



# Northern Counties Photographic Federation

*A Member Federation of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain*

<http://www.ncpf.org.uk>

## Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 on Zoom.

The President, Gerald Chamberlin, opened the meeting at 7.05pm and welcomed everyone present to the meeting.

**Present:** - Gerald Chamberlin, Phillip Dove, Alan Wilson, Jim Welsh, Margaret Welsh, Jill Chamberlin, Jo Knight, John Fare, David Brown, Glen Lawson

**25/01/01 Apologies for Absence:** - Dave Coates, Joseph Duffy, Richard Speirs, Debra Taylor, John Smith, Alan Forster  
**Incommunicado:** -

**25/01/02 The minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024 were approved and signed on behalf of the President.**  
Proposed by Phillip Dove – Seconded by Alan Wilson

**25/01/03 Matters arising**  
There were no matters arising.

**25/01/04 Correspondence**  
Margaret said that she had received an email from Jo regarding an EBay scam involving photographic equipment. A copy was forwarded on to the committee for their thoughts regarding its contents. After discussion it was agreed that Club Secretaries should be sent the information to pass on to their members. Jo will reply to Gary Salter.

**25/01/05 Treasurer – Jill Chamberlin**  
Jill outlined her report. Five subscriptions are still outstanding.  
Report accepted and attached.

**Appendix 1a/b**

**25/01/06 Reports**  
**25/01/06-1 Competitions Chairman – John Fare**  
John read through his report. He asked if progress had been made regarding the storage of equipment at Tynemouth. Margaret said that Alan Forster was going to video the unit and forward the images for discussion. He also said that he would be attending the Club Championships with Linda McGregor. They will both be available to help out on the day. Alan Wilson said he would also be available to help at the Championships. It was later agreed that the equipment would be brought to Margaret and Jim's. Arrangements were made for Gerald to come to their home and go through the equipment together. The new laptop has now been passed on to John for updating. Reminders for the Championships have been sent to the clubs and the rules have been put on the website. A further discussion took place regarding Microsoft 365. John then handed over to Phillip who outlined his report regarding the entries received to date. He said that so far clubs seem to be coping well with the new format.  
Both Reports accepted and attached.

**Appendix 2a/b**

**25/01/06-2 Representative to PAGB – Richard Speirs**  
In Richard's absence Margaret read through his report. This was accepted and attached.

**Appendix 3**

**25/01/06-3 Merit Awards Officer – Gerald Chamberlin**  
Gerald had nothing to report other than to say that 2 applications had been received for CPAGB/AV Awards. Further details regarding the PAGB Workshops will be given at the Club Championships.

**25/01/06-4 Editor Northern Focus – Alan Wilson**  
Alan outlined his report. He asked again for a volunteer to take over and said he would continue as Editor until a replacement can be found.  
Report accepted and attached.

**Appendix 4**

**25/01/06-5 Judges Sub Committee – Richard Speirs**  
In Richard's absence Margaret read through his report.  
Report accepted and attached.

**Appendix 5**

**25/01/06-6 Data Manager – Richard Speirs**  
Richard's report was again read by Margaret  
Report accepted and attached.

**Appendix 6**

**25/01/06-7 Portfolio Secretary – Phillip Dove**  
Phillip had no report.

**25/01/06-8 Beamish Representative – Joseph Duffy**  
No Report.

**25/01/06-9 Club Support & Development – John Smith**  
No Report.

**25/01/06-10 Webmaster – Jo Knight**  
No Report.

**25/01/07 Area Reports**

**25/01/07-1 Northern – Jim Welsh**

**Appendix 7**

Jim read through his report outlining the results of the Northern Area Knockout Competition. He said that there were no images scoring 15. The highest scoring image of 14 was Volcanic Landscape, Lanzarote by Susan Dawson of Morpeth CC. A report will be sent for publication on the website.  
Report accepted and attached.

**25/01/07-2 North Tyne – David Brown**

David had no report other than to say that Gosforth hosted the North Tyne Area Print Competition on 26<sup>th</sup> November. David Ord was the judge and Tynemouth PS won the competition. The North Tyne PDI Competition will be hosted by Ponteland PS on 03<sup>rd</sup> March 2025.

**25/01/07-3 South Tyne – Glen Lawson**

No report.

**25/01/07-4 Southern – Phillip Dove**

No Report.

**25/01/07-5 Wear Area – Debra Taylor**

No Report.

**25/01/07-6 Western – Gerald Chamberlin**

Gerald had no report. A Western Area meeting will be held in the next few weeks.

**25/01/08 Any Other Business**

It was agreed by all that Microsoft 365 should be set up.  
Margaret said that the NCPF A.G.M. is due to be held in 2 months time. The next meeting will be held at Clara Vale, Ryton on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.30pm. Margaret said that a copy of the last A.G.M. Minutes along with an Agenda would be sent out within the next couple of weeks and she reminded the Executive that their yearly reports would need to be submitted.

