



## **Minutes of the Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday 8th February 2022, 7:30 pm**

Zoom Online

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

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Penny Reeves. Penny joined the meeting later.

### **2. Minutes of the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

#### **2.1. Acceptance of the minutes**

2.1.1. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

#### **2.2. Actions of the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

2.2.1. Action completed. Maggie can access the club documents.

2.2.2. Action completed. Doug & Dave have conducted tests of sending images from Doug's Apple computer. One or two issues were uncovered and have been fixed.

2.2.3. Action completed. Some new members have had help in sending images.

2.2.4. Action completed. The programme has been updated.

2.2.5. Action completed. We have a judge for the Canada competition.

2.2.6. Action completed. Simon collected specimen signatures for HSBC.

2.2.7. Action completed. We discussed the organisation of the Exhibition in the meeting.

### **3. Correspondence**

Doug: there was no correspondence other than that already notified.

We've received an email from a new member, Chi Lo, and Maggie has responded.

### **4. Internal Competitions**

Ian reported that he had received a few entries for the next competition. We are planning for this competition to be a live meeting.

Ian reminded us that the print panel competition due in April must be at a live meeting.

Ian thought that the numbers of entries for our last competition, Metal', made for a comfortable number to be judged.

## 5. External Competitions.

### 5.1. Upcoming competitions

David presented Penny's report.

The upcoming external competitions and their status are:

13th February — EAF Inter-club PDI Championship — 25 images have been submitted (15 for 1st round, further 10 for if we make it through to the second round); details have been circulated to members via email.

26<sup>th</sup> February — our competition with the Photo Arts Club of Newmarket, Canada — we have submitted 25 images and circulated our entry details to members via email and Facebook.

Doug reported that judging of the entries is in progress; there is a judge in the UK, Nick Akers, and another in Canada. Our judge will not be needed on the day as the Canadian judge will provide the narrative. Doug will inform Nick of this. **Action, Doug.**

We will offer Nick Akers £25 for a charity of his choice as payment for judging the competition. **Action, Simon.**

Doug will send out the Zoom link before the meeting.

23<sup>rd</sup> February — A friendly competition, away at Ely. The competition will focus on the work of improvers and those who don't win very often — 25 images have been selected from 25 members and submitted. Penny will circulate details of selection to membership this week. **Action, Penny.**

26th February — St Ives Interprint Competition — This competition will now be of PDIs, not prints. We have submitted six images as our entry and have circulated the details of our entry to members via email and Facebook — Penny noted that the competition date is wrong on our website. Andy to check the date. **Action, Andy.**

24th March — Friendly vs St Neots — We need to select 25 PDIs, not more than two per author (St Neots don't have enough active members to select one image per person, so they have asked to do two per person). We don't know if they want to do this as a live meeting or via Zoom.

Later, Penny said that St Neots had not decided on whether they wanted a live or Zoom meeting and thought it was up to us. We decided that we would have a live meeting, and members of St Neots would be welcome to come. We thought we should plan on up to 10 guests; they can also join online.

29th March — Bill Dunn Memorial Trophy — this is a competition of entries from individuals. Penny has circulated details to members via email and Facebook.

## 5.2. **EAF Exhibition**

EAF exhibition. We have received notice of the EAF Exhibition. Individual members can submit work for consideration as exhibits; there is a charge of 60 pence per entry. The task for the club is to collect and collate the entries from members, complete the submission paperwork and submit the payment by cheque. PDIs need to be written to a single CD for submission. Each member submitting work needs to sign a GDPR compliance consent. The prints, CD, paperwork and payment then need to be given to Daphne Hanson by 13<sup>th</sup> March.

We had a brief discussion of how we would collect and prepare the entries. Members need to have the information, and Doug will resend the EAF Exhibition calling document to remind members. **Action, Doug.**

Members will need to send PDI entries to Penny by email. Penny will need to collect Print entries and the GDPR signatures from members at our first live meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Simon and David have the equipment to write the PDIs to a CD.

## 5.3. **Prints for External Competitions**

Mike had sent an email to the committee suggesting that we hold an additional internal print competition to increase the available body of work for external print competitions. Any points from the competition would not contribute to the leader board. The competition would be informal and allow for more experimental entries. Penny could judge it and offer comments.

In response, Penny said she thought she had a good feel for the styles of many people in the club and could not be an entirely blind judge.

An alternative suggestion was to hold a face to face critique night on prints.

Simon said that feedback from members was that we already have enough competitions in the programme. How about a talk on printing? We will have lots of members' prints from the Exhibition. We could have a print night and invite people to bring a print or a PDI, and we could discuss how it could be modified for printing, acknowledging that a good PDI does not necessarily make a good print without modification.

Jon reminded us that he has a folder of print tests that we could use to show people how different papers and colour settings change how a print looks.

In conclusion, Simon said that he would enquire if someone from a paper manufacturer, such as Permajet, could come to an evening. We could then ask members to bring in prints for comment. **Action, Simon.**

## 6. **Programme**

### 6.1. **Resuming live meetings**

We discussed if we will recommence live meetings on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. We would continue to share live meetings by Zoom until the end of this season.

After discussion, we voted unanimously to resume live meetings on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

Simon will check with future planned speakers if they agree to present at a live meeting. **Action, Simon.**

Maggie will organise a doodle poll for people to do the refreshments, plus email members on the etiquette for the meeting. We still have disposable cups and can continue to use them.

Maggie will also set up a doodle poll calling for people to help set up the room before a meeting.

