



NORTHERN COUNTIES PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION

Minutes of the 117th Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 17th March 2019 at
Swalwell Community Centre, 74 Clavering Road, Swalwell NE16 3EX commencing at 2.00pm

PRESENT:- **PAST PRESIDENTS:-** - Jane Black, Ann Swearman, Alan Porrett, David Coates, Pax Garabedian, Cliff Banks, Alan McCormick

RETIRING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:- Joseph Duffy, Jim Welsh, Alan McCormick, Stan Bewick, Margaret Welsh, Peter Yearnshire, Gerry Adcock, Pax Garabedian, Alan Wilson, Jane Black, Richard Speirs, John Smith, John Twizell, David Brown, Trevor Walters, David Coates, Debra Taylor, Gerald Chamberlin, Keith Kirkland, Mike Allport

SOCIETY and CLUB DELEGATES:- - 25 Delegates and 1 Guest, representing 18 Clubs.

19AGM/01 NOTICE CALLING THE 117th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The President, Joseph Duffy, read the notice calling the 117th Annual General Meeting to order.

He welcomed 25 Delegates, 1 Guest, 7 Past Presidents and 15 members of the Retiring Executive Committee (4 of whom are also Past Presidents).

19AGM/02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Past Presidents: - Stan Bewick, John Cooper, Colin Hall, Richard Speirs

Executive: - John Twizell

Delegates: - None Received

19AGM/03 MINUTES OF THE 116th AGM HELD ON SUNDAY 18th MARCH 2018

Acceptance was proposed by John Gilkerson and seconded by Pax Garabedian and was agreed unanimously.

19AGM/04 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

18AGM/07 TREASURER'S REPORT – On behalf of Stan Bewick, Howard Wilson said that the paragraph at the end of the Treasurer's report outlining the statement Stan made was inaccurate. He said that Stan did not disagree with the payment of travelling expenses to the Executive Committee. He disagreed with the Executive making the decision themselves and said that it should have been proposed at an A.G.M. and decided by the attending members. Margaret Welsh explained the situation to those present and said that after Stan's comments, this was put to the floor and voted on by a show of hands. With the exception of one abstention and one against, the proposal to pay travelling expenses was carried.

19AGM/05 ELECTION OF NEW CLUBS TO THE FEDERATION

No nominations for new clubs have been received.

19AGM/06 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Joseph Duffy

I can't believe it is a year since I took over the presidency of the NCPF, time certainly DOES pass quicker as you get older.

Being President has some great benefits and two of them this year were being able to award Cliff Banks of Sunderland PS a well-deserved APAGB and being invited to open the 50th Anniversary Exhibition of Washington CC. Organised by the members, the exhibition was a wonderful showcase for their work and a great way to celebrate their half century.

As I am sure you will know, one of the founders of Washington CC, Ken Henderson, sadly died recently. He was a lecturer and judge for many years and a lot of us here will have seen him speak, attended one of his portrait nights or met him at Washington. Durham PS also lost a stalwart member with the death of Joe Grabham. Joe was a keen supporter of the NCPF and gave occasional lectures. Anyone who heard him, as I did at Ryton, will remember the quality of his work.

Both Ken and Joe had a love of and an enthusiasm for photography that they were always happy to share with others, both were characters, and both will be sadly missed.

The 2018 NCPF weekend at Beamish was a huge success with over 1000 people visiting the exhibition. Thanks are due to Jim and Margaret Welsh of Blyth PS for their tremendous support in both the organising and running of the weekend since its inception several years ago. The 2019 weekend takes place over the weekend 18th & 19th May.

Events like this can only take place with the help and support of volunteers and despite looking for people to take over various roles for several years only one person has committed themselves to a job and we have now arrived at a point where we must consider whether we can continue to organise events in the future. We have people to help at Beamish, but it is possible it may not run next year. Currently the Club Championships and Annual Competitions have no one to organise them and unless someone steps forward they may not happen in the future. It is an unenviable position to be in as we would not be able to submit an entry to the PAGB Alliance and Inter Federation Competitions. Without new blood to take over from the existing organisers, many of whom have worked for the NCPF for many years and are stepping down to maybe actually take some pictures!, we will not be able to run any of the NCPF competitions.

Once again, we are asking if anyone would like to volunteer to take over a role and help these things continue. To be blunt, the ball is in your court.

Photography has never been more popular - the number of people using cameras is HUGE, let's build on that and look to a brighter future.

Thank You.
Joseph Duffy
NCPF President

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Jim Welsh, seconded by Pax Garabedian. This was agreed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT & PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR TO 31/12/18 - Peter Yearnshire

First of all I would like to thank Warren Snowdon for auditing the NCPF accounts.

As in all financial matters I have to produce all accounts to him at the end of the financial year, I value any advice and take on board any recommendations for the following year.

At this time there are 4 accounts for the NCPF.

- 1) Current Account
- 2) Reserve Account
- 3) Fixed Interest Account with Scottish Widows
- 4) International Salon

I have responsibility for recording and ensuring that all accounts are managed to good effect, and as we do not have any overdraft facility I have to occasionally move monies in between accounts, as and when required.

