

WEST DORSET BRANCH OF CAMRA

Minutes of
Annual General Meeting
Venue: Colliton Club, Dorchester
8pm 23rd September 2016

- 1 **Members attending.** A total of 17 members attended. Apologies for absence received from Russell Ware, Jill Diggins and Les & Diane Senior
- 2 **Minutes of last AGM.** The minutes of 2015 AGM were accepted as a true record.
- 3 **Matters Arising.** There were no matters arising.
- 4 **Election of Officers.** All current officers, with the exception of Andy Patterson, had expressed a wish to continue and the following were elected for a further term:

Nominee	Position	Proposed	Seconded	Vote
Dave Harris	Chairman	Rich Gabe	Marjorie Tait	Unanimous
Tony Egerton	Secretary & Branch Contact	Andy Patterson	Dave Bird	Unanimous
Rich Gabe	Social Secretary	Marjorie Tait	Dave Bird	Unanimous
Alastair Tillotson	Treasurer	Tony Egerton	Andy Redding	Majority
Andy Patterson	Membership Secretary	Stepped Down		
Andy Redding	Pubs Officer	Dave Harris	Andy Patterson	Majority
Kylie Stroud	Committee	Andy Patterson	Marjorie Tait	Majority
Elaine Milton	Press Officer	Rich Gabe	Andy Patterson	Unanimous
Russell Ware	POY Organiser	Andy Patterson	Rich Gabe	Unanimous
In addition the following non-committee officers were elected:				
Adrian Patterson	GBG Co-ordinator & NBSS Officer	Bruce Mead	Andy Patterson	Unanimous
Alex Bardswell	Cider Representative	Marjorie Tait	Dave Bird	Unanimous

The Chairman asked for a show of appreciation for Andy Patterson for his hard work as membership Secretary over the past 5 years. The meeting obliged.

After Meeting note – Kelvin Nicholson volunteered to take on the role of Membership Secretary. This was accepted and Kelvin was seconded to the Committee.

5 Chairman's Report

The following points were covered:

Volunteers - we've continued to have a high level of member involvement. PubLinkers, Festival Volunteers and other non-committee workers e.g. Giant Dongle editors and contributors I think we have about one in ten members of the Branch actively helping us. A big THANK YOU to all who help us!

Giant Dongle now six years old and around 2500 copies of 28-32 pages in COLOUR! Fantastic to see advertising increasing so we can continue to develop it. We still need a steady flow of member contributions to keep the magazine of interest to our readers, so sit down at that keyboard and write a piece!

Membership stays stable Andy Patterson stepping down so we need a volunteer to step forward to take over the membership task for the Branch. Does not need to be a committee member.

Brewery scene still very dynamic: Breweries closing (Sunny Republic), and some still opening (Brew Shack in Wimborne). Others relocating (Sixpenny and Cerne Abbas (now nearly home))

Festivals Our two main festivals are very much still on the calendar; Dorchester will be 29 in February!! Next months Octoberfest will be the 12th in CAMRA stewardship!

Stillage and Insurance Stillage situation now stable - we understand what we need to do to keep HQ insurance and are doing it. All new members are guided by experienced and registered members.

Programme of trips to breweries, festivals etc! In addition to the "regular" trips arranged by Rich and Tony we've kept survey trips going - this years was in rural DT8 where we had too few beer scores. Rich has developed our CAMRA In The Area (CITA) events and these are increasing in number. More from him later...

Discounts for members at increasing number of pubs - we're trying to keep you informed of these via Giant Dingle, but this also is a very dynamic situation.

GBG selection process - process becomes easier each year (thanks due to Adrian Patterson and members beer scores in WhatPub.). It also helps us as a Branch to keep information more up-to-date as comments can also be sent to the branch via WhatPub.

Pub Link scheme (~220 pubs spread over 400 sq miles). Andy Patterson manages a team of volunteers who visit pubs to help us keep in touch. You will have read something about this in the current issue of Giant Dingle. There are always changes to this team as peoples commitments change - talk with Andy if you want to help us with this.

Campaigning: We've had another couple of pubs listed as ACVs this year and our Parish Councils and local communities are also pursuing this avenue to get a measure of protection against change of use. Thanks to Andy Redding as Pubs Officer for diving in and keeping at it!!

A full copy of Dave's report is available on request to the Secretary or at the 2017 AGM

6 **Treasurers Report.**

Alastair presented his annual financial statement. The report was accepted unanimously.

7 **Membership Report**

Andy reported that membership stands at 648. This is an increase of over 280 in six years. Both Octoberfest and Beerex prove to be very productive.

A full copy of Andy's report is available on request to the Secretary or at the 2017 AGM

9 **Social Activities**

Rich gave a run down of activities throughout the year such as visits to Poole Beer Festival, Maltings, Purbeck pubs and the weekend trip to Derby The CITA (CAMRA in the Area) meetings continued, providing much needed scores for the NBSS.

A full copy of Rich's report is available on request to the Secretary or at the 2017 AGM

10 **Cider Update**

Alex reported that cider in the county was flourishing with two new producers this year.

11 **AOB**

There being no further items, the meeting closed at 9.10pm