**Meeting closed at 7.40pm**

**Signed..... Date.....**

**Next Meeting Date: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at Clara Vale, Ryton at 7.30pm**  
A.G.M. - Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 at Clara Vale, Ryton at 2.00pm

## Northern Counties Photographic Federation

## Finance report

13 January 2025

Expenditure

- The monthly printer ink contract has been paid.
- The Public Liability & Management Liability insurance has been paid.

Full details are shown on the Accounts spreadsheet.

The subscriptions for the NCPF and PAGB have been requested, and 35 clubs have paid so far. 7 clubs have still to pay their subs although I have a deposit referenced Newcastle upon Tyne, so I don't know which Club this belongs to.

1. Cambois Camera Club
2. Castleside & District Photography Club
3. Chester Le Street Camera Club
4. Durham Photographic Society
5. Morpeth Camera Club
6. North Shields Photographic Society
7. Stanhope Photographic Society

The PAGB subscriptions need to be paid by the end of January.

Current Account

Balance at AGM	£3,889.06
Expenditure	-£3,476.37
2025 subs	<u>£3,815.00</u>
Current balance	£4,347.94

Business Savings Account

Balance at AGM	£3,010.69	
Interest	<u>£31.91</u>	
Current Balance	£3,042.60	
Fixed Term Savings	£16,000.00	matures 04.11.2025 2.75%

Estimated interest £440.00

Jill Chamberlin

NCPF Treasurer

**NCPF Accounts as at 18/05/2024**

	Income	Expenditure	Balance	
2024 NCPF Subscriptions	£3,010.00		<b>£3,010.00</b>	(43 clubs)
Executive Committee	£627.36	£634.04	<b>-£6.68</b>	
NCPF Website		£51.46	<b>-£51.46</b>	
Club Championship 2024				
Presentation Day	£57.00	£351.25	<b>-£294.25</b>	
Club Championship 2025				
	£0.00	£0.00	<b>£0.00</b>	
Annuals Competition				
20-21/04/24		£1,236.02	<b>-£1,236.02</b>	
Beamish Print Exhibition	£75.00	£75.00	<b>£0.00</b>	
PAGB Championships		£400.00	<b>-£400.00</b>	
PAGB Awards		£321.90	<b>-£321.90</b>	
Assessment 12/05/2024				
Newcastle Cathedral				
Exhibition		£50.00	<b>-£50.00</b>	
Equipment		£1,116.06	<b>-£1,116.06</b>	
Total Expenditure			<b>-£3,476.37</b>	
Equipment depreciation		£171.59	<b>-£171.59</b>	
(Value w/off over 4 years)				

<b>Balance of 2024-25</b>	<b>-£637.96</b>
<b>subscriptions + interest</b>	

**Lloyds Bank Account Balances**

Treasurers A/C	<b>AGM</b>	18/03/2024	£3,889.06
	<b>Expenditure</b>		-£3,476.37
	<b>2025-26</b>		£3,815.00
	<b>Balance</b>	14/12/2024	<b>£4,347.94</b>
Business Savings A/C		14/12/2024	£3,010.69
Interest			£31.91
			<b>£3,042.60</b>
Fixed Term Savings A/C		04/11/2025	£16,000.00

**Lloyds Bank Account Balances AGM 2024**

Treasurers A/C	<b>2023-24</b>	18/03/2024	£879.06
Subs for	<b>2024-25</b>	18/03/2024	£3,010.00
			£3,889.06
Business Savings A/C		18/03/2024	£3,000.00
Interest			£10.69
Fixed Term Savings A/C		18/03/2024	£16,000.00

The last meeting of the Competition sub-committee was held on 16 December with the next meeting due on 27 January.

The storage of equipment at Tynemouth was discussed at the Executive meeting on 17 December and it was agreed that a small team will review the equipment that is stored and dispose of redundant equipment.

The laptop that was purchased for use at future presentations is held by John Fare.

Since the last meeting the rules and entry sheets for the Club Championships have been issued. The entry sheets have been modified so that they are in a similar format to the Annual Competitions entry forms. Phillip Dove has also modified the spreadsheets used to assess the entries so that where PDI entries don't comply with the resolution and format rules this is automatically flagged rather than manually checking each entry.

The availability of the equipment for the Club Championships was confirmed and responsibility for bringing the equipment was agreed. There was a potential problem with the number of helpers on the day but this has now been resolved. The judges have been contacted to confirm their availability for the Championships.

A reminder to clubs about the competition will be sent out shortly.

