Jez Waring
Fostons Ash, Birdlip	Tenancy Changes	Bob Fletcher
Royal Oak Inn, North Woodchester	Aged data	TBD
King's Head House, Eastington	Aged data	TBD
Fountain, Stroud	Tenancy Changes	Jez Waring and Bob Blenkinsop
Waypoint, Painswick	Tenancy Changes	Bob Fletcher

10. Any Other Business

George Hill raised the subject of the Kings Head Kings Stanley which is currently closed following a period of multiple short tenancies. The community have just had an ACV (Asset of Community Value) order declined by Stroud District Council. The subject of whether Stroud CAMRA can help the group by putting them in touch with a CAMRA advisor on these matters was discussed. Tim Mars felt he could help do this.

Action #5 Tim Mars

In addition, George highlighted a survey that the village were doing the gauge what the public want in a pub. Members are encouraged to complete the survey here:

<https://www.kingshead-kingsstanley.uk/>

Date and time of the next meeting

Wednesday 10th April at 19:30. chair@stroud.camra.org.uk

Stroud CAMRA Calendar 2024

Date 2024	Event	Venue
Tue 9 th January	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 10 th January	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
Wed 31st January	2025 GBG ranked list of 10 to be submitted to Branch. Updates to GBG descriptions commence	N/A
1 st – 3 rd February	Tewkesbury Winter Ales Festival	Watson Hall, Tewkesbury
Wed 14 th February	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting Spring GC Assessments allocated	The Ale House 7.30pm
15 th – 17 th February	Great British Beer Festival - Winter	Burton Town Hall
Thur 29th February	Deadline for all 2025 GBG descriptions to be entered in Pubzilla	N/A
Tue 12 th March	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 13 th March	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
Wed 10 th April	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
26 th - 28 th April	CAMRA Members' Weekend, AGM & Conference	Caird Hall in Dundee
Wed 8 th May	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting Spring GC assessments conclude Summer GC Assessments allocated	The Ale House 7.30pm
Tue 14 th May	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Mid-May	2025 GBG Proofs are received	N/A
Fri 31st May	2025 GBG Proofs are approved	N/A
Wed 12 th June	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
Tue 9 th July	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 10 th July	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
Wed 14 th August	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting Summer GC assessments conclude Autumn GC Assessments allocated	The Ale House 7.30pm
19 th - 21 st July	Cotswold beer festival.	Postlip Hall Tithe Barn
Wed 10 th September	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 11 th September	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
Wed 9 th October	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
Wed 12 th November	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 13 th November	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting Autumn GC Assessments conclude POTY candidates determined and Shortlist for 2026 GBG finalised	The Ale House 7.30pm
Wed 11 th December	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm