



Campaign for Real Ale
Stroud CAMRA
Minutes 9th November 2024



1. Attendance & Apologies

Attendees: Bob Brooks, Andy Burston, Bob Fletcher, George Hill, Tony Hill, Chris Hall, Andy Long, Tim Mars, John McMahon, Jez Wareham.

Apologies: Nick Bishop.

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

a. October Minutes.

The minutes were accepted without change.

b. Action Updates

Reference	Description	Actionee	Status
Oct #1	Offer remaining GBG to CAMRA members via Facebook	Tony Hill	Complete
Oct #2	Upload Branch reports to WhatsApp group	Tony Hill	Complete
Oct #3	Publicise 2025 GBG launch	Tim Mars	Complete
Oct #4	Confirm Gold Card dates with surveyors	Tony Hill	Complete
Oct #5	Organised social to Crown, Frampton Mansell & Bell Inn, Sapperton	Bob Fletcher	Complete
Oct #6	Add Chalford Sports & Social Club to Bob Brooks Tippler delivery round	Tony Hill	Complete
Oct #7	Add action item to Nov meeting agenda to request another roundsman to cover the Crown, Minchinhampton	Tony Hill	Complete
Oct #8	Submit articles for Winter Tippler	Tim Mars	Complete

c. Matters Arising

None.

3. Officers Briefings

a. Chairs Report

The chair reported that Stroud CAMRA held its 2025 GBG Launch at the Carpenters Arms Westrip at 17:00 on 29/09/2024. This establishment is a new entry to the guide for us and as far as we can tell it has never featured in the guide. The event was published in Stroud Times:

<https://stroudtimes.com/good-beer-guide-launched-at-carpenters-arms/>

A meeting was held between Stroud CAMRA Chair Tony Hill and Peter Bennetts the new Gloucester ACC (Area/County Coordinator) on Friday 25th Oct in Painswick. This was a get to know you session and a number of topics were discussed. Peter expressed a desire to get out and meet with the sub-branches but was already committed on the date of our meeting.

We have received a new communication on the new West Central region RD elections:

Hi All,

As you will all by now know, the new West Central Region has been set up and is running with Brett Laniosh as interim Regional Director. It has been decided that the campaign needs to have an election for the role to be properly elected following a failed election earlier in the year where there were no nominations for the role. I have been asked to be administrator for this election.

By way of introduction, I am Mark Parkes, current Chair of Birmingham branch and deputy RD for the West Midlands. I have experience of administering these elections having completed the role for the WM region twice already, as well as the first election for the WC Region.

This email is to outline the stages of the process that will lead to the election.

In the first instance, all branches within the new region should discuss whether they wish to nominate someone for the role. To this end, a nomination form is attached, this must be signed by the nominee and a proposer. I will accept an email from the same as evidence of the nomination. I have also added a link to the role description at the bottom of this email.

This nomination must be returned to me by midnight on December 16th 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, I shall forward them to the branch chairs so these 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 February 22nd at a location and time to be decided. 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, I will be taking email votes as well, these will need to be with me by the Thursday before the actual vote. Obviously these may be withdrawn if a branch subsequently sends a delegate to the actual vote.

Please feel free to contact me direct if you have any other questions.

I would be grateful if you could respond to this email so I can ensure all branches have received these details.

Cheers

Mark Parkes, Chair, Birmingham CAMRA

chairman@birmingham.camra.org.uk

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

The chair reported that members should have received an email from CAMRA on the format of future editions of the GBG. Members were encouraged to respond.

The chair reminded committee members of a post on our WhatsApp asking for a volunteer for Gloucestershire tasting Panel, no volunteers were forthcoming. Post meeting note, Rob lafrati has volunteered, Chair to put him in contact with Peter Bennet.

Action #1 Tony Hill

The chair then briefed on the Branch meeting held on 12/11/2024 in the Pelican Inn Gloucester using sub-branch reports and memory since the branch minutes are yet to be published. There was really too much material to present in entirety so only salient points were briefed on including Stroud membership which is up 1 since last membership report and the fact that there is a national level meeting of RDs on 22nd November to discuss pubs and boundary changes. The future of the Dursley branch which is currently to lose half its pubs in the boundary change will be decided. Our acting RD Brett Laniosh will attend and is pushing for status quo (Dursley keeps pubs it has) with respect to Dursleys pubs. It was agreed to upload the minutes and sub-branch reports to the Stroud CAMRA WhatsApp group to allow interested parties to read the detail.

Action #2 Tony Hill

The next Branch meeting is 7th Jan.

b. Pubs Officer's Report

Tim reported that a new venture, Holy Water has applied for an alcohol licence on Lansdown which has raised some local opposition which was reported in the Stroud News and Journal with reference to drunks running on car roofs at weekends:

<https://www.stroudnewsandjournal.co.uk/news/24674501.stroud-esidents-misery-drunks-run-car-roofs-weekends/>

Progress was reported on internal works at the Ram Inn, Woodchester though it is still unclear when it will reopen. Tim went on to brief on our threatened pubs, see 4 Threatened Pubs below.

c. Pub Data Officer's Report

Andy Burston completed a full survey of the Badger at Eastington, see 8 Pub Data/Surveys below. He went on to report that an attempt was made to survey the Goat (nee the Globe Inn) in Stonehouse but that this was still a work in progress. Apparently the manager, Dale Nicholl has experience in the licensed trade, with his parents also managing another pub locally. One cask ale was available, Stroud Budding at a rather ambitious £5.50 a pint. A partial update was done. Tony Hill commented that he was unable to find a website or social media presence of any kind for the new venture.

