

Minutes: Cross Party Group on Beer and Pubs
Details: Wednesday 22nd November at 6pm, Conference Room C&D.
Chaired by Simon Thomas AM

1. Welcomes and apologies for absence
2. Election
3. Purpose of the group
4. External membership
5. Upcoming meetings and events.
6. AOB

1. Welcome and Apologies

Simon Thomas AM welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited introductions. It was noted that this would be a short meeting and that efforts had already been made to secure membership for the group. A more formal meeting will be scheduled for the new year.

Attendees

Simon Thomas AM, David Rees AM, Gareth Bennett AM, Mark Isherwood AM, Craig Lawton on behalf of Suzy Davies (Proxy Vote), and Faye Grima from CAMRA.

2. Election

The following positions were elected:

Simon Thomas AM - Chair

Secretary: CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale (Contact faye.grima@camra.org.uk)

3. Purpose of the group

It was agreed that the purpose of the group is to further the appreciation of good quality beer that is produced in Wales; to recognise the importance of pubs to community life; to provide a forum to discuss policies that impact upon the beer and pub sector; to discuss ongoing issues relating to beer and pubs that pass through the Assembly.

It was agreed that as a starting point, the following issues would be looked at:

- Minimum Unit Pricing
- The Localism Act
- Community pub ownership
- Business rates

4. External Membership

- It was agreed that external organisations including brewers and Government departments would be invited to future meetings should there be a relevant topic for discussion.

5. Upcoming events and meetings

- A event is scheduled for Tuesday 30th January at the Oriel Space from 6pm to celebrate the launch of the Group

AOB

N/A