All budgets have to be implemented and adhered to good effect, extracurricular, or non-budgeted events have to be self-financing as far as possible. This money has to be stretched as far as possible to accommodate all of the activities, and the financial management of the organisation as a whole.

The Scottish Widows 3 year postal account was renewed in February 2016. The nature of the account being the sum total invested, remains constant throughout the 3 year period, and all interest being paid directly into our Current Account on a yearly basis. This account is due for review in 2019.

The interest made from this account in 2018 was £213.28, this money goes into the current account.

Room hire for Executive meetings for 2018 were £242.00 This payment was for a total of 7 meetings in 2018.

As discussed at the last 2 Annual General Meetings it was announced that travel expense payments were to be introduced to Executive members who attend meetings at Swalwell Community Centre.

The claimants are paid a nominal 10 pence per mile from home and return only to all executive members who attend these meetings.

The combined totals for 2018 were £304.60p.

In the current account there were a total of 6 cheque payments not cashed before December 31st 2018, the combined totals being £35.21.

At last year's AGM the Reserve account was £2268.62p. At close of balance in December 2018 it was £2270.99p. A gain of £2.37p

With reference to the monies in the 'other column' for £42.00p – The combined payments were for 2 items.

- 1) £30.00 for Donation to Alzheimer's Society (Ed Martin – Ex NCPF President)
- 2) £12.00 – for printing of Treasurer's AGM notes.

The International Salon account was established January 2011, the overall purpose of this was to manage this competition more efficiently, and allow entrants to enter this competition worldwide and pay via Pay Pal.

The 2018 International Final Balance shows an increase in income to the previous year.

Opening Balance 2018	International Salon Account
£2153.72	Opening Bank Balance at 1.1.18
£5719.21	Expenditure
£7288.00	Income
£3722.51	Closing Bank Balance at 31.12.18

Grand Total's Year on Year

Year on Year	31.12.13	31.12.14	31.12.15	31.12.16	31.12.17	31.12.18
Current Account	2536.37	2231.72	3462.63	4370.27	3262.04	3391.14
Reserve Account	93.55	2266.77	2267.67	2268.62	2268.99	2270.99
Postal Account	14334.48	14334.48	14334.48	15232.41	15232.41	15232.41
International Salon	5291.53	1077.00	1016.27	866.35	2153.72	3722.51
Grand Totals	22255.93	19909.97	21081.05	22737.65	22917.16	24617.05

As with all matters financial you cannot plan for all eventualities. I am aware that there are variances in costs between events and competitions. This is mainly out of our control and usually comes down to cost of hiring premises or paying expenses for judges who travel further than a local distance. This accounts for some of the variances on the year on year totals.

I hope this explains in some way the comings and goings of all the monies of the NCPF.

I will gladly try to answer any questions from the floor appertaining to my role as Treasurer.

Thank you – Peter Yearnshire

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At last year's AGM it was agreed that the Northern Focus would be produced in a printed magazine format, as well as being on the NCPF website.

The initial cost of producing the Spring magazine was £391.30p. This was absorbed by the NCPF.

To produce it for the Winter period was going to be around the same price. This cost would have been passed onto the clubs for approx. £8.00 per club. A question was put to all of the clubs in the NCPF asking if they would pay extra on their club fees to produce the magazine.

The majority of clubs agreed **NOT** to have the printed version.

No planned increase in NCPF fees for 2020.

N.C.P.F. AGM (2018)
Balance Sheet (2017)

Expense Income Variation

Bal Carried Over – 2017 4370.27

NCPF Fees(49 Clubs)	0.00	3430.00	3430.00
Club C/Ships	-181.00	85.00	-96.00
Presentation	-312.49	68.00	-244.49
Beamish	-75.00	75.00	0.00
Annuaals	-947.41	0.00	-947.41
Publications	-368.42	0.00	-368.42
Judges Events	-170.00	0.00	-170.00
Webmaster	-7.90	0.00	-7.90
PAGB - AGM	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	-237.55	0.00	-237.55
PAGB National Finals	-80.00	0.00	-80.00
Secretary/Uncleared Cheques	0.00	205.35	205.35
Area Meetings	-30.00	0.00	-30.00
Ex - Meetings	-425.50	0.00	-425.50
Printing	-294.00	0.00	-294.00
Treasurer	-41.31	0.00	-41.31
Inter A/C Transfers	-500.00	0.00	-500.00
Presidents Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Medals & Ribbons	0.00	0.00	0.00
Equipment Purchase	-1000.96	0.00	-1000.96
Portfolio	-39.79	316.50	276.71
Clubs PAGB Fees	-1800.00	1728.00	-72.00
Clubs & Fed PLI Ins.	-1899.72	1862.03	-37.69
Interest Payment from 3 Yr A/C	0.00	214.44	214.44
Executive Travel Expenses	-651.50	0.00	-651.50
Storage of Equipment	-30.00	0.00	-30.00
Totals	-9092.55	7984.32	-1108.23
Plus Opening Balance			4370.27
Final Bank Bal. @ 2017			3262.04

