



Minutes of the Committee Meeting

Tuesday 5th January 2021, 7:30 pm

Zoom online

Attendance: Andy Dearn, David Davies, Doug Thompson, Ian Johnson, Maggie O'Moore, Penny Reeves, Ray McMurray, Simon Shore, Jon Watkins

Apologies for absence

1.1. None

2. Minutes of the meeting of 24th November 2020

2.1. Ray has spoken to the judge, Ian Wilson, booked to judge our print panel competition on 13th May, to tell him that we are now going to run the competition as a PDI competition.

The judge said that he would prefer to judge prints, but he would judge the competition if we were stuck. We agreed that we should find a new judge. **Action continues, Ray.**

2.2. Jon has cancelled our booking of the Memorial Hall for this season's exhibition; he is awaiting a return call as confirmation. Action completed.

2.3. Jon has prepared advertising copy for the exhibition and passed it to Mo and Maggie. Action completed.

2.4. Jon continues to work on the online exhibition web pages' layout and will send them out for comments when ready. **Action continues, Jon.**

2.5. Simon has defined how we can divide the tasks of running an online meeting using Zoom. We will discuss this topic under the agenda. Action completed.

3. Correspondence – Doug/Andy

3.1. Doug has received some emails from people offering to give talks to the Club and has passed them on to the committee.

3.2. Four more people have asked to join the Club. Their first meeting night, which will be the member's evening on Thursday, will be free. David will add their names to the email list once they have joined.

4. Internal Competitions – Ian

4.1. Entries for the next competition, Book Titles, do seem to be a bit slow coming in; we have had only one entry from the Improvers Group at present.

5. External Competitions _ Penny

- 5.1. Penny apologised for our late entry into the St Ives Interprint competition. Penny has written to St Ives Photographic Club asking if we can still submit our entry.
- 5.2. We need to select our entries for the PAGB Cup competition. We agreed that the Club probably does not have strong enough nature images to enter the PAGB Nature Cup this season.
- 5.3. We had a brief discussion about the Melbourn Trophy knockout competition with Bishops Stortford, which we lost. We noted that Bishops Stortford, as host club, has the responsibility of sending the results to Melbourn.

6. Programme Update – Ray

- 6.1. We discussed the member's evening organised for the coming Thursday. Ray will organise a series of break-out rooms to enable small groups of people to display and discuss their images.

Club members will be encouraged to bring along images that the break-out groups can discuss. Simon has images ready for discussion; they were not competition images, as such, but were selected to see what people think about them and to illustrate the types of criticisms that judges might raise about them. Ian also has some images to put up.

Ray has put together a programme for the evening. Committee members will act as room hosts each will be allocated to a room to help the members. Typically, there will be five minutes per person to discuss their images. The room hosts will be Maggie, David, Doug, Penny and Andy. Jon will be on standby in case of need. We will have a technical practice on Wednesday evening, at 8 pm.

- 6.2. Ray reported that he is now filling up the gaps in the programme. Recent government announcements have vindicated our decision to plan for the remainder of the season to be conducted online using Zoom. Ray can continue to engage speakers from distant locations.

Ray has found new speakers and judges, including Rusty and Barbie from the Beyond Group who will talk to us on 20th May.

- 6.3. We discussed how the judge might react to our Bamber competition. We are concerned that the judge will interpret it as a panel competition and judge it by linking themes and uniformity across the images. In contrast, it is a 'portfolio competition' where diversity and variety of work are valued. Ian will contact the judge to make it clear what we require.

Action, Ian.

- 6.4. Ray said that we have some evenings where we would typically have no planned meeting because the Village College was closed or could not accommodate us because of parents' events. Ray wondered if, for this season, we should convert these evenings into Club meetings by Zoom. We agreed that this was a good idea.
- 6.5. Ray noted that we have no outings in the programme, and none will be organised now.

6.6. Maggie suggested that we should contact Justin Mimms for a talk. We agreed that this was a good idea.

6.7. The RPS print evening will be done remotely by using PDIs.

7. Finance – Simon

7.1. Insurance

Simon has written to the committee reporting that the EAF has made changes to the terms of their umbrella insurance scheme resulting in an approximately 30% increase in the Club's insurance costs. The EAF insurance scheme has increased the premium for public liability insurance by approximately 10%. It has also removed "management protection insurance" from the umbrella package requiring the Club to pay an additional premium to get it back to the insurance level it had previously. Simon has drafted a letter of complaint to the insurer and the EAF, see attachment 1.

We discussed the issue and agreed that Simon should send the letter of complaint.

8. Website and Facebook – Andy/ Maggie

8.1. The website is working well, and new members are coming in.

Jon noted that we do not cover Willingham with our publicity material, since Willingham has a camera club, but suggested that we send our publicity material to the village magazine. We agreed, and Maggie will pass our publicity information to the Willingham village magazine. **Action, Maggie.**

8.2. Maggie asked whether we thought it acceptable for non-members of the Club to post photographs on the Club's Facebook page? There are members of the Facebook group who are competent photographers but are not members of the Club.

We discussed the question and considered it acceptable to allow non-members to continue posting pictures on our Facebook page. Maggie reminded us that our Facebook page has good conduct rules, and we do not hesitate to remove people who exhibit poor behaviour.

We also noted that the non-members using our Facebook page might provide future members to the Club, and we could post occasional reminders that the Club meets each week using Zoom. We also noted that Ray posts information about upcoming speakers on our Facebook page.

