

Frodsham & District Photographic Society



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Monday 17th April 2023

Held

Chair :	Liz Kenny	Webmaster :	Andrew Williams
Secretary :	Miriam Manners	Programme Secretary :	Ian Stanley
Treasurer :	Brian Lunt	Committee Member :	Marie Aldridge
		Committee Member :	Tec Evans

Apologies for Absence Peter E, John B, Tec E, Bill G, Graham R, Jeff M, Andy F, Nigel PD, Liz P, Delena 17 in attendance

Minutes of the AGM: year April 22 agreed as accurate

1. Chairman's Report

- I'll try to keep this short, as Ian's going to give us an overview of the season as a whole in his Programme Secretary report.
- Firstly on a sad note, we lost one of our longest serving members this year with the passing of Roger Pearce. Roger had been a member for many years before I first joined and he and Liz were faithful attendees prior to Covid. He will be missed by us all. We sent a donation to the charity that Liz has nominated in Roger's memory.
- A number of our members have faced serious health challenges during the year and some are still facing them. We wish them all well.
- We welcomed an unprecedented number of new members this season, which was a delight. Some are experienced photographers and others are novices or at least new to the club photography scene. We need to ensure that we are meeting their needs as well as those of our established and experienced members and we'll have a chance to talk further about that later this evening in our general discussion after the break.
- I'd like to thank my fellow Committee members for their hard work through the year. We held 10 committee meetings, but most of the work takes place outside the meetings.

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- Miriam is our Secretary and keeps us all in order. She also organised our fabulous Christmas Hot Pot Supper, ensures we have half-time refreshments each week and “keeps us real” in Committee meetings.
- Ian spends hours crafting the programme, liaising with speakers, putting together video compilations of your images and of course, he arranged the light painting event, which was such a great success.
- Marie has been invaluable in the last few years in arranging such a lot of great member events and introducing us to new ideas and approaches. I know she would welcome some help with this, so please don't be shy.
- Andrew works incredibly hard in maintaining and forever improving our website, sorting out technical issues with competition entries and other IT problems and lots of other unseen work behind the scenes.
- Brian is not only our Treasurer but also now looks after our club competitions, finding and liaising with judges and running Dicentra on the night. Not only that, but he's also made our new print stand, with input from Andrew. I believe Brian's recently refitted his kitchen – judging by the care and thought that went into the print stand, I'm sure he's done an excellent job with that too.
- Tec has had the difficult job of sorting out our external competitions and we have had some successes: overall our entries in the L&CPU Bob Robinson Trophy last October didn't do too well, but some of our individual entries scored well. Marie's image scored 25 and was commended and I was given a Judge's Choice. The slide shows our highest scoring images from the 12 we submitted.
- We won the Mix and Match competition with Ellesmere Port PS in October and came joint second in the Marsden Cup inter-club competition last month with a panel “Horse and Rider”.
- We moved our in-person meetings this season to the Community Centre – I hope you are happy with our new home. We've found the staff helpful, the facilities good, the charges affordable and the car parking convenient.
- We carried out a survey of members' views earlier this year. The feedback generally was good. We've tried to take on board some of the suggestions you made in your responses, but there will be a chance to discuss this more after the tea break if there are issues you want to pursue.

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- I want to mention some of the community events we have supported during the year.
- First off was the Frodsham Downhill Run last July. We had six photographers strategically positioned along the route to capture the runners from the start at the top of Overton Hill to the finish line in Castle Park. Andrew uploaded all the images to a web gallery so that runners could access their images.
- We also had a little army out in November to capture the Frodsham Christmas Festival, from the festive dog walk in Castle Park in the morning to the parade and lights switch on in the evening.
- Finally, Geoff White stepped up at a few hours' notice to cover a performance by Stagecoach Performing Arts School in Weaverham on 25 March after the student who was to photograph the event went down with covid. There was a second performance in Warrington the next day and Ian & Mim kindly agreed to cover that.
- Before I finish there are a couple of things I want to remind you of:
- We have a WhatsApp Group that many, but not all of you are members of. It would be nice to have everybody on board over the summer so people can share their plans – maybe you can make some trips out in a group or share lifts to events.
- We also have a Facebook Group – a nice place to share your images, safe in the knowledge that only club members will see them.
- And finally, a mention of our Easy Fundraising account. This is an excellent and painless way to raise money for the club while shopping online. I looked back at the donations I've managed to generate since Christmas and they include a hotel booking, a new washing machine from John Lewis, two theatre tickets, some camera gear from Wex, a food mixer from Currys and train tickets from Transport for Wales – adding up to almost £25 for the Society.

2. Treasurer's Report

- As you have seen we have made a small loss this year
- For the year to come we expect expenditure to increase, more face to face meeting, judges travel expenses, getting good presenters and general inflation
- Possibility due to ill health we may not have so many renewal of memberships
- Adoption of accounts

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1st Vince

2nd Steve

- Treasurer proposed we return the annual Subscriptions to £50
- Adopt the increase
- 1st Barry
- 2nd Lynda

3. Appointment of person to verify accounts

In-line with club rules, 22-23 season

Roy Bowden has agreed to verify the accounts.