N.C.P.F. AGM (2019)
Balance Sheet (2018)

Expense Income Variation

Bal Carried Over – 2018 3262.04

NCPF Fees(50 Clubs)	0.00	3500.00	3500.00
Club C/Ships	-174.93	87.00	-87.93
Presentation	-101.02	49.00	-52.02
Beamish	0.00	0.00	0.00
Annuaals	-1201.87	0.00	-1201.87
Publications	-67.96	0.00	-67.96
Judges Events	-217.10	0.00	-217.10
Webmaster	0.00	0.00	0.00
PAGB – AGM/Uncleared cheque	-35.21	0.00	-35.21
Other	-42.00	0.00	-42.00
PAGB National Finals	0.00	0.00	0.00
Secretary	-7.43	0.00	-7.43
Area Meetings	-30.00	0.00	-30.00
Ex - Meetings	-242.00	0.00	-242.00
Printing	-314.00	0.00	-314.00
Treasurer	35.89	0.00	-35.89
Inter A/C Transfers	0.00	500.00	500.00
Presidents Expenses	-49.62	0.00	-49.62
Medals & Ribbons	0.00	0.00	0.00
Equipment Purchase	-1219.64	0.00	-1219.64
Portfolio	-40.42	257.00	216.58
Clubs PAGB Fees	-1862.00	1813.00	-49.00
Clubs & Fed PLI Ins.	-1941.61	1988.42	46.81
Interest Payment from 3 Yr A/C	0.00	213.28	213.28
Executive Travel Expenses	-304.60	0.00	-304.60
Northern Focus Printing	-391.30	0.00	-391.30
Totals	-8278.60	8407.70	129.10
Plus Opening Balance			3262.04
Final Bank Bal. @ 2018			3391.14

Northern Counties Photographic Federation
Equipment owned by NCPF- 2018(AGM)

(Depreciation value to end of 2018)

FOR AGM MEETING (March 17th 2019)

	List of Equipment		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
			£	£	£	£	£
1	Vote Counting Machine (Number 1) Brown Case	Written off	-	-	-	-	-
2	8x8 Projector Screen	Written off	-	-	-	-	-
3	Tables	Written off	-	-	-	-	-
4	President's Insignia, Gavel and Block	Written off	-	-	-	-	-
5	Competition Trophies	Written off	-	-	-	-	-
6	Acer Ferrari 4006 WLMi Laptop	Written off	0	-	-	-	-
7	Toshiba Laptop Computer	Written off	0	-	-	-	-
8	Computer Linked Vote Counting Machine. (Number 3) RMC	Written off	0	-	-	-	-
9	Hitachi CP X265 Digital Projector	Written off	0	-	-	-	-
10	Canon Xceed Digital Projector	Written off	819.5	0	-	-	-
11	Transmitter for P/A System	Written off	0	-	-	-	-
12	Vote Counting Machine (Number 2) Black box	Written off	0	-	-	-	-
13	5 x DVD copier machine	Written off	74.50	0	-	-	-
14	Beamish Banner	Written off	18	0	-	-	-
15	Rear Projection Screen	Written off	0	-	-	-	-
16	Pradovit Colour Projector – 90 + 150 mm lenses, remote and cables	Written off	0	-	-	-	-
17	Pradovit Colour Projector 250 + 150mm lens	Written off	0	-	-	-	-
18	Public Address System	Written off	133	66.5	0	-	-
19	Laptop Computer	Written off	588.75	392.50	196.25	0	-
20	Portable Hard Drive + Hub Adaptor + Keypad	Written off	79.89	53.26	26.63	0	-
21	Brother Printer	Written off	60	40	20	0	-
22	Dymo Printer	Written off	44.23	29.49	14.75	0	-
23	Maplin Speaker System	Written off	10.5	7	3.5	0	-
24	Computer Extension Leads	-	-	-	8.99	5.99	2.99
25	Toshiba Senator Carry Bag	-	-	-	-	29.99	22.49
26	Hewlett Packard 17 – Laptop Computer	-	-	-	-	963.97	722.97
27	Computer leads for HP Laptop	-	-	-	-	7.00	5.25
28	Optoma DH401 Digital Projector	-	-	-	-	-	750.00
29	DVD Writer – ASUS SDRW 08DS-UOB 8 SPEED External	-	-	-	-	-	20.00
30	Laptop (HP 255 G6)	-	-	-	-	-	299.00
31	Optoma Projector Carry Bag	-	-	-	-	-	33.72
32	Advent AHDM DV115 HDMI Cables	-	-	-	-	-	39.98
33	Laptop Carry Bag	-	-	-	-	-	11.95
34	Seagate 2TB Exp Port External Hard Drive	-	-	-	-	-	64.99

In May 2009 Executive Committee approved to 'write off' older equipment and to adopt recommendations from NCPF Auditor to adopt 4 year equal proportion depreciation values on all equipment.

Some of the 'written off' equipment is still used, items which are not fit for purpose will be disposed of as and when deemed to be obsolete by NCPF committee members.