4. Threatened Pubs

Currently we have three threatened pubs, for which community groups are working to save, the Rose & Crown – Nympsfield, the Old Neighbourhood - Chalford and the Kings Head - Kings Stanley.

a. Rose & Crown – Nympsfield

Since the launch of the community share (7th September) offer their website claims:

Over £100k raised so far

We've reached a major milestone in our Community Share Offer, with over £100k officially raised in under a month!

Now is the time to dig deep so if you haven't invested yet, click on the red share offer button below.

Keep the Heart of Our Community Alive: Invest in Our Pub Today!

b. Old Neighbourhood - Chalford

On their Facebook page on 23rd September they posted:

It's official, as advised to shareholders late last week, active discussions are in progress with the estate agent to BUY THE PUB 🍻🍻

As the offer acceptance landed unexpectedly, we have sourced bridging loans to cover the share offer shortfall to make sure we can close the deal.

If you were waiting for "nearer the time" to buy your shares, that time is NOW!

Get your shares now at: <https://theoldneighbourhood.co.uk/>

c. Kings Head - Kings Stanley

On their Facebook page on 15th September they posted:

I thought you would like to know that I have been informed by Matthew Phillips, the agent dealing with the sale of the Kings Head that it an offer has now been accepted and, not withstanding any last minute hiccups, the sale should go through.

The intention, as I understand, is to run it as a pub.

I hope you will agree that that is great news. I look forward to seeing you in all in there in due course.

Lastly, thank you for all the support and words of encouragement that you have given in the attempt to get a community purchase off the ground. It looks like we are off the hook for now.

Rob

Apparently, the buyer is believed to be local:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61557861526840>

5. 2026 GGB Candidate List and POTY Ballot

All Gold Cards are now complete. Rank order list of pubs is:

Rank	Pub	Location
1	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
3	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
4	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
5	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
6	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
7	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
8	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
9	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
10	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

The following two pubs drop out, [REDACTED].

Our ballot for POTY will be between [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Our COTY is [REDACTED].

Our C-POTY is [REDACTED].

Action #3 George Hill

6. Breweries Update

The Fresh Standard Brewing Co

There has been work on special beers. The brewery reports “all bottling finished!! This year’s Anniversary Porter, last year’s anniversary whisky barrel aged porter and our aged blended red. All will be available to buy mid to late November and all are tasting absolutely delicious!! Only 320 bottles of each available.”.

Keep Brewing

No news.

Stroud Brewery

Stroud Brewery has a new seasonal beer, Wild Wood:

“A dark Best Bitter (4.5ABV) with dark fruity malt flavour with notes of orange and caramel”

This should be available before the end of November.

7. September Social/Future Socials

The Social for October was a jaunt to the Crown Inn, Frampton Mansell (which allowed a pub survey from the list below) followed by a stop at Bell Inn, Sapperton. Five of us turned up at the Crown and enjoyed the four ales on offer. From there the Bell in Sapperton, thanks to the driving of Andy Burston, where three more well-kept ales were on offer. Many subjects were on the agenda from the trials and tribulations of Tony getting his latest car to the preference of how to enjoy your eggs. During the evening the next social was discussed and a trip to the Bowbridge Arms and Royal Oak. Proposed date Weds 27th (Neither are open Mon/Tue).

Action #4 Bob Fletcher

8. Pub Data/Surveys

The **Badger**, Eastington was surveyed on 16th October and fully updated on Whatpub:

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/GLO/0208/badger-eastington>

The **Crown Inn**, Frampton Mansell was surveyed on 30th October and fully updated on Whatpub:

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/GLO/0226/crown-inn-frampton-mansell>

The **Ram Inn**, Woodchester seems to be still ongoing with the last image posted on their Facebook page “Still one of the best views from a pub garden, coming soon”.

Pub 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. The following status is as follows:

Pub	Survey Date	Reason	Surveyor
Cross Hands, Stroud	04/01/2013	Aged data	
Royal Oak Inn, North Woodchester	05/05/2013	Aged data	
Bowbridge Arms, Stroud	08/01/2019	Aged data	
Waterloo House	22/10/2019	Aged data	
Fountain, Stroud	30/10/2020	Tenancy Changes	
Waypoint, Painswick	05/11/2022	Tenancy Changes	
Woolpack, Stonehouse	29/01/2022	Tenancy Change	
The Goat, Stonehouse (nee Globe Inn)	26/06/2022	Business Change	

9. Tippler

All Tippler deliveries were confirmed complete.

10. Any Other Business

Jez Waring raised a motion that access to establishments by public transport should be taken into consideration when judging pubs for the GBG. It was pointed out that CAMRA set the parameters on judging and access to public transport is outside of a publican’s control. Jez requested that CAMRA clearly identify public transport routes to pubs, discussion ensued where the availability of this data in WhatPub was highlighted.

Andy Burston asked if people were interested in a jaunt to the 2025 Great British Beer Festival at NEC. Members were positive on this. Travel/itinerary to be proposed.

Action #5 Andy Burston

Date and time of the next meeting

Wednesday 11th December 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
Tue 7 th May	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 8 th May	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting Spring GC assessments conclude Summer GC Assessments allocated	The Ale House 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
19 th - 21 st July	Cotswold beer festival.	Postlip Hall Tithe Barn
Wed 7th August	Good Beer Guide 2025 Licensee packs are due to be sent	N/A
Wed 14 th August	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting Summer GC assessments conclude Autumn GC Assessments allocated	The Ale House 7.30pm
Wed 11 th September	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
Wed 24 th September	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 9 th October	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
Tue 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