

WEST BERKSHIRE CAMRA

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

BRANCH MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY 13th JANUARY 2021 (8pm)

(TELE CONFERENCE CALL MEETING)

Attendees: Andy Pinkard (Chair), Mike Avery, Tim Thomas, Paul Worsley, Richard Marshall, Chris Reynolds

Apologies: Tony Girling, Alison Chetwynd, Richard Lock, 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> 2021-01-08 CAMRA's 50th Year – Volunteer Survey and New Templates (<i>Tim has updated logos in Ullage, social media etc</i>) 2021-01-08 Tryanuary 2021 – changes to the campaign this year and opportunities and resources for branches to get involved 2021-01-08 For information – email sent to Branch Chairs and Public Affairs Contacts on the upcoming Westminster Hall debate 2021-01-08 Reminder – campaigning during lockdowns, the Pulling Together Campaign, and the best places for branches to find resources and information 2021-01-08 Reminder – Conference 2021 Motions and Deadlines 2021-01-08 Pub Closure Statistics and WhatPub 2021-01-05 England lockdown and changes to takeaway rules for pubs and clubs – e-lobby and resources for branches (England only) 2020-12-24 CAMRA Members' Weekend 2021 Cancellation 2020-12-24 Second edition of CAMRA's planning newsletter 2020-12-18 Closing of the Pubs Matter campaign and request for feedback 2020-12-18 CAMRA office closure 2020-12-18 Analysing CAMRA Beer Scores Workshop 2020-12-18 Revised Branch Structure & Committee Roles (<i>changes to be reflected in Ullage, website etc</i>) 2020-12-18 Second edition of CAMRA's planning 2020-12-11 Branch resources for the 'Pubs Matter' 2020-12-11 Digital Working Group Survey 2020-12-11 COVID-19 – CAMRA Update		Info, unless otherwise specified
01.02	ULLAGE MAGAZINE Deadline for Spring Issue: 9 th Feb 2021 Editorial: Please send any news to Tim Thomas.		Info

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	<p>Advertising: Vacancy for Ullage Advertising Officer.</p> <p><u>Discussed at the meeting</u> Due to removal of free advertising the pages of future on line editions will be reduced.</p> <p>To recover the basic operating costs of the branch we discussed replacing the adverts with paid for sponsorship. Advertiser logos could appear on the front page of Ullage, on our branch website and in our social media output. It was agreed that we would initially contact Beer and Cider producers for sponsorship agreements.</p> <p>Although not needed for the pdf version, a minimum number of weblinks may be retained as they are useful for the on line edition of Ullage.</p> <p>Pub Profiles Spring – Coach & Horses, Midgham (Andy Pinkard) Summer - Bunk Inn, Curridge (Chris Marriage) Autumn – Swan, East Ilsley (Chris Reynolds) For future consideration: Dundas Arms, Kintbury, Bacon Arms, Newbury, Queens Arms East Garston, Royal Oak Yattendon.</p>		

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01.03	CAMPAIGNING TOPICS		
	<p><u>Good Beer Guide 2022 – Revised Process</u> Andy sent out a message to branch members via the CAMRA Communications tool in December, requesting suggestions for pubs to include in the guide. Thanks to all who responded.</p> <p>At the meeting we agreed the long list of pubs to be considered for the guide. This includes the 12 pubs from the 2021 guide plus 6 additional pubs. The intention is that details of all the pubs will be entered on to the Pubzilla database between March and the deadline of 19th April. If necessary the information will be obtained by way of a telephone call.</p> <p>There is a final opportunity at the end of July to change reserves for entries on the database so having the pubs data already loaded will make it a simple matter of Swapping the pubs around.</p> <p>It is hoped that between May and July there will be an opportunity to get out and score beers hence inform our choice as to the final list for the guide.</p> <p><u>Timeline</u> 13th January - Long list of pubs for consideration to be agreed (Done) 10th March – Commence collating details of all pubs on the long list (by telephone if a visit is not possible) and load the data on to Pubzilla. 19th April - Deadline for all entries to be completed and uploaded to the GBG National Online Submissions System from WhatPub 31 July – Final opportunity for amendment of data on the system to reflect the final pub list for the guide.</p>		
	<p><u>Regional & National Matters</u> There are vacancies for posts of Regional Director and Regional Secretary. Paul Sanders is the acting RD for our region until a new candidate has been elected.</p> <p><u>Regional Meeting held on Saturday 2nd January 2021</u> Summary of main points from our Chairman.</p> <p><u>GBG selection</u> - Branches can do what they think is appropriate. However there was a suggestion to increase the number of reserve pubs, such that</p>		