All NCPF Bank Accounts (Jan1st to Dec 31st 2018)

Current Account Opening Balance		3262.04	
Income		8407.70	
Expenditure		8278.60	
Closing Balance		3391.14	

Reserve Account Opening Balance		2268.69	
Income		2.30	
Expenditure		0.00	
Closing Balance		2270.99	

3 Year Postal Account Opening Balance		15232.41	
Income	Interest Paid into C/Account		
Expenditure			
Closing Balance		15232.41	

International Salon Opening Balance		2153.72	
Income		7288.00	
Expenditure		5719.21	
Closing Balance		3722.51	

31.12.2018	Balance	£3391.14	Current Account
31.12.2018	Balance	£2270.99	Reserve Account
31.12.2018	Balance	£15232.41	Postal Account
31.12.2018	Balance	£3722.51	International Salon

I have examined the accounts compiled for the Northern Counties Photographic Federation covering the year 2018.

These were prepared using the receipts and payments method without reserves and accruals. I found all recorded transactions had appropriate back up in the form of invoices, receipts and bank statements.

There was evidence of monthly reconciliation's being performed.

I have discussed some procedural points with the Treasurer, and these can be discussed at a future executive meeting in 2019..

Signed:- *W. Snowden*

Date:- March 10th 2019

Warren Snowden, Certified Internal Auditor.

Peter explained in detail the movement of monies over the last year.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Cliff Banks, seconded by Jane Black. This was agreed unanimously.

19AGM/08

REPORT - INTERNATIONAL SALON CHAIRMAN – JANE BLACK

The 39th International Salon was selected in Tynemouth P.S. club rooms during the week beginning the 22nd October 2018. There were four PDI sections Open Colour, Open Monochrome, Nature, Travel. The Overseas selector was Paul Stanley FIPF EFIAP/s ESFIAP from Ireland and the U.K. selector was Paul Keen FRPS MPAGB MFIAPd3 They selected all sections and Gordon Fellows FRPS MPAGB from Dumfries selected Nature.

The Northern Counties judges were Alan Porrett ARPS EFIAP DPAGB APAGB who selected Open Colour and Open Monochrome and Pax Garabedian EFIAP EPSA DPAGB who selected Travel.

The number of Salons across the world has now risen to 600 so it is not surprising that entries in individual salon is shrinking. In the 39th salon we received 3437 entries from 330 entrants in 39 countries and these entrants gained 851 acceptances and awards.

The entrants were e-mailed their results, the medals were posted and the results were published on the Salon web site. A Flash card was designed with illustrations and all the results and sent to all entrants. A CD was produced by Cliff Banks so that an Exhibition of the Salon was sent to all the NCPF clubs to provide a night on their syllabus.

I am pleased to report that despite reducing entries the Salon produced enough profit to finance the preparation of the 40th

The 40th Salon will be judged at the usual time in September 2019. To date the judges have been appointed and the Patronage of PSA, FIAP and GPU has been confirmed. Every effort will be made to encourage entries from around the world.

I have decided that the 40th will be my final salon and I will hand over the responsibility to Mike Allport. Over 40 years I have led and been supported by excellent committee members, too many to list, so I want to take this opportunity to thank them sincerely for all their efforts and support.

Jane H, Black ARPS FPSA Hon PAGB

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Howard Wilson, seconded by Mike Allport. This was agreed unanimously.

19AGM/09

REPORT – COMPETITIONS OFFICER – John Twizell

Before the reading of the report, Margaret Welsh informed everyone that due to other commitments, John Twizell could not attend the meeting and he was also stepping down as the Competition Officer.

Presentation of Trophy's and Awards

The presentation and awards ceremony was held on Sunday November 25th 2018 at Clara Vale Community Centre. This year's support for the event was again very poor with only 29 members of the NCPF total membership attending. With the amount of effort that the subcommittee put into organising this event, it is to say, at the least very disappointing support.

Club Championship Sunday February 24th 2019

The venue for the above event was again Clara Vale Community Centre, with 23 entry's for the PDI section and 18 entry's for the Print section which is a similar number as last year.

There was an excellent turnout. We even ran out of seating with a number of people having to stand at the rear of the hall. I'm sure everyone enjoyed the day with an excellent standard in both the Print & Digital sections. I would like to thank all competing clubs as well as their members who attended for making the day such a big success.

The winners on the day were:-

NCPF PDI Champion Club

1st Keswick PS with 248pts
2nd Northallerton CC with 239pts

Both clubs will represent the NCPF in the Inter Federation Club PDI Championship later in the year.

NCPF Print Champion Club

1st Keswick PS with 244 pts
2nd Durham PS with 241 pts

Both Clubs will represent the NCPF in the Inter Federation Club Print Championship later in the year.

Judged the Best PDI Entry of the competition was:-
Forest Ballerina by Julie Walker of Keswick PS

Judged the Best Print Entry of the competition was:-
Toni by Phillip Dove of Saltburn PS

Beamish Trophy

This year's judge was John Tillotson of Penrith & District CC.

