

WEST BERKSHIRE CAMRA

Website: www.westberkscamra.org.uk
Facebook: @WBCAMRA Twitter: @WBCAMRA

BRANCH MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2020 (8pm)

(TELE CONFERENCE CALL MEETING)

Attendees: Andy Pinkard, Chris Reynolds, Richard Lock, Richard Marshall, Tim Thomas, Tony Girling, Paul Worsley

Apologies: Mike Avery, Jeff Evans

Item	Topic	Action By:	Status:
01.01	BRANCH MEMOS AND MAILOUTS All members are able to view Branch Memos and Mailouts in the volunteer section of the national CAMRA website. Committee members are asked to review content of mailouts relevant to their post and give an update at the meeting on how they are addressing them. <u>Mailouts since last meeting include:</u> 2020-09-25 Changes to WhatPub to reflect national curfews for pubs and clubs 2020-09-25 Campaigning in reaction to charity initiatives that encourage abstaining from alcohol – branch resources 2020-09-25 Small Brewers' Relief petition – additional branch resources 2020-09-25 Survey on volunteers' terms of office 2020-09-25 Reminder: Training sessions for volunteers 2020-09-25 Regional Magazine Officers 2020-09-18 Year-end financial statements and remittances 2020-09-18 Updated advice for consumers on being a responsible pub goer 2020-09-18 Covid 19 – CAMRA update 2020-09-11 Good Beer Guide 2021 – Branch orders 2020-09-11 Cider Month – campaigning plans and branch resources 2020-09-11 Virtual volunteer training sessions starting again next week! 2020-09-11 Local lockdown restrictions – campaigning when pubs and clubs must shut again 2020-09-11 Reminder of Campaigning Webinar 2020-09-04 Pub Design Awards – deadline 30th September 2020-09-04 Use Classes Amendment Order (England Only) 2020-08-28 Small Brewers' Relief – more branch campaigning resources 2020-08-28 Training webinars for volunteers 2020-08-28 Cask Ale Week 2020		Info, unless otherwise specified
01.02	ULLAGE MAGAZINE Deadline for Winter (on-line issue): 11 November It is likely that the winter issue will be online only. Target issue size is 12		Info

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	<p>pages (summer & autumn issues were 14 pages). Thanks to Richard Lock for all his work on the Autumn issue which was published on 1st September.</p> <p>A letter was printed in the Newbury Weekly News (17/09/20) advising that Ullage could be accessed online from the Branch website. Facebook posts on multiple local community and CAMRA branch's Facebook accounts advised that Ullage could be accessed online.</p> <p>Editorial: Please send any news to Tim Thomas.</p> <p>Advertising: Vacancy for Ullage Advertising Officer.</p> <p>Pub Profiles Winter – Coach & Horses, Midgham (Andy Pinkard) Spring - Bunk Inn, Curridge (Chris Marriage) Summer – Swan, East Ilsley (Chris Reynolds) For future consideration: Dundas Arms, Kintbury, Bacon Arms, Newbury, Swan, East Ilsley, Queens Arms East Garston, Royal Oak Yattendon.</p>		

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01.03	CAMPAIGNING TOPICS		
	<u>Social and Campaigning Activities</u>		
	<p><u>GBG 2021</u> Licensee packs are due to be dispatched from mid-October, date to be confirmed. The Good Beer Guide is scheduled for release on 29th October. 10 copies of the guide have been ordered by the Branch, which will be available at £11 per copy to members.</p> <p>A launch event at a selected venue as per previous years will not be possible this year so we discussed other ways of celebrating with the listed pubs. RM suggested that perhaps a real-time conference might work, and he had had some experience of using jitsi open source conferencing. Given the current restrictions, the effort of organising such an event would yield little, and photo ops would be severely limited as all staff and patrons when stood would be wearing face coverings.</p> <p>This will have to be a distributed affair. Each entry (pub/club) would be 'owned' by a member who would then co-ordinate with the venue so as to be able to best capture a photo featuring the staff and the GBG. There is a certain amount of logistics involved, given we only have a small number of GBG2021 guides, and the photos may have to be captured outside of opening hours to allow a full face photo.</p>		
	<p><u>Regional & National Matters</u></p> <p><u>Regional Meetings in 2020:</u> Online (Zoom) meeting at 11am on Sat 3rd October.</p> <p>There is a vacancy for the post of Regional Director as Carl Griffin (RD) will be standing down following the meeting. David Richards (Deputy RD) will be seeking re-election. Trish Burrows will be standing down as Regional Secretary after several years of valuable and much appreciated service to the region.</p>		

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01.04	BRANCH DIARY DATES		
	<p>Dates and venues listed below are those planned at the meeting. Please ensure that you check our Branch Website, Facebook page and Twitter feeds for all the latest info on Branch Meetings and Social Events.</p> <p><u>Diary Dates:</u></p> <p>Wednesday 4th November – Branch Meeting at 8pm. (Tele Conference Call meeting)</p> <p>NOTE: <u>Branch Social Diary is suspended until further notice.</u></p> <p><u>Notes:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> We need to consider disabled access when arranging meetings / events. Nominated person should contact the venue a week prior to meeting / social to confirm the booking. 		

