

Minutes of the AGM held at the Friend's Meeting House on Wednesday 25th March 2015 at 7.30pm

Apologies were received from Val Child, Robert Child, Elaine Rhodes and John Topping

Minutes of AGM 2014

These were accepted as a true record, proposed by David Maslin and seconded by David Jarvis. There were no matters arising

President's and acting Secretary's report

President Ralph Witty reported that there had been a small increase in membership from last year. This year there was the introduction of a nominal charge of £2.00 for people who did not want to commit to full membership. This had proved to be popular for some and earns a little more income for the club.

He said that it had been a sad year because we had lost some past and present members, these included Ray Warren and Ken Peck who had both been unwell for some time. And most recent members will remember Kathy Underwood who sadly died last year and who was a very active member of the club. Kathy held a post on the committee and was also the webmaster.

Ralph said that he was very pleased to see that some of the newer members were taking part in the competitions and encouraged others to give it a go next year. He said that we continue to be a club that is fair and equitable to everyone and it was his aim as president to encourage people into the club who have varying degrees of experience and support them in any way possible trying to address all areas of interest in photography.

Charles Spencer took over as webmaster and has revamped the website which is now easier to navigate and looks very professional. Ralph said he would like to thank Charles for his efforts towards this. He said the Facebook group was also a great way of attracting new members and offering advice to others. Also the weekly feature in the Scarborough Evening News was a good way to promote the club.

He mentioned that new information had been released by the PAGB suggesting that all clubs should have policies put in place at that address which includes child protection, vulnerable adults, data protection and health and safety. This is something that has to be implemented by the committee and whilst the club is insured for public liability the afore mentioned issues have clauses against paying out should there be any legislative action taken against the club. In view of this all extra club activities need to be reviewed and a copy of the policies and procedures will be available online in due course.

He said that the beginner's photography course will be going ahead again this year and has already got bookings for this. Money will continue to be used for equipment that can be used on the course and also go towards club funds.

Finally Ralph said thank you to the committee members for their hard work and hoped that we have another successful year for the club.

Treasurer's report

Treasurer Elaine Rhodes was unable to attend the AGM but she sent a written report to be read out on the night. (see below).

This has been a successful year for the club from both a financial and membership aspect. We have seen an increase in the number of members from 45 to 47 and more members who have attended on an ad hoc basis and made a contribution of £2 per session.

The balance of funds held by the club stands at £2105.60, an increase of £648.91 on last year's balance.

This has been attributable to several factors:-

- The increase in the subscription fee and the total number of members
- Income from the summer school
- Fundraising on President's night (£160)

In addition we have been able to purchase equipment for the club to the value of £350, out of the income from the summer school. The largest expense for the club is the rent for hire of this room and facilities. The cost had remained at £40.50 per session this year.

Exceptional expenditure this year was the purchase of a cup for the annual competitions and a donation in memory of Kathy Underwood who passed away last summer. We hope that this will ensure that Kathy's enthusiasm and contributions to the club will be remembered in future years.

Competition Secretary's report

Competition Secretary John Turner handed everyone a comprehensive guide to the season's competitions. He said that it was a relief to see that the number of entries had actually gone up this year.

After a vote the following subjects were chosen for next season's monthly competitions:

Open, Street Scene, Trio, Water, Humour

Election of Officers

The following officers were elected for 2015/16

President –	Ralph Witty
Treasurer –	Elaine Rhodes
Secretary –	Alan Flint
Competition Secretary –	John Turner
Syllabus Secretary –	Elise Garland
YPU Representatives –	Val Child and David Jarvis
Projectionists –	David Brett and Geoff Bint
Webmaster –	Charles Spencer
Committee –	Roger Chapman

The role of Vice President was still outstanding.

It was agreed that the YPU reps and the Webmaster would be on the Committee as of right and we would have 3 other members, but only one had been elected so far.

Subscriptions

£35 for single membership and £60 for joint

2015/16 Programme

Janet Hastie said that it would be good to have more on creative ideas. So a Photoshop or Lightroom practical session was suggested.

Sandra Ineson-Palmer said that it would be helpful to have a session at the beginning of the programme to explain about competitions etc (similar to last year). This would be helpful for the newer members and might encourage them to take part in the competitions if they were better informed.

It was also agreed to continue to have a prize for a member who has not been previously placed in a competition.

Kate Robinson said that it would be useful to have a practical night for beginners giving one-to one sessions on cameras for all capabilities.

Alan Flint mentioned that some members were going to meet to go out on photo shoots during the summer once a fortnight. This would start on April 15th and would include places like the Dean Road Cemetery, Scarborough Castle, Saint Catherine's for a studio night. He hoped that this would be put on the website.

Syllabus secretary's report

Syllabus secretary Elise Garland said that she thought this year's programme had been well received. Everything went to plan, but it was disappointing that Oliver Wright from Leeds who was due to do a Macro session had to pull out due to other commitments, but he had said that he would hopefully come and speak for us next season. She said that she would welcome any ideas for speakers and practical sessions for next year from members.

YPU Update

David Jarvis said that they were disappointed with entries this year as there were only 7 members who submitted 38 print and digital images in total. He said that the annual assembly and exhibition this year was at the Cast Theatre in Doncaster on the 9th May if you wanted to go along. The print exhibition is at Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery on the 5th July, but to take note that the museum is closed on Monday and Tuesdays. See the YPU website for further details.

Any other business

Barry Josey said that he was moving to York but would be sad to go. We wished him good luck for the future.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.