The winning images were:-

1st Tram 196 by Richard Speirs of Morton PS
2nd Snoozing on the Job by Leo Douglas of Gateshead CC
3rd A well Earned Break by Janice Carrol of Copeland PS

PAGB Inter-Fed Open Colour Print Competition 2018

1st Lancashire & Cheshire PU 206pts
2nd The Midlands Counties PF 202pts
3rd Yorkshire Photographic Union 195pts

Northern Counties PF were 6th with a score of 193pts

Joe Grabham EFIAP/s of Durham PS was the recipient of the Rod Wheelans Silver Medal.

PAGB Inter-Fed Open Mono Print Competition 2018

1st Midland Counties PF 200pts
2nd Northern Ireland PA 199pts
3rd Lancashire & Cheshire PU 198pts

Northern Counties PF finished 14th with 175pts

PAGB Inter-Fed Open PDI Competition 2018

1st Midland Counties PF 201pts
2nd Lancashire & Cheshire PU 200pts
3rd North & East Midlands PF 197pts

Northern Counties PF finished 14th with 177pts

PAGB Inter-Fed Nature PDI Competition 2018

1st Western Counties PF 203pts
= Lancashire & Cheshire PU 203pts
3rd East Anglian Federation 200pts

Northern Counties PF finished tied for 13th place with Kent County PA with 187pts

Annuals 5th/6th April 2019

The New Rules and Entry forms were placed on the website in early February.

Due to health problems with certain members of the organising sub-committee and despite efforts to recruit replacements for these posts, no volunteers have come forward. Therefore necessitating major changes to the way your print entry will be collected for this year's competition. If volunteer's do not come forward in the near future the running of the competitions could be in jeopardy.

John Twizell

Howard Wilson commented that those attending the Championships who were sitting near the back of the hall found the images being projected were too small. He asked if it would be possible to have a larger screen. Margaret said that this would be looked at but as the screen is transported to and from the venue the size is limited to the capacity of the car it is brought in. Jim Welsh suggested that Clara Vale could be asked if we could store a bigger screen there. This would also be pursued.

NCPF Beamish Weekend 2019

The weekend of May 19-20 saw the Annual Exhibition of 100 prints by 4 NCPF clubs. They were Blyth PS, Morpeth CC, Gateshead CC and Whickham PC. The winning image from the Beamish Trophy 2018 by Richard Speirs of Morton PS was also displayed and Joe Sheridan of Washington CC displayed prints from his BA (hons) degree course in photography and media. As a tribute to Arnold Hubbard a selection of his prints were also on show.

A total of 1063 people visited the Exhibition over the course of the weekend.

It was nice to see familiar faces both at the Exhibition and out and about at the museum enjoying their photography and (hopefully) working on entries for the Beamish Trophy.

Many of the photographers commented on how they liked visiting the museum over the Exhibition Weekend and several said they were working on a project with their clubs. A number also commented on how the year long pass encouraged them to visit the museum and photograph more often than they would if they had to pay every time.

The Beamish Exhibition provides a chance for NCPF clubs to showcase the work of their members and spread the word about the Federation. Hopefully, this also encourages membership interest. If you haven't been to the Exhibition before or submitted your work for the show /sale then please, give it some thought for next year.

I would also like to say a big THANK YOU to the volunteers who manned the exhibition over the course of the weekend, talked to the visitors and promoted our hobby. Without them things like this simply wouldn't happen.

Support for the Exhibition Weekend this year was very disappointing with both the number of members willing to have their work in the NCPF Exhibition and volunteers to man it. Without the support of the clubs and their members we may lose this opportunity to showcase our work. Please think about supporting next year's Beamish Weekend either with contributions for the display or an hour or two of your time to man the exhibition.

This year the Beamish Trophy was judged by John Tillotson CPAGB, AFIAP, PPSA of Penrith CC. The results were:-

Beamish Trophy 2019

1st place - Tram 196 - Richard Speirs - Morton PS
2nd place - Snoozing on the Job - Leo Douglas - Gateshead CC
3rd place - A Well-Earned Break - Janice Carrol - Copeland PS

Highly Commended

Railway in Winter - Joe Finlay - Sunderland PA
Having a Brew - Adrian Gidney - Copeland PS
The Farm Manager - Adrian Gidney - Copeland PS
Are you Being Served - Alan Meek - Saltburn PS
The Blacksmith - Susan Dawson - Morpeth CC
Lost in the Moment - Christine Parker - Saltburn PS
Matching Pairs - Alan Parker - Saltburn PS

Joseph Duffy LRPS, CPAGB, APAGB

Acceptance of these reports was proposed by Pax Garabedian, seconded by Gerry Adcock and agreed unanimously.

19AGM/10

REPORT – REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PAGB - Richard Speirs

In Richard's absence, Margaret asked if everyone had read Richard's report. She then asked if there were any questions. Howard Wilson queried the dates and figures in paragraph 2 regarding subscriptions. Peter Yearnshire said that these were correct as the PAGB insurances are proposed a year ahead.

During 2018 I have attended the PAGB Executive Committee Meetings in February and April together with the AGM in April and the routine October Executive meeting. At the time of writing this report I have recently attended the Executive meetings on the 2nd and 3rd February 2019.