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01.05	COMMITTEE REPORTS		
	<p><u>Social Secretary</u> All events and meetings are officially suspended on a 3 month rolling basis reviewed fortnightly, hence early new year is the earliest for resumption but this is likely to be amended. Suggestions for social events most welcome and if any members would also like to lead one that would be great.</p>		
	<p><u>Treasurer</u> Bank Balance; £997.99 There have been no recent transactions; therefore the bank balance and money owing remain the same.</p>		
	<p><u>Membership Secretary</u> The current membership stands at around 350.</p>		Info
	<p><u>Pubs Officer</u></p> <p>Congratulations on Warwick Heskins - licensee of the Catherine Wheel and Spare Wheel, on becoming Chair of Newbury PubWatch Plough at Thatcham was withdrawn just before Auction and is back with the agent for sale or lease. The Hartley Arms at Donnington reopened on the 23rd of September after extensive refurbishment, with The Honesty Group (who also have the Crown and Garter at Inkpen) as hosts, ales from West Berkshire Brewery. Kings Head in Thatcham reopened late August The IbeX, Chaddleworth is showing as under offer The Blackbird, Bagnor reopens 1st October Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury closed for the last week of September Walkabout, posted "Following the government's instruction, we are now closed until further notice" Fox Peasemore collected an award for Community Services at The Great British Pub Awards. The Document House reopened on the 28th of September Nags Head Newbury closed on 26th September until further notice, citing "the current restrictions on the leisure industry have made it impossible for us to continue trading." Fox and Hounds at Donnington now intending to reopen after extension and refurbishment late October. Cross Keys Newbury undergoing renovation and intending to reopen without Pool Table or TV Sport and featuring Caribbean street food late October. Coach Beedon not opened due to building related problems with separation</p>		

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	<p>from the adjacent building plot. The Geat Shefford has submitted a planning application for shelters in its garden. The planning applications for the Winterbourne Arms and Sun In The Wood will be "Called In" to committee if approved by planning officers. Applications are still live for The Red House and Narrow Boat.</p>		
	<p><u>Pubs Database Co-ordinator & NBBS Co-ordinator</u> Members are encouraged to score cask beers (consumed on pub premises, takeaway or those ordered on line) as these will all count towards the scores used for GBG selection later in the year. Note: Cask conditioned only, not bright or bottled beers. Scoring is only available to CAMRA Members, through "WhatPub"</p>		
	<p><u>Press & Publicity Officer</u> Nothing new to report</p>		
	<p><u>Webmaster</u> The latest Ullage is only available as a PDF download as the limit for magazine style presentations has been reached. Tony is working with Zoe from the Reading Branch to investigate alternative licensing options. Zoe is to contact HQ and report back to Tony. Tony has created a password protected page that displays the current beer scoring status of Branch Pubs and Clubs. This was circulated to interested parties. Shaun Yeo has been added as Cider rep. Email and committee entries have been updated. <u>Website stats for September, top hits:-</u> Autumn Ullage: 326 downloads. Minutres Aug : 44 Summer Ullage: 30 Minutes Oct 2019 15 Ullage Summer 2019 : 13 Ullage Winter 2018: 11 Analytics show site visitors peaked at 120 on 5 Sept. Website: Our web address is: www.westberksamra.org.uk</p>		
	<p><u>Cider Liaison Officer Report</u> We are pleased to announce that Shaun Yeo has taken on the role of Cider Representative for the Branch and can be reached at cider@westberksamra.org.uk Please send any Cider and Perry related news to Shaun.</p>		

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01.06	<p>AOB In September a new topic was added to the 'Local Pub News' area of the website: Dining Offers at Pubs Free membership of Saviour Beer Club for CAMRA members offer from White Hart Inn, Hamstead Marshall. Tim will produce a draft letter about this offer for circulation to members. <u>BLO updates.</u> James Tuff takes over from Andy Pinkard as BLO for Indigenous Brewery Andy Pinkard will supersede Chris Marriage as BLO for Hermitage Brewery prior to the end of the year Chris Reynolds is handing over to Mark Gradwell as BLO for West Berkshire</p>		

<p>Brewery. Andy thanked Chris for his dedication to the role.</p> <p><u>Social media stats</u> Facebook: @WBCAMRA 415 (411) like / 467 (463) follow</p> <p>Twitter (followers): @WBCAMRA 1885 (1877) @WBCAMRAcider 82 (75) @UllageBeer 3082 (3079) @BerkshirePubs 1183 (1184) @NewburyBeer 481 (474)</p> <p>Some additional facebook insights: Last 28 days: 30 Aug - 26 Sep People reached 3840 (+897%) Post engagements 182 (+56%)</p>		
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