9. Exhibition Update – Jon

9.1. Jon is preparing the website to host our exhibition starting on 10th April 2021 for two weeks. Jon has passed information to the Meridian magazine. He has also set the open competition dates, which runs alongside the exhibition and will close on 31st March.

Jon reported that making up the exhibition template will take some time, and he will prepare a demonstration test template for us to try.

We will use our Facebook and Instagram pages to publicise the exhibition.

Jon has already sent out the first communication on the exhibition to members, and more detail will follow as it develops.

10. Technology Issues

10.1. Zoom

Simon has sent out a list of suggestions to the membership on conducting Zoom meetings and managing them. The suggestions include the need for each meeting to have a technical host and a meeting host as separate people. Several members have responded with offers of participation and help.

Simon has now identified the technical and meeting hosts' roles and will email them to the committee for comment.

Post-meeting note: Simon sent these out after this committee meeting, and they are attached to these minutes as attachment 2. The committee should consider these and pass any comments back to Simon. **Action, all.**

11. AOB

11.1. Andy asked the question, "Did we solve why Doug was receiving other people's competition entries in his email?" Yes, Doug discovered that he had an inadvertent link open and has removed it.

11.2. We do not have minutes of the EGM held on 10th December 2020. Ray said he took notes and will prepare some minutes. **Action, Ray.**

11.3. Andy said that there was a problem with the scores on the League table. He has spotted three differences; two are due to Andy and one due to Ian. Andy will forward the queries to Ian. **Action: Andy and Ian.**

12. Date of Next meeting

Tuesday, 2nd February 2021.

13. Summary of Actions

13.1. Find a new judge for the print panel competition. Ray.

13.2. Prepare a layout for the online exhibition. Jon.

13.3. Contact the judge for the Bamber competition. Ian.

13.4. Send a copy of our publicity information to the Willingham village magazine. Maggie.

13.5. Pass any comments back to Simon on the proposed roles of Zoom meeting hosts. All.

13.6. Prepare minutes of the EGM of 10th December. Ray.

13.7. Resolve issues of scores on the league table. Andy and Ian.

14. Attachments

14.1. Letter to Mrs Cripwell complaining about the rise in insurance costs.

14.2. Proposed role of Zoom meeting hosts.

David Davies, January 2021

Attachment 1

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Email; simonshore99@gmail.com

2/01/2021

Dear Ms. Cripwell,

I have just renewed the insurance cover for Swavesey Camera Club for the season 2021/22. I am writing to you because I have serious concerns about the level of the premium which I will eventually have to justify to the members at an AGM and about which I am sure there will be questions.

There has been a very substantial increase in the premium for public liability of approximately 10%. However, in addition you have reduced the amount of cover offered by removing “management protection insurance” from the umbrella and there is now an additional premium for this protection. In order to get us back to the level of insurance we have previously had we must now pay this extra premium. When you add this together with the public liability increase the increase in premium is approximately 30%.

I find it difficult to understand how you can justify this huge hike in insurance premium. Firstly, inflation rates are running at approximately 2 – 2.5% p.a.

Moreover, in this pandemic year there has been vastly curtailed social and economic activity. Most insurance companies have recognised this and, as I am sure you are aware, many have indeed given refunds on motor insurance policies for example. The members of our Club have not physically met since last April and we have no plans to meet again before next September. I was rather expecting a static or even a reduced premium for this year so I am extremely surprised to face a 30% increase.

Like many clubs and societies, we have worked hard to maintain the existence of the Club during this time. We have substantially reduced membership fees but despite this we have inevitably lost members this year.

As I say, I will have to eventually present this to the membership at and AGM and I am certain that many will be most unhappy and demand an explanation.. Has there been a sudden surge in legal actions against photographic societies that I am not aware of? I think that we deserve to be given some justification for this this 30% rise in premium.

Regards

Simon Shore
Treasurer/President Swavesey Camera Club.

Attachment 2

Proposed Roles of Host and Technical Host in Zoom Meetings

HOST 1.

1. Schedule meeting Monday/Tuesday night and send out email to members with attachment
- A.
2. Research judge/presenter for introductory comments.
 3. Join meeting 7-7.15 via own account (NOT camera club account)
 4. Watch out for presenter/judge joining meeting and welcome. Ensure understands format of meeting (break time etc.) ask if wants questions as we go or leave until break.
 5. Start meeting at 7.30pm. Introduce presenter/judge.
 6. At break announce restart time for second half. Chat to presenter/judge if no one else is.
 7. End of meeting thank judge/presenter with few choice comments.
 8. Announce notices
 9. Announce next week.
 10. Following day remove any recordings > 2weeks old and share recording with members with attachment B.

ASSISTANT HOST (TECHNICAL).

1. Initiate meeting at 7pm via swaveseycameraclub8@gmail.com (password 13AM13er)
2. Make host 2 co-host when joins.
3. Make speaker/judge co-host when joins
4. Mute all at start of presentation
5. Start recording to cloud at start of presentation
6. Pause recording at break
7. Mute all after break
8. Restart recording after break.
9. Close meeting at end.

ATTACH A.

Below are the details of this week's ZOOM presentation; the meeting room will be open from approx. 7.15pm and the presentation starts at 7.30pm.

Remember that this is for Swavesey Camera Club members only so please do not share this link outside the Club without contacting a member of the committee.

If you cannot make it on the night a recording of the meeting will be available for 2 weeks- you will be sent the link within a couple of days.

ATTACH B.

recording of last night's presentation available on link below and will be available for 2 weeks. remember that this is for Swavesey Camera Club members only so please do not share this link outside the Club.