At this meeting the Treasurer in proposing the budget for 2020 identified a potential deficit in the outturn for that year. The meeting agreed that should any over expenditure happen it would be met from reserves. Consequently it was agreed that the AGM in April be recommended to approve that there would be no increase in subscriptions for 2020. The rate would therefore remain at the current figure of £38.

The PAGB has now completed the development of a Guidance Note for Clubs on "Photographing People" in the light of the latest available information regarding Data Protection. The Guidance is only applicable within the UK as many European and other Countries have differing controls on what People Pictures can be taken in Public Places. The draft guidance was approved and is now available on the PAGB website. A copy of the published guidance is also on the NCPF website.

The Newsletter of the Alliance, "e-news" has seen a reduction in the number of people accessing the document through their emails. This is primarily down to a revision of the addresses to which e-news is sent. A significant problem for the circulation is that clubs often cascade an edition around their club members whether or not they have asked for them. Consequently some recipients mark the email as spam which effectively disconnects the original receiver off the distribution list. The Alliance is keen that all Federations encourage club members to take out their own subscriptions to e-news and that clubs must not cascade the newsletter around their members.

The PAGB Judges list has been updated and a number of names have been removed at the Judge's request. The total now stands at 114 which is considered to be more than adequate for current needs. A revised PAGB Handbook will be published this summer.

The Awards for Photographic Merit are still very popular with the April adjudication in North Wales being completely full. The November event, taking place in Watford, is filling up rapidly especially for the CPAGB where only a few spaces are left. There are still spaces for both DPAGB and MPAGB although consideration may be given to rebalancing places to meet the big demand for the CPAGB and to ensure that applicants don't have to wait more than 12 months for adjudication. Current applicants are being canvassed to see if they would be willing to have their work assessed at closed adjudication, possibly in September, in the hope of taking some pressure off the November event.

Awards in Audio Visual will take place over the weekend of 18th and 19th May 2019 at Wilmslow Guild.

Due to a reduction in entries consideration is being given to the amalgamation of the GB Cup and GB Trophy into one competition with a revised competition date to allow clubs more time to submit an entry with current material.

After a significant investment of time Adrian Lines has nearly finalised a new on line entry system for all PAGB competitions. The system when complete will also enable ticket purchase for the major competitions with public access and provide access to the Recorded Lecture Service. The intention being that clubs can download lectures via a license fee and will not have to return CD's or Memory Sticks as with the present system. The system will enable Federations to view the images they have previously entered into Inter-Federation competitions to avoid any duplication of entries in future.

As insurance officer I have had a number of dealings with the PAGB insurance brokers, Darwin Clayton, and they have confirmed that there will be no increase in Insurance charges for this year. Full details of the increased rates have been circulated to all Federations and the new Insurance Certificates are now available.

The closing date for 2019's Inter Federation Print and PDI competitions is the 1st June with judging taking place on Saturday 15th June, the event is being hosted by the MCPF

Warwick University will again be the venue for the Inter Club PDI Championship on 13th July.

The Inter Club Print Championship will take place on Sunday 27th October at the Croston Theatre of Westholme School Blackburn.

The next meeting of the PAGB will be the AGM on Saturday 6th April 2019 followed by an Executive meeting on Sunday 7th. Barring any unforeseen circumstances I will be attending on behalf of the NCPF.

Richard Speirs DPAGB APAGB

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Gerald Chamberlin, seconded by Dave Coates. This was agreed unanimously.

19AGM/11

REPORT – EDITOR OF "NORTHERN FOCUS" – John Smith

The AGM is once more upon us and reports have to be written. In the past year we have been saddened by a number of members, well known to us, who have passed on, and we will sorely miss them. The Northern Focus as a magazine needs input and news from as many clubs and Societies as possible and I do thank all who have contributed this last year. Alas, we have not gone for the printed edition once again, this was due to the costs involved and the distribution of them. It was a great pity that this did not happen as members of the NCPF enjoyed having a hard copy to read and to hold, which was important to them. This being the case we reverted back to distribution of the magazine by e-mail and internet. Again, I would urge all secretaries to ensure that copies get to as many members in their clubs and societies as possible so that they know what is going on in the Federation.

If any members cannot get or receive a copy you could easily contact me or the web master so that we could ensure this happens.

As I would reiterate again please send me material for the Northern Focus as there is still so much more out there that would interest everyone. Please, if you have anything then let me have it, nicely that is. The Northern Focus is one of the platforms, within the NCPF, for us to vent our feelings, our thoughts and to share our hobby, so I would urge you to contribute this coming year.

I would like to convey my thanks to all those who have responded with great items for the last two Northern Focus's and encourage others to follow suit. I would encourage you all to partake in the following issues.

John Smith
Hon. Editor

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Howard Wilson, seconded by Gerald Chamberlin. This was agreed unanimously

19AGM/12

REPORT – JUDGES SUB-COMMITTEE – Alan McCormick

Following the introduction of lengthier Tenure of Membership, the Committee has enjoyed a settled trouble free year enabling time to be spent on the planning of a Judges Training Day at Clara Vale later this year.

