

High Peak, Tameside and North East Cheshire CAMRA

Branch meeting

Saturday 15th April 1pm

The Cheshire Cheese, Buxton

Minutes

1. **Present:** Ben Zwierink (chair), Peter Mitchell, Colin Phillips, Tom Lord, Daniel Szechi, Kath Murray, Frank Clayton, Graham Privett, Vic George, Lisa Wood, Frank Wood, Geoff Caine, Michael Glendenning, Dave Sharpe, Philip Barton, Phil Moss, Ralph Warrington, Ali Warrington, Neil Hay, Martin Knapp, Ralph Luxon, Geoff Williamson, Allan Stone, Rodney Oliver, Steven Wright, Dave Shaw, Bernie Brownsword
2. **Apologies:** Kevin Wilson, Nick Earle, Steve Parsons, John Robinson
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting** were agreed. No matters arising.
4. **Pub news**– nothing reported
5. **Officers' reports**
 - a. Chair
 - i. Geoff Lees, a very long-standing and loyal branch member died 6/4/23. His funeral will be at 3pm at Dukinfield crematorium 25/4/23, and afterwards at the Stable Gate in Denton. The branch raised a glass in his memory.
 - ii. GM Regional Meeting
 1. AGM
 - a. Two new secretaries: Heather Airlie (minutes). John O'Donnell (admin)
 - b. Young Members coordinator: Sean O'Mahoney
 - c. Pub Campaigning Officer: vacant
 - d. Regional Equipment Officer: volunteers needed to assist
 - iii. Branch now needs a Public Transport Officer. Tom Lord volunteered.
 - iv. There is a tasting panel training day 29/4/23 at Briton's Protection
 - v. Salford branch Treasure Hunt 1/7/23
 - vi. Volunteers needed for Regional PotY judging – see BZ
 - b. Treasurer: Balance £707.95
 - c. Membership secretary: 1100 (-13); M:F 81:18; 28 U30 (2.5%)
 - d. Beer scoring coordinator: 4065 scores from 207 scorers, including 44 from HPTNEC branch (+3). Numbers have stabilised around double the pre-pandemic numbers. New watch list: all currently qualified pubs have sufficient scores. Members may nominate pubs to go on the watchlist, to encourage

more scoring in potential GBG pubs. GP will be standing down at the AGM as Beer Scoring Coordinator.

- e. Social secretary
 - i. 6/5/23 meet at Beer Shed in New Mills for a shared taxi to Thornsett Brewery. Will also arrange taxi back to New Mills.
 - ii. Local Social Gee Cross Friday 12th May.
- f. Secretary
 - i. Meetings schedule finalised to end of June
 - ii. Branch Pubs of the Season. Unsuccessful nominations will be carried forward to the next season
 - iii. Short piece for Opening Times needed for our Club of the Year
 - iv. Favourable mention of the branch in What's Brewing article on Mild Magic
 - v. Members thinking of standing for posts at AGM, please talk to any of the current committee

6. Meetings schedule

Date and time	Day	Meeting	Venue
April 29 th 1:30pm	Saturday	Pub of the Spring presentation and Social. Also SSM CAMRA Mild Magic bus tour	The Angel, Dukinfield
May 6 th 1:30pm	Saturday	Thornsett Brewery tap social	Meet outside Beer Shed, New Mills, for taxi to brewery
May 12 th 8pm	Friday	Local Social Gee Cross	TBD
May 15 th 7:30pm	Monday	Branch Meeting	Commercial, Glossop
May 20 th 1:30pm	Saturday	Branch PotY presentation and social	Silly Country, Droylsden
June 3 rd 1:30pm	Saturday	Branch Cider PotY presentation and social	Station Buffet Bar, Stalybridge
June 10 th 1:30pm	Saturday	Branch CotY presentation, Branch Meeting & Social	Legion Club, Poynton
July 8 th 1:30pm	Saturday	Branch AGM & Social	TBC
July 15 th 1pm	Saturday	GM Regional Committee	Lamb Hotel, Eccles
July 29 th 1:30pm TBC	Saturday	Branch Pub of the Summer presentation	Ale Stop, Buxton
August 12 th 1:30pm	Saturday	Branch Meeting and Social	TBC
October 14 th 1pm	Saturday	GM Regional Committee	Trafford & Hulme TBC
October 17 th – 24 th	Tues – Tues	Branch trip to Kraków	

7. CAMRA Regions Review

Ralph Warrington (GM Regional Director) summarised the review report. It will mean the break-up of HPTNEC branch, because branches will not be allowed to cross

regional boundaries. It may be possible to retain High Peak as a sub-branch in a different region (East Midlands), and Hope Valley could be part of that.

It was *agreed* to ask the committee to send in an emergency motion to CAMRA national conference 22, 23/4/23. It was also *agreed* to ask the committee to prepare a detailed appeal against the break-up of the branch, using information supplied by members about transport links etc

8. Real Ale and Nitro-keg

Ralph Warrington (also a member of CAMRA's Technical Advisory Group) described the current situation for "real ale" and "live beer". The Campaign supports quality live beer, which comes in many forms, in addition to traditional cask-conditioned real ale. Live beer exists in many forms. The application of gas (either CO2 or N2) directly into beer renders it NOT real ale, but it could still be live beer.

Beer scores currently are for real ale. Scores for other live beers are being considered.

Members were urged to vote for NE members, having studied the views they have put forward in this area.

9. Branch Pub of the Summer selection

After an elimination ballot, Ale Stop was selected as branch Pub of the Summer. Presentation will be 29/7/23, at a time to be agreed with the landlord.

10. Kraków trip October 2023

The cost will be around £500 for flights and hotel. Interested members were asked to sign up.

11. Curry night

The 10 interested members were asked to sign up.

12. Opening Times holders. Cardboard holders available today. Plastic ones on order.

13. CAMRA National Membership System

Frank Clayton spoke of his difficult experience trying to renew his CAMRA membership, including £870 being taken from his bank as the direct debit. It was agreed that GW would look to see how it could be resolved. ACTION GW

14. Date of next meeting – 7:30pm Monday 15th May at The Commercial, Glossop