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	<p>we can effectively delay our final selection until the end of July by reallocating to and from the reserve list.</p> <p>No Regional or National rounds of POTY / COTY this year.</p> <p>No CBOB this year</p> <p>Real Ale in a Bottle is to become self-certified by the Brewer (contracting with CAMRA for use of the logo) and modified to include all small pack beer (Bottles, Cans, Mini Kegs etc). Yet to be finalised, an announcement is due later this year.</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 the latest info on events.</p> <p><u>Diary Dates:</u></p> <p>Wednesday 10th March - Branch Meeting (Tele Conf Call) at 8pm</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"> 1. We need to consider disabled access when arranging meetings / events. 2. 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> This position is vacant. Volunteers for this post are welcomed. All face to face events and meetings are officially suspended until further notice. The situation is being kept under review.</p> <p><u>Xmas Social</u> An enjoyable online (Zoom) Xmas Social was held on Thu 17th December. Special thanks to Meg Thomas for hosting and to Jeff Evans for the quiz.</p> <p><u>Tasting Sessions</u> It was discussed that we would hold a beer tasting session by way of an on line "Meet the Brewer" event. Richard Marshall volunteered to host an event, details to be confirmed.</p> <p>Our Cider Liaison Officer, Shaun, is also planning an on line cider event.</p>		
	<p><u>Treasurer</u> Bank Balance - £929.91</p>		
	<p><u>Membership Secretary</u> 351 members. 289/351 have subscribed to email comms. The youngest member is 22 and the oldest is 91.</p>		Info
	<p><u>Pubs Officer</u> <u>Note:</u> See WhatPub and our social media posts for the latest pub news.</p> <p>After reopening at the beginning of December, some pubs quickly found that it was not viable to open under the Tier 2 restrictions of serving meals</p>		

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	<p>and closed again after the first weekend.</p> <p>The IBEX at Chaddleworth reopened after being closed for a year, they are very active during lockdown with takeaway and delivered meals.</p> <p>The freehold of The Prince of Wales in Kintbury is back on the market.</p> <p>The Bacon Arms in Newbury has a new landlord - Eddie.</p> <p>The tenancy of The Castle at Cold Ash is under offer.</p> <p>The key difference to previous lockdowns and tier restrictions is that alcohol cannot be served for collection from pubs and restaurants - delivery only to fixed addresses.</p> <p>The licensee at The Tally Ho Hungerford New Town is leaving, Sylvi continues to be the tenant at The Borough Arms in Hungerford.</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 from pubs) as these will all count towards the scores used for GBG selection. <u>Note</u>: Cask conditioned only, not bright or bottled beers. Scoring is available to CAMRA Members through "WhatPub"</p>		
	<p><u>Press & Publicity Officer</u> This position is vacant. Volunteers for this post are welcomed.</p>		
	<p><u>Webmaster</u> Website: Our web address is: www.westberkscamra.org.uk</p>		
	<p><u>Cider Liaison Officer Report</u> Shaun Yeo has taken on the role of Cider Representative for the Branch and can be reached at cider@westberkscamra.org.uk</p>		

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01.06	<p>AOB</p> <p>A "Berkshire Beer Box" feature has been added as a new topic on our branch website.</p> <p>Social media stats Facebook: @WBCAMRA 425 (421) like / 486 (488) follow</p> <p>Twitter (followers): @WBCAMRA 1909 (1902) @WBCAMRAcider 93 (89) @UllageBeer 3107 (3092) @BerkshirePubs 1197 (1193) @NewburyBeer 497 (492)</p>		