



Campaign for Real Ale
Stroud CAMRA
Minutes 11th October 2023



1. Attendance & Apologies

Attendees: Nick Bishop, Bob Brooks, Andy Burston, Philip Burton, Bob Fletcher, Tony Hill, Andy Long, Tim Mars, John McMahon.

Apologies:, Bob Blenkinsopp, George Hill, Andy Stayte, Richard Taylor.

2. AGM

a. Chairs Report

A brief was presented on the previous year's activities. (Copy attached).

b. Election of Committee

The Chair (Tony Hill), Pubs Officer (Tim Mars) and Pubs Data Co Ordinator (Andy Burston) confirmed they are willing to continue in post. These were uncontested and current officers remain in post.

The Secretary (Philip Burton) informed the group that he will not be standing as he and his wife are hoping to be leaving the area. There were no nominations for the Secretary's post.

The committee wished Philip well for his upcoming house move, iterated how much he would be missed both personally & his commitment to the role and extended their thanks to Philip for his service.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting/Action Status/Matters Arising from Sept Meeting

a. September minutes.

The minutes were accepted.

b. Action updates

Reference	Description	Actionee	Status
May #3	Issue identified with the WhatPub entry for Curio Lounge, update needed	Tim Mars	Complete
May #6	Evidence on issues with CAMRA membership list provided for sub-branch communications (those opted in) to be collated and submitted to the RD Peter Bridle	Tim Mars	Put on hold
June #2	Pubzilla update needed for the Cross Hands Stroud	Andy Burston	Ongoing
June #8	Proposed social by vintage bus for members of the Gloucester and Cheltenham CAMRA groups to tour some pubs in Stroud.	George Hill	Closed

Reference	Description	Actionee	Status
July #2	Additional photographs of the Ram Inn Bussage on Pubzilla	Andy Burston	Complete
July #5	Contact the two ACV groups and put them in touch with each other. How can CAMRA help?	Tim Mars	Complete
Aug #2	Pubzilla survey updated of the Ram Inn - Bussage (complete photos), Cross Hands – Stroud (full survey). Royal Oak - Woodchester (Half completed) and the Waypoint – Painswick (full survey)	Andy Burston and Bob Blenkinsop	On Going
Sept #1	Add AGM to October meeting agenda	Tony Hill	Complete
Sept #2	Extract the beer scoring data from the County scoring data	Tony Hill	Complete
Sept #3	Check accuracy of Branch minutes.	Tony Hill	Complete
Sept #4	The Butchers Arms, Oakridge to be updated on Whatpub as open	Tony Hill	Complete
Sept #5	Autumn gold card allocation to be added to October agenda	Tony Hill	Complete
Sept #6	Share gold card assessment template	Tony Hill	Complete
Sept #7	Finalise everything for the GBG launch at the Lord John	Tim Mars	Complete
Sept #8	Tie up with Bob Jeffrey on proposed socials	Bob Fletcher	Ongoing
Sept #9	Quiz licensee of the Vine Tree on pub sale	Andy Burston	Ongoing

c. Matters Arising

The Summer beer scoring data for Stroud was extracted from the Gloucestershire data pool and was presented at the meeting. There were only 27 entries and discussion was around does the data drive us to review our position on pubs being surveyed. Do we need reconsider current gold card contenders or consider any new pubs for next years list? Aside from comments on completeness of entry and possible erroneous entries there was agreement that no change is indicated.

The gold card template was shared to the gold card group.

4. Officers Briefings

a. Chairs Report

A brief was presented on the previous year's activities. (Copy attached).

b. Pub Officers report

Nothing to report.

c. Pub Data Officer's Report

There are still some pubs in need of more urgent update (those that have distant survey dates and those that have recently reopened with new management). The Town Owl a new

craft Keg micropub in Stroud town has been created as an entry in Pubzilla/WhatPub from public domain data but needs a full survey.

