

**Dee Valley CAMRA**  
**Minutes of Branch AGM Meeting**  
**8.15pm on 15th April 2026**  
**Griffin Inn, Gresford LL12 8RG**

In Attendance: 8

Alan Roberts, Keith Harrison, Brian Bennett, Jenny Bennett, Elved Gray-Jones, Brian Wright, Steve Lamond, Cameron Sides (Elihu Yale).

Apologies: 3

Rob Gow, Jane Wright, Shelagh Roberts.

**Minutes of Previous AGM**

AR read through the previous AGM Minutes for those with no copy.

They were formally accepted as a true record:

Proposed by EG-J. Seconded by BW.

**Matters Arising**

None.

**Branch Secretary's Report - Keith Harrison**

Communication Statistics

265 Branch Members (as at 15/04/26)

55 Opted OUT of email and postal communication

156 Can receive emails (202 opted IN, but 46 have not provided email addresses!)

*Of these 156 receiving Branch emails, only around half open them to read.*

54 will need post only if they are to receive comms from Branch

*i.e. the 46 above plus 8 opting NO to email but YES to post*

DV Branch Committee roles

There are 17 roles filled by 5 members currently.

This includes 3 BLOs covering 5 Breweries.

DV Branch Attendance

Average Branch Meeting attendance is 7.5 since the last AGM, down from 9.

Beer Scores in Dee Valley Pubs and Clubs

Over the 12 months since the last AGM there have been:

11 DV Scorers, posting 396 scores showing a marked improvement from last year

80 Scorers from other branches, posting 250 scores.

### **Treasurer's Report - Rob Gow**

Since the last AGM we have closed the Lloyds Bank account with a closing balance of £35.44 which was held by the treasurer in cash for the best part of the year. The account was closed due to Lloyds starting to charge £4.50 per month fees. No additional money was raised in the year. In February Chair, Branch Secretary (/ Membership Secretary) and Treasurer attended the Metro Bank in Chester and opened an account with them. Subsequently I transferred £40 to the account (£35.44 + £4.56 donation towards the fees). The Metro bank charges £3 per month fees which needs to be raised via members paying into the pot at meetings.

### **Membership Secretary's Report - Keith Harrison**

The last 12 months has seen our net branch membership number fall from 278 to 265 members, down 13 or -4.7%. Within that drop there is a mix of lapsed members, first time recruits and returning members. Our male membership mix has grown slightly to 82.9%, an increase which aligns regionally and nationally. Potentially of greater concern though is the increase in the DV membership share of 51 to 80 year olds, standing at 83.3% versus a national share of 75%.

Clearly our membership base is growing older, with new recruits not keeping up with lapsed members.

### **Pub Data Coordinator Report - Rob Gow**

Since the last AGM, WhatPub has closed and all pub data has moved over to the CAMRA Website. Pub updates are still applied via Pubzilla which now updates the website. Since the last AGM, 69 pub updates were received from members many of which contained multiple updates e.g opening times, food times, different beers. We currently have 82 open pubs serving real ale in our area.

### **Chair's Report - Alan Roberts**

This has been our 2nd year as a full branch, we have continued to record all our branch data onto the CAMRA national database, I am grateful to Keith & Rob for the work they put in getting our GBG entries in on time. Thanks to all our GBG surveyors and POTY judges for giving up their time to carry out these tasks.

As you have heard we now have a bank account with METRO Bank and thanks to Rob and Keith for helping set this up. This has to be paid for so I would ask everyone to put a small donation in the pot at branch meetings, we should also look at ways of raising money for the branch.

The Bridge End at Ruabon was awarded our branch POTY 2025 and went on to win the North Wales POTY 2025 and a wonderful Saturday afternoon presentation took place with members from all the North Wales Branches attending together with the RD Chris Charters and the Mayor of Wrexham who presented the award on our behalf.

We looked at pubs selling Locally brewed ales and based on beer scores we awarded The Glynne Arms at Hawarden our LOCALE POTY and a presentation was made when we held a branch meeting there. Our runner up was the White Lion at Holt and I was very disappointed that no presentation date was arranged which resulted in me going there and handing over the award.

That's the positive points so now the negative points!

We seem to be in a rut, maybe the novelty of being a new branch has worn off with numbers attending branch meeting dropping to 4 or 5 and very little social events.

Myself, Rob and Keith are very concerned at the lack of members taking up posts within the branch and attending branch meetings.

CAMRA is all about pubs and breweries, but it is also about members socialising with each other we need to try and encourage more of our members to join us for social events and attend branch meetings, we should look at doing a minimum of 4 social events a year even if that means taking out a couple of branch meetings.

Finally, my personal thanks to everyone for all your hard work, it makes my job so much easier when everyone works as a team.

All reports were formally accepted by the AGM:

Proposed by BB. Seconded by BW.

### **Election of Offices**

KH reaffirmed his wish to stand down as Branch Secretary in order to concentrate on his other roles, but agreed to continue if no one else volunteered to take on that position. AR gave a target of two months to find an acceptable solution.

All current Branch Officers were re-elected without challenge. Vacant roles were then discussed -

Other relevant vacant roles at this stage of the Branch's development are:

Young Members Contact; Pub Campaigns Coordinator; Clubs Coordinator; Pub Protection Officer.

If you are interested in any of these roles, have a look at the role guidance on the CAMRA website > Members' Area > Branch Opportunities, and/or contact Alan via [chair@deevalley.camra.org.uk](mailto:chair@deevalley.camra.org.uk) . Your involvement at any level will be welcomed!

The election of officers was formally accepted by the AGM:

Proposed by BW. Seconded by BB.

### **AOB**

A discussion was had about ways to add funds to the Branch account.

Ways to broaden our Branch communication to hit the wider public in order to grow the membership was also discussed; plus fresh ways of using social media.

This will be developed via a Strategy Meeting next month.

**BB** to investigate leafleting / magazine inclusion costs.

**Meeting closed at 9.00pm.**

NB You are receiving this message as a formal response from our AGM to all Branch members. If you want to learn more about what your Branch is doing and maybe get involved e.g. social event updates and activities, please ensure you **opt in** to CAMRA emails by logging into [CAMRA.org.uk](https://www.camra.org.uk) > My Profile > Marketing Preferences (if you need guidance, please contact me).

Keith Harrison  
Branch Secretary

**Branch: Dee Valley**

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