



Minutes of the Committee Meeting

Tuesday November 30th 2021, 7:30 pm

Zoom Online

Attendance: David Davies, Doug Thompson, Ian Johnson, Maggie O'Moore, Penny Reeves, Simon Shore, Mike Culnane, Jon Watkins

1. Apologies for absence

Andy Dearn

2. Minutes of the meeting of October 26th 2021

2.1. Acceptance of the minutes

2.1.1. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

2.2. Actions of the meeting of October 26th

2.2.1. Doug has spoken to Nigel with regard to booking an evening session for the Society at his studio. The studio is available, but dates need agreeing. We discussed how we might fit in an evening at the studio by moving some dates for the 2022 programme. Our favoured option was to use one of the member's evenings, March 31st or April 28th; a possible alternative is to use the critique evening of February 17th. Doug will continue to organise this event. **The action continues, Doug.**

2.2.2. Simon has reviewed the email list of members. The email addresses of non-active members have been removed from the list. Action completed.

2.2.3. Simon has been in touch with Laurie, who will now return to the Society. Laurie could talk on large format photography as part of a member's evening. Action completed.

2.2.4. Simon has written to members concerning programmes for member's evenings. Action completed.

2.2.5. The EAF insurance form needs completing. Note that we have 51 members, one over the limit under the terms of our current insurance. Doug passed on the request for the EAF membership fee to Simon for payment. **Action, Simon.**

2.2.6. Andy has purchased a new laptop for the Society. Action completed.

2.2.7. Simon said that he has changed his mind about the proposed speaker for our dinner next year and will now approach Ann Miles to speak. **Action, Simon**

2.2.8. Maggie has set up a Doodle Poll for volunteers to help set up the room before a meeting, and the poll is working. Action completed.

2.2.9. Simon has posted some Society documents on our Google drive. Simon asked if people had tried to access them. Maggie said that she had tried but was

unsuccessful; she will try again using the Society password. Maggie will try again.

Action Maggie.

3. **Correspondence**

There was no more correspondence other than that discussed under the review of actions.

4. **Internal Competitions**

Our next competition is colour print. Ian has received 35 entries and will send a reminder to everyone.

The committee thanked Ian for stepping in at the last minute and judging the Improver section of the 'Blue' competition after the judge lost their way to get to the meeting.

Ian raised the issue of members not sending in images for competitions in a consistent manner. Users of Apple computers, in particular, gave rise to problems. The images appear in the body of the email, not as attachments, and the email software strips out the image metadata.

The question was raised as to what we would do if a judge did not turn up at all? Simon said that he was choosing judges who live close to Swavesey to minimise the risk of a no-show by a judge. Also, the Society has qualified judges; one of them could take over as judge of the competition. We would withdraw the entries for the member who is now judging, and a second member could judge those withdrawn entries.

Penny has a copy of the 2019 exhibition portfolio slideshow and the 2019 PAGB slideshow. We could use these as emergency items at a meeting. Penny will copy both to a memory stick and put it with the projector in case we need it. **Action, Penny.**

Andy has taken over management of the Society league tables. The results from the last competition have not yet been distributed, and Ian will do this in Andy's absence.

5. **External Competitions**

Penny: Our entries for the St Ives Interprint and Cambridge Digital competitions have been chosen, and the Cambridge entries have been submitted.

After Christmas, we will need to choose the entries for the improver section friendly competition with Ely.

6. **Programme**

6.1. **Planned competition with Newmarket, Canada**

We discussed the planned inter-club competition with Newmarket, Canada and decided it should be at 4 pm on Saturday, February 19th. We decided that the format should be 24 images from each club, possibly restricted to one image per member? Doug will continue the organisation of the competition. Simon will look for a judge. **Action, Simon.**

6.2. **Member's Evenings**

Simon reported that organising the Member's Evenings was going reasonably well.

Maggie thought we should encourage people to do short, bite-sized talks so as not to not be put off with the prospect of preparing a long talk.

The new walk-about microphone is proving very successful, but we have had a few issues when the person speaking does not have the microphone. We wondered if it was possible to use more than one microphone but recognised that this might introduce technical issues; Simon will ask Mike Swain if it is possible to use two microphones. In the meantime, we need to ensure that the person speaking at the meeting has the microphone. **Action, Simon.**

Maggie asked if we could remind people on Zoom to mute themselves.

It was suggested that we could run one member's evening as a photography workshop. We could cover many topics for beginners, including Photoshop and Topaz filters. Affinity. Photoshop RAW conversion, etc. We will need to come back to this topic in a future meeting.

6.3. **Judges for competitions**

We now have judges for all competitions except the Pairs Competition. Unfortunately, Sarah Kelman was not available. She is going back to working via Zoom rather than attending physical meetings.

We discussed which judges we might approach.

6.4. **Covid**

We discussed the possible impact of the deteriorating Covid situation on live meetings. Simon sees no reason to change our rules until government advice changes. We now need to wear masks in communal areas at the college. Simon will remind members of this requirement.

In summary, the programme is full. We still need a judge for the Pairs Competition and more experienced members to join the competition.

The Club meeting start time is now 7 pm for all meetings.

7. **Finance**

Mike: There was not a lot to report. The task of transferring access to the Club HSBC account to Mike was still in progress.

The issue of unrecorded speaker fees has been resolved.

We now have 51 active members.

The Club has purchased bottles of wine as gifts for the on-site janitor team.

Andy has been paid for the new laptop computer.

Maggie has some outstanding expenses from refreshments.

Ian asked what the status of the profit or loss on refreshments was? This was difficult to judge because fewer people were coming to physical meetings, but we will need to reassess fees next year.

8. Web/Facebook

All seems to be going well.

9. Hospitality

9.1. Presentation of trophies

We have presented a trophy and glass framed certificate in the past, but Simon thought we should discontinue issuing the certificate in the future. The committee agreed.

This year the trophies will be presented at the AGM. However, we could think again about whether to present trophies at the dinner in the future.

10. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

11. Date of Next meeting

Post-meeting note: The date of the next meeting has been changed to January 11th 2022.

12. Summary of actions

12.1. Continue organising a studio evening for the Club. Doug.

12.2. Pay the Club insurance and EAF membership. Simon.

12.3. Approach Ann Miles to speak after our Club dinner. Simon.

12.4. Check if we can access Club documents on Google drive. Maggie.

12.5. Copy the EAF and PAGB slideshows to a memory stick and put with the Club projector. Penny.

12.6. Find a judge for the competition with Newmarket, Canada. Simon.

12.7. Speak to Mike Swain about the possibility of having a second walk-about microphone for live meetings. Simon.

12.8.

David Davies, December 2021