Simon will contact the college to tell them of our plans and discuss any Covid related policies. **Action, Simon.**

6.2. The programme is complete for this year, and we are starting to book speakers for next year. We seem to have lots of travelogue talks and need more talks on methods and techniques.

Ian offered to do a talk on wedding photography on 28th April.

Simon reminded us of the Survey form he sent out.

Jon asked if we were going to have an open evening. He suggested a talk on phone photography that could be popular and draw people in.

## 7. Finance

7.1. Mike reported that we had spent £468 since the last meeting. We have renewed our insurance, paid for our EAF subscription and reimbursed Andy for the second walk-about microphone. We have £9838 in our account.

Mike said that he has spoken with Lloyds and Barclays Banks, and neither are accepting switched accounts at present, so we cannot transfer our account to them. However, Mike will continue to monitor the situation.

Mike has obtained a cheaper insurance cover (£96 instead of £230) through Zurich Insurance. One requirement is that we need to maintain a club risk assessment. The last time we did this was for the Exhibition in 2019. Jon will look at the last risk assessment we made. Penny had mentioned that she was going to look at our risks.

We discussed what might be required for a risk assessment for covering our activities and job roles and agreed that we could write to Zurich to ask for guidance. Mike would discuss what might be needed with Penny and write to Zurich seeking guidance. **Action Mike.**

The question was asked whether we should have our equipment PAT tested. Simon agreed to look into what might be needed. **Action, Simon.**

Penny joined the meeting.

The question was asked whether the Village College had any requirements for our insurance cover. Simon did not think so; the liabilities are the club's.

## 8. **Web/Facebook**

### 8.1. **Checking payments from new joiners**

Maggie asked if we could check our bank account online? She said that some people are thinking about joining, but we don't have an easy way to check if they have paid their membership fee. Simon will check. **Action, Simon.**

### 8.2. **Details of speakers on Facebook**

Maggie wondered if we could have pictures from speakers, or their web addresses, to put onto our Facebook page. For example, Tom Peck had his web address on Facebook, and it took you to his website. Maggie thought it was better to do this than risk making a mistake or omission when publicising our speakers.

Simon needs to send Ian the details of the judge for our Myths and Fairytales competition. **Action, Simon.**

### 8.3. **Exhibition**

The Exhibition has been booked for 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Jon has contacted Nicole, who requires the full hire payment of £170 with the booking.

We discussed how long people have to prepare for a live exhibition. They will need to produce prints of their prize-winning work plus the optional four prints each member can put in. We discussed the suggestion that the Exhibition is moved to the Summer but decided that it would be best to hold the April date.

We haven't been able to put any advertising in the Meridan magazine. We will have to do the publicity electronically, e.g. on Facebook pages.

Simon will check if the parish council are happy to have an advertising sign mounted on the school railings. **Action, Simon.**

Jon has asked St Ives for the boards and will be booking a van.

Our previous sponsors are willing to sponsor the Exhibition this year.

Mike will send Jon the copy date for the Over village magazine. **Action, Mike.**

Maggie can do the publicity for Facebook groups and other village magazines. Jon will send the Exhibition information to Maggie. **Action, Jon.**

We will go ahead with an open competition tied to the Exhibition. Maggie can do the publicity on Facebook groups.

We discussed whether the Club should pay for printing members' prints. We decided that we would not, but we could offer help to anyone having problems

getting prints made.

Refreshments: there are special conditions of hire regarding Covid. Jon will check if the published measures have changed. **Action, Jon**

Jon will send the details required on the payment cheque to Mike. **Action, Jon.**

## 9. Hospitality

9.1. The Club Dinner will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> May at Toft Golf Club. There will be no presentation of trophies. Maggie will talk to the club about the menu.

## 10. Any Other Business

### 10.1. Proposed SIG on ACR and Bridge

Derek Smith, Kelvin and Maggie have had a very successful Zoom meeting discussing the use of Camera Raw. Would it be an idea to set up a SIG (special interest group) on using Bridge and Adobe Camera Raw with some Photoshop usage?. Derek would be very happy to lead that.

We wondered if we could combine the topic into a workshop night? It will be a small group a Zoom talk. Maggie will organise it. **Action, Maggie.**

## 11. Date of Next meeting

8th March 2022.

## 12. Summary of actions

12.1. Tell Nick Acres that he is not required to attend the Canada Competition.

Doug.

12.2. Offer Nick Akers £25 for a charity of his choice for judging the Canada competition. Simon.

12.3. Circulate details of our entries to the Ely competition. Penny.

12.4. Correct the date of the St Ives competition on the website. Andy.

12.5. Recirculate details of the EAF Exhibition to members. Doug.

12.6. Look into setting up a meeting on making prints. Simon.

12.7. Check with speakers that they are willing to attend a live meeting. Simon.

12.8. Contact the Village College about resuming live meetings. Simon.

12.9. Write to Zurich to ask for advice on our risk assessment. Mike.

12.10. Look into what is needed to PAT test our equipment. Simon.

12.11. Check if prospective new members have paid. Simon.

12.12. Send Ian details of our judge for the Myths and Fairytales competition. Simon

12.13. Ask the Parish Council If they are happy to have our banner on the school railings. Simon.

12.14. Send Jon the copy date for the Over magazine. Mike.

12.15. Send Maggie the Exhibition publicity information. Jon

12.16. Check on the current Covid requirements at the Exhibition hall. Jon.

12.17. Send Mike the payment details for the Exhibition hall. Jon.

12.18. Organise an ACR workshop. Maggie.

David Davies, February 2022