This was passed

1st Jenny

2nd Vince

4. Programme Secretary's Report

I am pleased to present the Programme Secretary's Report for the Frodsham & District Photographic Society's 2022-23 season. The season was filled with exciting competitions, informative presentations, and memorable events, some face-to-face, some via zoom.

Our competitions, which included Power, Water, Sport, and Open themes, were expertly organised by Brian, who also operated Dicentra for these events. Members displayed their photographic skills in these competitions, and we saw some exceptional entries. Thanks to our external judges Simon Ray, John Haines, Nick Berentzen, Harry Emmett, Ian Whiston and John Smith.

The society was privileged to host presentations from several accomplished photographers, including Paul Hobson, George Robertson, Gerald Chamberlin, Warren Alani, Wayne Simpson, Eddie Hyde, and Cherry Larcombe. They covered a range of subjects, including wildlife, travel and landscape, infra-red, sport, fine-art flowers, composition, and a very moving and unforgettable presentation by Wayne Simpson from Ontario. If you saw it this one will live with you in your memory for a long time. I should say that

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many of these evenings are still available on “catch up” if you missed them. Look at the website on www.frodsham.photos.

Our exchange programme with LichtVast Fotoclub in Diest in Flanders continued this season on the theme of water. This provoked a trickle of comments and a deluge of critique, not helped by the fact that our projector failed on the night. We also had a couple of non-competitive showcase evenings, one on wildlife and a creative evening co-presented with the help of Glenys Garnett.

Marie presented a series of members' evenings that were well-received, including a panel evening for new members, a flat lay, a summer retrospective, haiku imagery, tales from the image bank (the one that got away) and close to home. Our thanks to Marie for that. She also organised events in collaboration with Lynda (Top Tips) and Maggie (Photographic Awards) and another with Andrew which got postponed due to lack of time available.

We had a Mix & Match evening with Ellesmere Port Photographic Society, which we won; our thanks to Tec for organising that. We also want to extend our gratitude to Liz for her "View from the Chair," which provided valuable insights into the workshops she regularly attends. Lastly, we extend a special thanks to Andrew for being in the background on most of these evenings, supporting the technical side.

Marie & I also organised our most adventurous evening out this season. An evening Light Painting at Frodsham Caves. This took a lot of preparation, health and safety nightmares and almost failed when our original presenter had to pull out at the last minute due to illness but we got an equally good replacement in Chris Thompson from Sheffield. A magical evening.

During the past summer season, all committee members (along with Andy and Lynda) took part in organising various ad-hoc external events such as a visit to Norley Flower Garden, Cycle racing (Manchester), the Wilson Cup (Sailing), Horse Trials (Kelsall Hill), Motorcycle racing (Oulton Park), a walk

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along the river Weaver, and an afternoon social in Marston. We are considering the possibility of organising similar events during the upcoming summer season.

We've accomplished a lot in the last year so hopefully I haven't missed anything?

In conclusion, we had a successful and rewarding 2022-23 season, and we look forward to seeing you all in the upcoming season.

Ian Stanley

5 Election of Officers 2022/2023

In the absence of anybody putting themselves forward the following will stand

- Liz Kenny-Chair
- Miriam Manners Secretary
- Brian Lunt Treasurers

Proposed and agreed by

1st Lynda

2nd Vince

6. Election of Committee Members

The following have agreed to stand

- Ian Stanley-Programme Secretary
- Marie Aldridge Committee Member
- Andrew Williams Web Master
- Tec Evans Committee Members
- New Committee member Maggie Bullock was elected
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Proposed and agreed by

1st Barry 2nd Jeff White

7. Honorary President

Hazel Bell has agreed to continue in this position.

Proposed by Miriam -passed

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8. Announcement of the winners for 2022-23 season

Photographer of the year -Maggie Bullock

Annual Open -Print Lynda Haney

Annual Open PDI Delena Harris

Chairman's Choice Nigel Pitts- Drake

9. Announcement of Competition Themes

Competitions

Landscapes

Close up/Macro

Square Format Monochrome

+ Opens

Showcases

Postcards | Triptych etc | Long Exposures

10. Summer Activities

Propose using whatsapp more to inform members what's going on. If it's a formal event we have to do risk assessments so we feel less informal events will be better .

11. AOB

Lynda mentioned competitions going back to two groups to help the less experienced this was agreed to be taken into committee and discussed further

Geoff (W) mentioned how do we recruit new and young members Social media etc was mentioned this also will be discussed further in committee, we all feel a greater need to further this.

Meeting was closed with thanks

All the committee were thanked for all their efforts during the year.

Miriam thanked the Chair (Liz) for all the work she does behind the scenes as well as chairing the meetings.

Formal meeting was closed at 9pm.

Miriam Manners Secretary F & D P S 19th April.2023

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