Under the guidance of Stephen Fowler we have acquired the services of two of our most highly esteemed Judges to entertain and educate us and I am sure a very worthwhile day is in store. The date is SUNDAY OCTOBER 20th 2019 and the venue CLARA VALE VILLAGE HALL.

All present and potential judges will be very welcome to hear the wise and humorous counsel of MALCOLM KUS and RICHARD SPEIRS.

Alan McCormick
Chair, Judges Subcommittee

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Pax Garabedian, seconded by Alan Porrett. This was agreed unanimously.

19AGM/13

REPORT – PUBLICATIONS OFFICER – Pax Garabedian

The 2018/19 NCPF Directory was updated and its distribution commenced in September 2018. With escalating postage costs, it had been decided to go for a lighter weight paper and cover in addition to relying on Area Reps for its distribution. This was not possible in all cases, and it was necessary to send a number of copies through the post. This year there were a significant number of 'non-receipt' reported by both clubs and individuals.

The same procedures will be adopted for the 2019/20 DIRECTORY and the PAGB 2020/21 HANDBOOK and the situation monitored.

P A Garabedian DPAGB EFIAP EPSA
Publications Officer

Acceptance of the report was proposed by John Gilkerson, seconded by Dave Coates. This was agreed unanimously

19AGM/14

REPORT – PORTFOLIO SECRETARY – Joseph Duffy

This year, both the Selector's Choice and the Awards & Alliance Portfolios, were complete and ready to go out to clubs by 16th July. There are two versions of each portfolio: one with comments and one without on one DVD so that clubs who enjoy the comments and those who prefer to talk about the images themselves are catered for. The comments for both portfolios are just over 1 hour in length, enough to make the evening enjoyable, but hopefully still leave enough time for the pub afterwards!

This year 24 clubs have booked the portfolios. 23 requested the Awards & Alliance entry and 23 the Selectors Choice. Thanks to the clubs for their support.

My thanks must also go to the selectors who had their comments back to me within two weeks.

Once again, I would like to record a special thanks to Richard Speirs for an excellent commentary, his dulcet tones always makes for a very enjoyable evening.

Having been the Portfolio Secretary for 15 of the last 19 years, I think it is time for me to call it a day and hand the job over to someone else, and who knows, maybe actually get out with that thing that takes pictures - always assuming I can remember how to use it of course!

I would like to wish the new Portfolio Secretary good luck with the job and remember, you are not alone, as there is always help available at the other end of the phone.

Joseph Duffy LRPS, CPAGB, APAGB

Alan Wilson introduced himself to those present as the successor to Joseph as Portfolio Secretary.

INCOMING PORTFOLIO SECRETARY – Alan Wilson

My position in the role commenced on 11th February 2019.

Outgoing Portfolio Secretary Joseph Duffy forwarded invitations to purchase "Selectors Choice" and the "Awards and Alliance Entry" to NCPF Clubs with amended details to ensure replies came to myself.

To date 12 clubs have replied – of note 9 clubs provided £1:00 for Postage and packing while 3 paid £2:00. I shall amend the proforma clarifying costs prior to sending reminder invitations.

Full handover from Joseph shall be arranged in due course. I look forward to working with Richard Speirs following the Annuals Competitions in April.

Alan Wilson
ARPS, AFIAP

Acceptance of these reports was proposed by John Gilkerson, seconded by Jim Welsh. This was agreed unanimously

19AGM/15

REPORT – WEBMASTER – Gerry Adcock

The website in its current guise has now been operational since 2015. Fortunately there have been few operational difficulties to report, but perhaps it's time to consider freshening the site up a bit, and I am currently working on some ideas to that end.

From a functionality stand point the site still remains capable of delivering all of the services/info I envisage as being necessary to meet the Federations commitments to our membership, and for the efficient running of the Federation itself.

Every website is reliant on the constant addition of new material, be it news, information or imagery to keep it viable, I hope I can rely on the continued support of members to supply me with the necessary material, which together with continual development will hopefully make the site a worthwhile visit for all.

Any ideas/suggestions for the incorporation of additional content or facilities are of course very welcome.

Gerry Adcock ARPS
(Web-master NCPF)

Acceptance of these reports was proposed by Jim Welsh, seconded by Pax Garabedian. This was agreed unanimously

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATE

As reported in the Treasurer's accounts, subscription rates would remain unchanged for 2020. No further discussion took place.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Cliff Banks, seconded by Jane Black. This was agreed unanimously

19AGM/17

NCPF ROLL OF HONOUR

The President, Joseph Duffy, began by saying that the Roll of Honour is awarded to any member who has been involved with the Federation for a minimum of 15 years. This takes into account the service and quality of any judging, lecturing and sub-committee work or any other work undertaken for the Federation. After reading out the names of those members who had been elected to the roll since its inception in 2012, he continued by reading out the nomination that had been approved by the Executive. Pax Garabedian was duly awarded his certificate by the President with his congratulations, and his name will be added to the Roll of Honour list. Richard Speirs was also elected to the Roll of Honour. The President had previously given him his award when visiting his club.