The Butchers Arms, Oakridge Lynch has reopened with new management. Andy has contacted them and whilst they have plans there is still uncertainty, so Pubzilla update will be carried out when their plans are finalised.

It was noted that Portrait images put into Pubzilla are cropped for output to WhatPub, leaving unsatisfactory images. No solution is known apart from taking all photos in Landscape. A couple of images for the Ram Inn, Bussage need update.

Action #1: Andy Burston

The proforma that has to be completed to gather data for Pubzilla will be posted on the CAMRA WhatsApp group encouraging people to complete when they visit pubs

Action #2: Andy Burston

d. Secretary's Report

All Tipplers have been delivered bar the Fountain that is be added to Andy Burston's list.

Action #3: Philip Burton

The login and admin details that used to appeared on the Home Page of the web site has now been removed.

As interim following resignation the Gold card data collation, Tippler Distribution data & Website login details will be presented to the Chair Tony Hill.

Action #4: Philip Burton

The CAMRA Stroud Secretary Email address will need to be rerouted to the Chair.

Action #5: Tony Hill

5. Autumn Gold Card Progress/Allocation

Autumn Gold cards are allocated as follows. Remaining Autumn assessments to be completed by the November meeting.

Establishment	Spring Assessor	Summer Assessor	Autumn assessor
██████████	All @March Meeting	All @June meeting	All @ October meeting
██████████	Andy Burston George Hill	Andy Long Philip Burton	Bob Brooks John McMahan
██████████	Tim Mars Bob Brooks	John McMahan George Hill	Tony Hill Andy Burston
██████████	Andy Long George Hill	Andy Burston Bob Brooks	Nick Bishop Bob Fletcher
██████████	Andy Burston Bob Brooks	Nick Bishop Bob Fletcher	Jez Waring Bob Blenkinsopp
██████████	Bob Fletcher Bob Brooks	Bob Blenkinsopp Philip Burton	George Hill John McMahan
██████████	Bob Fletcher Andy Stayte	Andy Long George Hill	Andy B and Nick Bishop

Establishment	Spring Assessor	Summer Assessor	Autumn assessor
[REDACTED]	Nick Bishop Tim Mars	Tony Hill Bob Fletcher	Andy Long Jane
[REDACTED]	Phil Burton Tony Hill	Tim Mars George Hill	Bob Fletcher Nick Bishop
[REDACTED]	Andy Burston Andy Stayte	Jes Wareham John McMahon	Tony Hill Tim Mars
[REDACTED]	Nick Bishop Bob Fletcher	Andy Burston Tony Hill	Tim Mars John McMahon
[REDACTED]	Tony Hill Nick Bishop	Tim Mars Bob Brooks	Bob Fletcher Andy Burston
[REDACTED]	Philip Burton Bob Fletcher	Tony Hill George Hill	Andy Burston Bob Blenkinsopp
[REDACTED]	Tim Mars Tony Hill	Andy Burston Bob Fletcher	Bob Blenkinsopp Jez Waring

Because the November meeting is early (8th November) and there was concern that the Gold Card Survey work will not be complete in time it was agreed to push back the meeting until later in November. Both the 15th and the 22nd (Wednesdays) were checked but our meeting room was not available for either of these dates. Accordingly, it was agreed to go with a change of week/weekday for November only, Tuesday 21st.

Action #6: Tony Hill

6. Future Socials

Bob Fletcher agreed to look into future events. It was agreed to clarify the visit of Bob Jeffries and friends to Stroud.

Action #7: Tony Hill

7. Assets of Community Value

Siobhan Bailey mentioned both the Vine Tree and Old Neighbourhood in an article in the Stroud news from the Conservative Party Conference:

<https://www.stroudnewsandjournal.co.uk/news/23832827.stroud-mp-siobhan-baillie-conservative-party-conference/>

“Visit to see the British Beer & Pub Association to meet its chief executive Emma McClarkin, who is a constituent. On the agenda was how we can work together to save our much-loved pubs from closure.