The use of a cloud based storage solution was discussed at the last Executive committee meeting and it was agreed that a small group will look at implementing Microsoft 365 as the preferred option. Dependent on the option chosen up to 6 users could each have 1TB of Microsoft One Cloud storage space. Users can share folders with other users providing they have a Microsoft account.

John Fare

**Club Championship Print and PDI Entries Officer Report January 2025****Appendix 2b**

The first of the entries for the 2025 Club Championships have arrived with me. The first three pdi entries and one print entry have been put through the checking process. All have been correctly named, but for a few typos which were identified and corrected, and added to the system which will generate the score sheets and the folder of images ready for projection.

The size checking has, in the case of one club, identified a misunderstanding of the rules about sizing images with some portrait and square images arriving at 1600px tall. It was believed that a square image of 1600 width was correctly sized at 1600 tall. At the request of the comp sec who submitted them, I have resized them. I suspect that this misunderstanding will not be exclusive to this club.

So far all is going well, which puts us well ahead of the game compared with last year as we needed to wait until the closing date for entries before creating the rest of the system. It was only then that we knew how many entries we had. The new system is dynamic and as new entries are received, the sheets adjust to suit the content.

A small piece of software that I have recently acquired is capable of looking at a folder of images and extracting all of the EXIF data from the file. Some of this will be useful in identifying duplicate images. This data (or as much of it as deemed useful), along with a thumbnail of the image can be stored in an Excel File. This can be saved onto a Microsoft OneDrive system without taking up anything like as much space as a folder of images, making an archive of competition entries quite straight forward. It should also allay any fears that images of a usable size could, as a result of being stored on a 'cloud system' fall into the wrong hands.

Phillip Dove

**PAGB Representative's Report 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025****Appendix 3**

I have no updates since our last meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

The next meeting of the PAGB Executive is to be held at Warwick University on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025 and I will be attending.

Richard Speirs

**Northern Focus Editor Report – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025****Appendix 4**

The 96<sup>th</sup> Edition of "Northern Focus" was distributed to NCPF clubs, contributors and peer organisations i.e. PAGB, RPS Northern etc. on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024. Many thanks to Jo for the prompt publication on our website.

Document at 48 pages included the normal mix of editorials, stories, reports and adverts, of course amplified with some superb photographs and has received positive comments.

Thanks go to all contributors, especially David Brown who has provided 2 x interesting documents for NF with "Butterfly's on my windowsill" and "My Journey to DPAGB"

In Awards and Distinctions section, I made an error by forgetting to add Dave Coates Honourable Life Vice Presidency of the Federation award. Apologies have been made.

I am collecting stories and information for 97<sup>th</sup> Edition which I shall publish around about AGM and request NCPF Committee please continue seeking any items of note for future publication.

Alan Wilson

Editor Northern Focus

## **Judges Subcommittee Report 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Appendix 5**

No issues to report since the last Executive meeting.

The next meeting of the subcommittee has been arranged for Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm via Zoom

Richard Speirs

NCPF Judges Subcommittee Chairman

## **Data Manager's Report 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Appendix 6**

Since our last meeting I have received no approaches regarding access problems for the CMS. One peculiarity has been noted in that one judge, based in Richmond, appears on the site as living 3000 miles away according to the radius search. I have double checked all their address details and they are correct for the UK. I am still trying to find out from the CMS operator why this should be happening.

I will report further once I have an answer.

Richard Speirs

## **Northern Area Representative's Report 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Appendix 7**

### **NORTHERN AREA KNOCKOUT COMPETITION**

The Northern Area Knockout Competition was initially held by Wooler CC on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024. The three judges were Glen Lawson, Rob Butler, and Geoff Green.

After Round 1 however, it all went pear shaped, and after nearly three hours waiting for Round 2 to commence the competition was abandoned and rescheduled for Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Despite the original complaints from the Club members who attended, there was an acceptable turn out for the re-run. This commenced with Round 2 and ran without a hitch.

Round 2 was the Trophy Semi Final between Amble, Alnwick, Cambois and Morpeth with the two highest scoring clubs, Amble with 167 points and Morpeth with 162 points going through to compete for the Trophy. Amble won with 170 points to Morpeth's 162. Ashington, Blyth and Wooler competed for the Plate. Blyth won with 163 points, Ashington came 2<sup>nd</sup> with 162 points and Wooler came 3<sup>rd</sup> with 157 points.

The Trophy was collected by a member of Amble and the Plate was collected by Jim. Wooler CC provided tea and cake during the break which was very nice. Thanks were given to the three judges and to the attending club members for making the journey twice. An enjoyable afternoon was had by all in the end.

### **NORTHERN AREA PRINT COMPETITION**

The Northern Area Interclub Colour & Monochrome Print Competition is scheduled to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025. The host club will be Amble PG and Alan Porrett is the judge.

Jim Welsh LRPS, CPAGB, APAGB, HonNCPF

Northern Area Representative