**Minutes of the 52nd WPC Annual General Meeting
held at 20:00 on Thursday 23rd May 2013 at The Pavilion, Crowmarsh**

1. **Attendance:** Gordon Roberts (Chairman), Bernard Novell (Secretary)

Carol Kemp (Treasurer) and 26 Members of the Club and Committee

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Michelle Shrimpton and Helen Bishop
2. **Minutes of the 51st Meeting** were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Chris Payne and Seconded by Doug Harbour
3. **Matters arising from the previous minutes:** No matter arising
4. **Chairman’s Report:**
Gordon presented his report on the progress made over the last year.

The Chairman also presented three Trophies:

* 1. *The Chairman’s Cup* – to Martin Wiggall for all his fundraising efforts
	2. *The Peter Kiff Trophy* to Lucie Parrott for Colour Portfolio
	3. *The Chris Stammers Trophy* to Bernard Novell for Architecture Print

A full verbatim copy is appended to these minutes and on the Club website.

1. **Treasurers Report:**
Carol presented her interim end of year report that will require some adjustment following the AGM. However it was clear that Club finds have improved from a small deficit to a surplus of over £500.

The highlights are the increased subscriptions that have met last year’s AGM objective with Tea/Coffee takings significantly increasing due to helpers donating milk and biscuits.

Donations also helped to achieve this figure

However, we have had an increase in rent, not only because the cost per hour increased, but also because the Club meetings are half an hour longer. We bought a large Projection Screen and Judges travel costs have increased.

A final adjusted report will be sent to all Members by e-mail once the accounts have been audited and will be ratified at the first meeting in September.

1. **Election of Officers**

There were two vacancies on the Committee as Pam Sandhu-Dickens and David Brown stood down.

Bernard Novell – Secretary

Carol Kemp – Treasurer

Gordon Roberts - Programme Secretary

Dave Griffiths – Webmaster

Tony Shields – Print Competition Secretary

The above had all agreed to stand for re-election were re-elected en-bloc.

Proposed by Don Belcher, Seconded by Katy Beckford and carried unanimously.

The following Members were elected to the 2013/14 Committee

Mike Parrott – Chairman

Bernard Novell – Vice Chairman

Martin Wiggall – Membership Secretary

Judith Pignon – Digital Competition Secretary

Kevin Emmerson – Deputy Digital Competition Secretary

All were elected having been Proposed by Don Belcher, Seconded by Chris Smith and carried unanimously.

1. **Discussion and Voting**
	1. **Rosebowl** – Gordon reported that he had attended the CACC AGM and challenged the integrity of the Rosebowl Competition. There are no details in the handbook regarding it’s organisation. He challenged the quality of the judging with too much emphasis on Natural History. It transpired that there is one person organising the Rosebowl, who has been doing the same thing for 17 years and can see no reason to make any changes. Under these circumstances, Gordon recommended to the WPC Members that the Club should withdraw from the Competition. A motion to do so was Proposed by Dave Griffiths and Seconded by Mike Parrott. The motion was accepted with 27 Members for and one against the proposal. Gordon will inform the CACC and all other clubs in the Competition of this decision.
	2. **Constitution** – The Constitution has been revised to remove the last clause that required a member wishing to leave the club to give written notice.
	Mike Buck asked about the cost of Junior Membership, currently £20. After discussion it was agreed to reduce this to £15. Proposed by Claire Burnett, Seconded by Peter Markus and carried unanimously.

The revised Constitution can be found on the WPC Website

* 1. **Competition Format & Rules** – Gordon outlined the revised format reducing the number of themed competitions to two (dropping the Letter comp) and splitting the No Set Subject competitions over two separate evenings. The effect is to allow the judges more time to critique NSS images and will add one evening (therefore one more judge) to the Programme. Scoring of the Monthly Competitions will remain as current, with only the top score of each exhibitor going towards the trophy points. Second image and starred images will only be taken into account in the event of a tie. Proposed by Mike Parrott, Seconded by Tony Shields and carried unanimously.
	2. **External Competition Selection Process** – Gordon outlined the Selection Process drawn up to show fairness and transparency. It was agreed to add that only images submitted by a fully paid up Member are eligible for selection. Proposed by Tony Shields, Seconded by Mike Buck and carried unanimously.
1. **Formal AOB** – There was none and the formal meeting closed at 21:15
2. **Open Forum** – This followed the coffee break
	1. **Survey** – Dave Griffiths gave an overview of the Survey results. A full verbatim report is attached and can be found on the WPC Website
	2. **Projector** – Much has been done over the season to improve the image quality on-screen. A test screen will be used before each competition commences and the projector will be recalibrated regularly. Martin Wiggall offered to lend his software to the Club.
	3. **Competition Subjects 2013/14** - After a suggestion and voting process Macro/Close Up and Illustrate a Book Title were agreed.
	4. **Fundraising** – Martin Wiggall agreed to spearhead fundraising for the Club. Someone else has said that they would help via the survey. Ideas currently on the table are: Christmas Card, Christmas Draw.
	5. **Poster Designer** – for major speakers and club events. Mark Witcher and Lucie Parrott agreed to take on this task.
	6. **Summer Outings** **& Occasional Tasks** – Katy Beckford said that she was willing to help organise outings.
	7. **Draft Programme** – Gordon ran through the 2013/14 Programme. He has just one evening to finalise and two judges for the Themed Competitions to book. Members will be notified when the website has been updated.
	8. **Photo Awards & Salons** – PAGB & RPS. There was a discussion about possible entry to these competitions.
3. **Forum AOB**.
	1. **Special Speaker** - Pam Sandhu-Dickens confirmed that she has booked Paul Gallagher, an inspirational Landscape, B&W and Fine Art photographer. The event will be on Sunday 2nd March at Benson Parish Hall between 10:00 and 15:00. The cost will be £10 per person and the event will be open to other clubs.
	2. **Incoming Chairman** – Mike Parrott gave a brief overview of his take on how the new Committee will be working to move the club forward over the next season, saying that he feels that it should be a period of consolidation. A full verbatim copy of Mikes address will be available via the WPC Website.
	3. **Thanks** – Katy Beckford thanked the Committee for their work during the year. Martin Wiggall thanked Gordon for putting together such a good programme.

The meeting closed at 22:00

**Bernard Novell**

Hon Secretary