

# WEST BERKSHIRE CAMRA

Website: [www.westberkscamra.org.uk](http://www.westberkscamra.org.uk)  
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## BRANCH MEETING AGENDA TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2022 (7.30pm)

### FOX, HERMITAGE

**Attendees:**

**Apologies:** Richard Lock, Paul Worsley

Item	Topic	Action By:	Status:
1	<p><b>BRANCH MEMOS AND MAILOUTS</b></p> <p>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></p> <p>2022-10-14 Alcohol Duty Review – Government consultation deadline extended 2022-10-03 Campaigning Communications Working Group – volunteers needed 2022-10-03 Updated Volunteer Expenses Policy 2022-10-03 Alcohol Duty Review further technical consultation – resources to help branches respond 2022-09-30 Members' Weekend, AGM &amp; Conference 2023 2022-09-30 Chief Support Officer role 2022-09-30 GBG 2023 order forms deadline – REMINDER 2022-09-23 'Mini-Budget' announcements on the Alcohol Duty Review – briefing for branches 2022-09-23 Campaigning Communications Working Group – volunteers needed 2022-09-23 Warehouse/Health and Safety Feedback from September's Events Committee Meeting 2022-09-23 Central plans for October Cider and Perry Month 2022-09-23 Pub and Club of the Year 2022 Revised Timescales 2022-09-20 Re-launch of e-lobbying campaign following National period of mourning 2022-09-16 Good Beer Guide Regional Events 2022-09-16 Cask Ale Week 2022-09-16 Have your say on the next Champion Beer of Britain and/or join a tasting panel! 2022-09-16 Year End Financial Statements and Remittances 2022-09-07 CAMRA Pub Closure Report (January to June 2022) – information for branches 2022-09-07 New Government and upcoming Budget – e-lobbying launched today</p>		Info, unless otherwise specified

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	<p>2022-09-02 Reminder of resources for responding to charity abstinence campaigns, including "Go sober for October"</p> <p>2022-09-02 GBG 2023 order forms deadline</p> <p>2022-09-02 New Drink Greener campaigning opportunity</p> <p>2022-09-02 Images for The Good Beer Guide 2023</p> <p>2022-08-26 New events page for meetings and festivals</p> <p>2022-08-26 Updated guidance on Drink Greener</p> <p>2022-08-26 Additional resources &amp; promotion for What's Brewing</p> <p>2022-08-26 Promotional materials available for festival use</p> <p>2022-08-26 Advance notice for promoting October Cider and Perry Month branch activities</p> <p>2022-08-26 CAMRA/Historic England Pub Design Awards 2022</p> <p>2022-08-12 Property guardians</p> <p>2022-08-12 Pub Closures – Planning Enforcement Issues</p> <p>2022-08-12 Pub Saving Award</p>		
2	<p><b>ULLAGE MAGAZINE</b> Deadline for Winter issue – 4 Nov 2022.</p> <p><b>Editorial:</b> Please send any news to Tim Thomas.</p> <p><b>Advertising:</b> Jeremy Harding has taken over the role of Ullage Advertising Manager. He can be contacted at <a href="mailto:treasurer@westberkscamra.org.uk">treasurer@westberkscamra.org.uk</a> Ramsbury Brewery and Wild Weather will be contacted to see if they wish to resume advertising.</p> <p><b>Distribution:</b></p> <p><b>Pub Profiles</b> For future consideration: Queens Arms, East Garston ; Dundas Arms, Kintbury.</p> <p><b><u>DISCUSSION ON FUTURE OF ULLAGE</u></b> We will discuss a proposal to reduce the frequency of publication from quarterly to three per year (March, July, November) from March 2023.</p> <p>We also need to agree proposals linked to reducing costs / increasing advertising revenues so that Ullage can continue to be published in print version.</p> <p>Suggestions for potential advertisers in Ullage are invited.</p>		Info

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3	<p><b>CAMPAIGNING TOPICS</b></p> <p><b><u>Branch AGM</u></b> The Branch AGM was held at the Plough on the Green, Newbury, on Tuesday 20 September. Jeremy Harding has taken over the role of Ullage Advertising Manager. Paul Worsley has taken over the role of Beer Scores Co-ordinator. The role of Cider Officer has become vacant. All other posts remain the same as last year. Details of all committee positions are shown in the AGM Minutes, along with the Committee Officer Reports.</p> <p><b><u>GBG 2023</u></b> Our GBG Launch evening will take place at the Bowlers Arms, Newbury on Mon 31 October, commencing at 7.30pm. 10 copies of the guide have been ordered for the branch and can be offered to members at a discounted price of not less than £12. Publicans appearing in the guide have been invited to the presentation.</p>		

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	Andy Pinkard has received the licensee packs from HQ. We await delivery of the books.		
	<b><u>GBG 2024</u></b> With regard to GBG 2024, Paul has proposed that we have 2 meetings, one early January to select the Long List with a number automatically qualifying followed by final selection mid/late February. In the past we have had problems finding 12 pubs with an average score of 3 and over with an acceptable number of visits/Reporters.		
	<b><u>Regional &amp; National Matters</u></b>		

