

DCC Committee Meeting June 2015 Minutes.

Present: David Hendry, Sarah Walkington, Murdo MacDonald, Sarah Watson, Rhona Cruickshank, Chris Bell, Harry Scott. Apologies: David Packer.

1. Preparation for the AGM

- a. No changes were proposed for the constitution. Prior to the AGM the constitution would be circulated to all members requesting proposals for amendment. Those proposals to be communicated one week before the AGM.
- b. Nominations for the committee are to be circulated to all members prior to the AGM, with a request for any further nominations. Named positions are for two years unless the person leaves the position.

Of the current committee Sarah Walkington (events), Harry Scott (competitions) and David Packer (secretary) have one more year of their two years to run, and so continue in their posts. Chris Bell also has one more year to run, but has been nominated for chair and so may not be available for one more year.

Committee members at the end of their term are David Hendry (chair), Sarah Watson (vice-chair), Rhona Cruickshank (treasurer), Rory Sheldon (website coordinator) , and both of the general members (who have a term of one year) – Murdo MacDonald and Charlotte Smith.

Nominations were proposed at this point to ensure that we a functioning committee was in place for next session. Those nominations are:

- i. Chair – Chris Bell.
 - ii. Vice-chair – no nomination yet.
 - iii. Treasurer – Moyra Gray.
 - iv. Events – (to replace Chris) Murdo MacDonald
 - v. Website – David Hendry (if no others nominated).
 - vi. General Members – Sarah Watson, Caroline Heard and Nigel Corby.
- c. Prizes will be awarded at the AGM with all prize winners and trophies, excepting “Photograph of the Year”, now known.

2. Assignments for 2015-16.

- a. The number of assignments was discussed and then agreed that the same number of assignments should be set, at an approximate rate of one per month.
- b. Two assignments will continue to be open, but with the second being limited to images “straight from the camera”.
- c. There was then discussion of whether assignments of the form technique talk followed by an assignment based on that technique with the assignment judged by the presenter of the technique should be included in the programme. It was agreed to have two such assignments.

- d. So the list of assignment titles (in approximately this order) for session 2015-16 will be:
 - i. Open I with no limitations on theme or techniques.
 - ii. Coast.
 - iii. Dusk to Dawn preceded by talk by Sarah Watson and then judged by Sarah.
 - iv. Life in the City – judged by a panel of three club members.
 - v. In the style of ...
 - vi. Sports preceded by talk by Chris Bell and then judged by Chris Bell.
 - vii. Open II with images limited to “straight from the camera”
 - viii. Emotions.
 - e. There was limited discussion of the club’s competitive position and how we could improve on that, providing more satisfaction for competitive members, yet retaining the fun side of the club. It was agreed to:
 - i. Set up a closed Flickr group where members could submit any image they felt might be of interest to the club. This would then be one source of material when preparing a set of images for competitions such as Grampian Eye etc.
 - ii. Create a list of events to be published on the website where members might find photographic opportunities (see also 6. below).
3. Programme for 2015-16.
- a. Some efforts will be made to recruit new members prior to the start of the season.¹
 - b. The opening social night would include a running slide show of members’ images that would show new members our work and suggest contacts they might want to make in the club. Request images from members and if no response use ones previously submitted.
 - c. Chris Bell to contact Amy Muir and ask her to do a talk on something of her choice, perhaps how she managed to get her business started. When we have a date from Amy we can then finalise the programme up to the October break. It is expected to include however: Opening social evening; talk by Amy Muir; Back to Basics I by David H; Judging of Open I (perhaps by John Rutherford – Chris Bell to contact); Photo treasure hunt around Aboyne; Peterhead exchange; “Dusk to Dawn” talk by Sarah Watson (fixed at 30 September); and judging of assignment 2 “Coast”.
 - d. After the October break the programme will include: Printing workshop; Back to Basics II by Chris Bell; Judging of “Dusk to dawn” by Sarah; Grampian Eye images; Back to Basics III by David Packer; First Critique night led by Maggie; Judging of assignment 4 “Life in the City” judged by an internal panel of three; and finish the year with a photo quiz by Sarah Walkington.
 - e. Various ideas not included were left for possible inclusion in the second half of the year, but this to be finalised by the new committee. These were 1) HDR talk and practical 2) Use a film camera, develop the film and then scan.
4. Photograph of the Year rules. Agreed that the rules for photograph of the year should be that only images submitted to the assignments are entered. This to be made more visible at the start of the year and on the website.

¹ We need to be careful not to be too successful in this and find that our numbers make our venue difficult.

5. It was agreed that we should have a paper/electronics suggestions box where members could pass on ideas regarding club activities.
6. Grampian Eye 2017.
 - a. Deeside will host Grampian Eye in 2017. The organisation of the competition is largely up to us. The date targeted is April 22nd 2017, a Saturday.
 - b. We will book the Community Centre theatre now for that date. That booking will include the canteen and the small servery near the double doors.
 - c. James Frost in RPS has been contacted and confirmed that no RPS events are planned in this area for that date, and that he will keep that date clear for us.
 - d. We will need an organising committee, those to date are: Chris Bell, Sarah Watson, Murdo MacDonald, Moyra Gray and David Hendry. There will be much work to do New chair to get this moving.
7. Days out. Agreed that we will post a list of events on the website and advertise on Facebook. Please email all suggestions to, say outings@deesidecameraclub.org?
8. NTS would like us to photograph Craigevar castle to provide images for a new guide book. This should be timed about July and will become one of our events (of 6.). NTS will retain copyright of all images used in the guide book, but photographers will retain the copyright of images not used by NTS. They are happy to open the castle in the evening for us if that is felt to be desirable, and/or we can photograph during the day when visitors are present. Add to events list and determine interested members.
9. Some discussion of the scoring system followed. Generally upheld that the theme should have a greater weighting in the scoring system, while allowing artistic freedom. For "Photograph of the year" where no theme is in place, it is essentially an open, the current 5/5/5 system to be used. For future competitions the new committee will need to consider this again.
10. Participation in SPF Competitions. Left to the next meeting.
11. NEOS 2015 – we reckon we are too late for this.
12. AOCB.
 - a. The Community room is felt to be too warm/noisy and not really large enough. Other locations to be investigated including asking the community centre for another room. Locations mentioned included Scott Skinners; various village halls; and the Bowling Club (although the historical society use this one night a month). Rhona to talk to her contacts in the community centre.