

FINAL MINUTES

Midlands Craft Brewers Meeting at The Globe, Leicester (28/7/2018)

1. Attended by TA, JC, SOT, JF, AB, BT, MH, JA, AQ, AG, MS, JS and IRB.
2. Apologies from SR, NW, GD, CW, KH, AR, SH, MC, BK and RC.
3. Introductions (brief) from all but JA who arrived late.
4. Competition. The competition was organised, on the day, by SOT. Attendees were divided into three teams of three and one of two. There were eight beers judged (compared and contrasted) with bottles of the AM:PM Thornbridge beer (TB). Subsequent to the meeting it was decided that as Thornbridge had given some indication of their recipe it would be appropriate to circulate the members recipes by email to members only and not to publish these on the website.

Criteria judged were aroma (out of 12), appearance (3), flavour (20), mouthfeel (5) and overall (10). Maximum score for four tables was 200.

Any faults that could be identified could be marked on the judging form.

Generally, clarity (use of hop pellets?) was difficult to replicate as was the full aroma and flavour of the TB. Some of the beers were well balanced brews and very drinkable but were marked down against the very hoppy TB. Some of the beers were quite malty unlike the TB.

First place went to SOT (154), second to AQ (137), third to AG (123) and fourth to BT (116). Recipes supplied are attached to the Minutes.

5. Proposals for the Future of the MCB. JC provided an approach to how members could vote to decide on any proposals put forward. It was agreed that whatever proposal got the most votes from current members would be the selected proposal. JC had provided a list of options/proposals for the way forward. The first was to close the MCB and redistribute the funds. The second was similar to the first option but that the MCB could then be resurrected in a new format. The third proposal was from JC, SOT, TA and MC (Mk 4) that had been circulated previously and suggested that the plan be set in motion immediately as soon as sufficient votes were gained. This option has been fully resourced with SO as web master, TA and JC as joint coordinators and Mike C. as Treasurer. The final option was put forward by AG and proposed that Mk4 should be treated as a discussion document and deferred until the September meeting for full appraisal to be carried out. JC went through the proposals in detail. Options 1 and 2 were discounted as there was sufficient support for the MCB to continue. Proposal 3 was explained in detail and the comments from AG, in a recent email, were addressed one at a time. There was some discussion about the role of the Treasurer and ownership of the Members List but this was considered soluble. The reference to petty cash in Mk4 should be changed to "float". Proposal MK4 will be amended accordingly and distributed.

Currently, the proposal does not include the bulk purchase of ingredients etc but this could be reconsidered in the future. JA stated that whatever option went forward there should be even more effort made to get new younger members. JC stated that he had already received five emails in support of Proposal 3 plus MC was to be part of the new structure so an additional 6 votes for Proposal 3 were to be added to the votes cast at the meeting. A vote was completed and Proposal 3 gained 12 more votes. It was concluded that Proposal 3

should be instated with immediate effect as 18 out of a membership of 33 had given its support.

6. Brewery Trip. MH volunteered to investigate a visit to Purity Brewery. MH to advise on dates as soon as possible.
7. September meeting. SOT stated that the venue was to be confirmed but the date was probably going to be the 15th in Birmingham. The meeting would include the Red Ale competition. Will members who are going to be brewing for this competition let SOT as soon as possible. The top 5 from this competition would be put into the MCB/NCB competition on the 29th of September (to be confirmed). AG to forward recent email from Adrian (MCB) to co-ordinators (completed).
8. JF raised the issue of GDPR and this was to be progressed by the Coordinators.
9. Treasurer's report. AG stated £1148 in current account.

10. AOB

- a. JA asked for the GBBF details to be put in Minutes. Details not yet available so will be circulated at a later date.
- b. Last year saw the first London Brew Con. This will take place again this year on 24/11/18 at the Oval Space in east London. Tickets are available at <https://www.brewconlondon.com/> In addition, there will be a competition as per the 2017 London Brew Con. The competition will be launched during August, not May as stated on their website (<https://www.brewconlondon.com/single-post/2018/04/13/BREW-CON-WORLD-SERIES-II>) Saturday night 24/11/18 will be a club night where homebrew clubs set up their own bar and serve their own beers to showcase their club. They already have 15 bars but they will make room for us if we are interested. It would be up to us how much beer we bring and we'd have to build our own bar. Venue is TBC but they are looking at various places in Hackney. SOT suggested that approx. 4 cornies would be required but was told we could bring as much as we like. SOT met the organiser of London Brewcon last weekend and will get back to him about the club night. If you are interested, please contact Sean.

They also mentioned that they have been in discussions with the remnants of the old CBA to try and get a UK Homebrew association off the ground modelling it along similar lines to the AHA (USA). It's very early days. Sean asked that they keep us posted.

AQ 31/7/2018