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4	<b>BRANCH DIARY DATES</b>		
	<p>Dates and venues listed below are those planned at the meeting so may be subject to change. Please ensure that you check our Branch Website, Facebook page and Twitter feeds for the latest updates on events.</p> <p><u>Diary Dates:</u></p> <p>Tue 18 Oct. Branch Meeting at the Fox, Hermitage. 7.30pm start.  Sat Oct?. Real Ale Ramble. Date and details TBC.  Mon 31 Oct. GBG Launch Evening at The Bowlers Arms, Newbury. 7.30pm start.  Sat Nov? – Windsor Day Trip –. Details TBC.  Dec – Xmas Lunchtime Social at Hatchet, Newbury. 12.30pm start. Date TBC.  Dec – Branch Xmas evening social. 7.30pm start. Date and venue TBC.  Jan 2023 – GBG 2024 1<sup>st</sup> Selection Meeting. 7.30pm start. Date and venue TBC.  Feb 2023 - GBG 2024 2<sup>nd</sup> Selection Meeting. 7.30pm start. Date and venue TBC.</p> <p><u>Notes:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We need to consider disabled access when arranging meetings / events.</li> <li>2. Nominated person should contact the venue a week prior to meeting / social to confirm the booking.</li> </ol>		

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5	<b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>		
	<p><b><u>Social Secretary</u></b> Please contact Andy Pavey <a href="mailto:social@ewstberkscamra.org.uk">social@ewstberkscamra.org.uk</a> if you have any suggestions for a social event.</p> <p>We need to confirm details for the October ramble, November Windsor trip and our Xmas evening social.</p>		
	<p><b><u>Treasurer</u></b> There is £526.07 in our branch account as of 17 October.</p> <p>We are still owed £425 for adverts in the Autumn edition of Ullage. All the advertisers in the summer edition have now paid, thanks to Tim chasing up late payments.</p>		
	<p><b><u>Membership Secretary</u></b> We currently have 312 members in our branch.</p>		Info

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	<p><b><u>Pubs Officer</u></b></p> <p>A planning application has been lodged for a MicroPub in Hungerford modelled on the Cow &amp; Cask. <a href="https://www.newburytoday.co.uk/news/micro-pub-plans-announced-9278583/?fbclid=IwAR0IMWMcvAJUMaFBCCNXbLnQMmfsu2aqQeFaT2nAT3xubtegNmPx3ARCOlg">https://www.newburytoday.co.uk/news/micro-pub-plans-announced-9278583/?fbclid=IwAR0IMWMcvAJUMaFBCCNXbLnQMmfsu2aqQeFaT2nAT3xubtegNmPx3ARCOlg</a></p> <p>The Spare Wheel, Newbury closed late September citing cost of living crisis and staffing issue's.</p> <p>The White Hart Inn, Hamstead Marshall is closing from 24th October until next spring, "The decision reflects our huge increase in costs – both food and energy – and the downturn in spending" <a href="https://www.newburytoday.co.uk/news/hamstead-marshall-pub-shuts-doors-for-now-9278754/">https://www.newburytoday.co.uk/news/hamstead-marshall-pub-shuts-doors-for-now-9278754/</a></p> <p>The Berkshire Arms will be closed for refurbishment all of November. Work is advancing on The Red House being converted into flats. Work is continuing on the refurbishment and kitchen extension of The Bladebone at Chapel Row.</p> <p>The Winterbourne Arms is showing as under offer and is understood to be reopening as a restaurant.</p> <p>The Crickets, Thatcham had a 3 Week £196K refurb and reopened as a Craft Union regulars are Doombar and Landlord <a href="#">New chapter for revamped Thatcham pub.</a></p> <p>The Blue Ball at Kintbury has new hosts Mike &amp; Kelly assisted by new Manager Kathy.</p> <p>The Swan at East Ilsley has reopened.</p> <p>The new owner of the Three Horseshoes in Brimpton advises his plan is to convert it into a family home.</p> <p>The Downgate, Hungerford reopened with a new Tennant on the 15th of October after a 2 week refurbishment for drinks only.</p> <p>Greene King are marketing The Foinavon "Standard Tenancy Agreement A fixed 5 year term", also tenancies of White Hart Hampstead Norreys and Wheelwright Arms Lambourne.</p> <p>The Fox at Peasemore closed for 3 weeks to have a makeover; it is still being marketed for sale or lease.</p> <p>Crown and Horns, East Ilsley got permission for large pergola.</p> <p>Stonegate are marketing the closed and boarded-up Red Lion at Upper Basildon lease with FOT option</p> <p>The Kings Head in Thatcham reopened on the 8th of October, and according to Stonegate "is going to benefit from a £40,000 investment to improve the internals and also enhance the large rear garden area" - serving 6X and Doombar.</p> <p>The Butt reopened on the 22nd July after a £330K refurbishment with new General Manager Emily Downes.</p> <p>Revised planning application lodged for refurbishment of Bell at Boxford to address flooding concerns.</p> <p>No news on the community purchasing the Rising Sun other than Stockcross Parish Council providing a grant towards a feasibility study.</p>		
	<p><b><u>Beer Scores Co-ordinator</u></b></p> <p>Paul Worsley has taken over this position.</p> <p>Kevin Brady is thanked for his time in the role.</p> <p>Members are encouraged to score cask beers as these will all count towards the scores used for GBG selection. Scoring is available to all CAMRA Members through "WhatPub"</p>		
	<p><b><u>Press &amp; Publicity Officer</u></b></p> <p>Paul Worsley can be contacted at <a href="mailto:pr@westberkscamra.org.uk">pr@westberkscamra.org.uk</a></p>		
	<p><b><u>Webmaster</u></b></p> <p>Our Branch Website: <a href="http://www.westberkscamra.org.uk">www.westberkscamra.org.uk</a> is sponsored by Mornington Software.</p>		

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	<p>Responded to Andy Shaw regarding a branch website hosting survey. I have modified the beer scoring page on the website; the pub name is now a link to the corresponding WhatPub entry.</p>		
	<p><b><u>Cider Officer Report</u></b>  Shaun Yeo has stood down as Branch Cider Representative and is thanked for his time in the role.  The post is now vacant and volunteers for this important committee role are most welcome.</p>		

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6	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p><u>Social Media stats</u></p>		