The Vine Tree in Randwick and the Old Neighbourhood Inn at Chalford Hill are two pubs that come up here regularly.”

8. Pub Data/Surveys

See Pub Data Officer’s Report.

9. Any Other Business

None.

10. Date and time of the next meeting

Note change of usual day and week for November's meeting only

Tuesday 21st November at 19:30. chair@stroud.camra.org.uk

Chairs Annual Report 2022/2023

Let me start by saying thanks to all of you without whom we could not achieve what we have.

Thank you to the volunteers that deliver the Tiplers, a magazine that is currently in growth, it is dependent on our distribution for its readership, something Gloucestershire should be proud of.

Thank you to those that take part in the Gold card reviews, which are intrinsic to our small (8 pubs) contribution to the GBG (Good Beer Guide). The GBG is a testament to the hard work through the year of many thousands of people like you that come together to produce something that I believe is amazing.

Thank you to those that turn up to our committee meetings and contribute to what is always interesting and sometimes lively debated. There is never a dull moment performing the duties of chair.

Thank you to those that turn out for our celebration events, with a special thanks to Tim Mars for orchestrating these and managing the publicity, something that I believe sets Stroud apart from other sub-branches and even our branch. Who can forget the Prince Albert - Rodborough POTY (Pub Of The Year) presentation in April with the iconic photo taken by Matt Bigwood in the garden with our assembled throng surrounded by "the mannequins". Tim's deliberately picked quiet time, chosen to allow easy photography for the C-POTY (Cider - Pub Of The Year) presentation at the Carpenters Arms. Unbeknownst to us coincided with the Randwick Wap and had a full cider festival (50) and music added by a joyous licensee Sammi. Our what is now annual COTY (Club Of The Year) presentation at Chalford Sports & Social Club, where we again enjoyed fantastic beer and hospitality from Ali and Rob Brady which even ran to jam and cream scones this year. I enjoyed every one of these.

Then to round off our celebration events – the 2024 GBG Launch at the Lord John. From the outset a controversial event both in committee when deciding the location and after with non-attendees being somewhat shocked by the decision. From my own perspective I understand the marmite nature of Tim Martin's Wetherspoons brand but I believe as a sub-branch we should be/are non-partisan and that the debate/vote at committee was right and just. The event had what I believe to be the largest turnout of members and the biggest publicity splash with coverage from the Stroud Times (Matt Bigwood), the Stroud News and Journal, and Wetherspoons themselves where we expect to see a feature in their in-house magazine with national coverage. We may yet get criticised for the event in fact I am surprised we have had so little feedback to date but when all said and done Leah worked hard to make changes in what is her first management role and deserves the recognition.

Whilst early in the year I had to take a backseat on organising socials which I enjoyed and afforded us an opportunity to drink somewhere different and cover some surveying for WhatPub, thanks to Bob Fletcher for stepping up. The event in conjunction with our ex-pat colleague Bob Fletcher was momentous and not just for our Taxi Driver and his not inconsiderable navigation skills. May we enjoy more of them.

Thanks to our Officers. Our new appointee, Andy Burston who is coming to grips with the tool that is Pubzilla (the name strangely apt as it is a bit of a monster). Our long-suffering straight-talking secretary, Philip Burton. His tenacity, rigour and encouragement on all things committee has been an immense contribution. And finally Tim Mars our Pubs Officer AKA encyclopaedia on all things beer and pubs.

And finally our BLOs (Brewery Liaison Officers) Bob Brooks, for Stroud Brewery, Richard Taylor for Keep Brewing and myself for Fresh Standard Brewing Co.

As we move towards the final quarter of the year, we can look forward to hopefully one or two more socials, Bob and Bob permitting and finalising our shortlist of 10 candidates for the 2025 GBG. As chair or not I will be there and will be fascinated to see what if any changes we will see in pub scoring and pubs going forward into the final member ballot for our next POTY, C-POTY and COTY.

Tony Hill – Chair Stroud CAMRA