19AGM/18

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

The Award for Meritorious Service is given by the PAGB. Candidates must be nominated by 2 referees and submitted in secret. The nominated candidate must have given 10 -25 years of service to their Federation as a judge or key organiser. After reading out the citation, the President duly awarded Pax Garabedian his APAGB award.

19AGM/19

PHOTOGRAPHIC DISTINCTIONS/AWARDS

Distinctions/Awards have been received by the following members:-

EFIAP	David Price	West Cumbria PG
AFIAP	Peter Maguire Simon Allen John D, Tillitson	Gosforth CC Stokesley PS Penrith & Dist. CC
CPAGB	David Connell Peter Maguire Donald Smith	Penrith & Dist. CC Gosforth CC Gosforth CC
DPAGB	Jo Knight	Penrith & Dist. CC
APAGB	Pax Garabedian Cliff Banks	Carlisle CC Sunderland PA
ARPS	David Brown	Gosforth CC

19AGM/20

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING EXECUTIVE

Cliff Banks said that he was honoured to be asked to give the vote of thanks to the officers of the retiring Executive Committee. He thanked them for all their hard work over the past year and said that he had spent many years on the Executive and was well aware of 'what goes on' behind the scenes. The vast majority of people in this room don't realise the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes and if this wasn't done you wouldn't have an Executive, In view of this, it gives me great pleasure to offer this vote of thanks to the retiring Executive Committee. This was unanimously endorsed by those present.

19AGM/21

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND AUDITOR

The following Officers were confirmed for 2019/2020

POSITION	NOMINEE	PROPOSED	SECONDED	FOR	AGAINST
President	Joseph Duffy	Executive Committee	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Vice President	Jim Welsh	Executive Committee	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Past President	Alan McCormick	Executive Committee	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
General Secretary	Margaret Welsh	Executive Committee	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Hon. Treasurer	Peter Yearnshire	Executive Committee	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
International Exhibition Chair	Jane Black	Gordon Hartill	Pax Garabedian	Unanimous	
Judges Committee Chair	Alan McCormick	Gordon Hartill	Pax Garabedian	Unanimous	
PAGB Representative	Richard Speirs	Gordon Hartill	Pax Garabedian	Unanimous	
Competitions Committee Chair	John Twizell	Gordon Hartill	Pax Garabedian	Unanimous	
Competitions Officer - Club Championship	Vacant				
Competitions Officer - Prints	n/a				
Competitions Officer - PDI	n/a				
Portfolio Secretary	Alan Wilson	Gordon Hartill	Pax Garabedian	Unanimous	
Northern Focus Editor	John Smith	Gordon Hartill	Pax Garabedian	Unanimous	
Publications Officer	Pax Garabedian	Gordon Hartill	Pax Garabedian	Unanimous	
Webmaster	Gerry Adcock	Gordon Hartill	Pax Garabedian	Unanimous	
Elected Member 1	Keith Kirkland	Gordon Hartill	Pax Garabedian	Unanimous	
Elected Member 2					
Elected Member 3					
POSITION	NOMINEE	PROPOSED	SECONDED	FOR	AGAINST
N Tyne Area Representative	David Brown	North Tyne Area Committee		Unopposed	
Northern Area Representative	Jim Welsh	Northern Area Committee		Unopposed	
S Tyne Area Representative	Trevor Walters	South Tyne Area Committee		Unopposed	
Southern Area Representative	David Coates	Southern Area Committee		Unopposed	
Wear Area Representative	Debra Taylor	Wear Area Committee		Unopposed	
Western Area Representative	Gerald Chamberlin	Western Area Committee		Unopposed	
Non Executive Posts					
Non-Executive Caretaker	Howard Wilson			Unanimous	
Hon. Auditor	Warren Snowdon	John Smith	Dave Coates	Unanimous	

The en-bloc election of Area Representatives was proposed by Gordon Hartill, seconded by Pax Garabedian.

Voting papers were provided for the 2 vacant positions as elected members. No nominations.

There being no further candidates for office the above were ratified and duly elected.

19AGM/22

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

TERRY ABRAHAM – Morton PS – 28th March 2019

RHEGED CENTRE EXHIBITION – Western Area Clubs - 18th & 19th May 2019

BEAMISH WEEKEND & EMPIRE WEEKEND – 18th & 19th May 2018. Full details to appear on the website in due course – Joseph Duffy

JUDGES TRAINING DAY – 20th October 2019 – Clara Vale

WORKSHOP BY ROD WHEELANS – Houghton -4th May 2019 - £5.00

19AGM/23

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

19AGM/24

VOTES OF THANKS BY THE PRESIDENT

The President proposed a vote of thanks to Swalwell Community Centre thanking them for allowing us to use their premises for our Executive Meetings and the A.G.M. This was endorsed by the meeting.

He then thanked everyone for coming and wished them all a safe journey home.

19AGM/25

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The President declared the meeting closed at 3.00pm

Signed

Date