

COUNCIL REPORT

APRIL 6th, 2018

The Council meeting held on 6th April 2018 was a pre-AGM meeting held at Venue Cymru, Llandudno at 1pm. It was a full Council meeting with no apologies.

MEETING COMMENCED:

A MINUTE'S SILENCE WAS HELD IN RESPECT OF MRS RUTH DAVIES OF CEULAN STUD.

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9th MARCH 2018 AND MATTERS ARISING.

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes were a true record of the meeting with all in favour.

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUE

It was decided that no further action was to be taken on one case.

Another case is on-going.

STAFF BONUS

Had not as yet been included in the pay packets.

NEW WEBEBSITE

The Chair advised Council that work was progressing well and the contract had been amended.

THE SPRING SALE

The Chair of Finance and HR informed the Council that a 4 year contract had been agreed upon with Brightwells and that a meeting was arranged with the company at the RWAS show ground. The Vice Chair added that the meeting had been constructive and favourable to both parties.

The question of the staff attending this sale was raised having previously been rejected as the sale was not official. Brightwells in the meantime had offered a sum of money for staff to be present. It was decided that due to the lateness of the request that the Deputy Company Secretary check the availability of staff to attend this sale.

PAVILION CATERER

Because there was no spring sale at the Royal Welsh the contract with the caterers had been inadvertently changed to their loss. It was decided that the Royal Welsh be approached with a view to opening the WPCS Pavilion during the Spring Festival.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

The leaving Company Secretary had been thanked for her work over the last few months and a new Office Manager had been temporarily engaged for a 3 months probationary period. Due to her very recent appointment she would not be present at the AGM. She would however be present at Lampeter and Glanusk shows.

The Chair wished all trustees who were standing re-election good luck and was confident that they would be returned on Council. He thanked everyone for their support over the last year and that he and the Chair of Judging and Showing Committee had not had the easiest of years. He was glad that all issues that had arisen had always been resolved before all had left the board-room. He was however dis-spirited by past members of Council that felt the need to voice negative comments on social media. The Vice Chair agreed with the Chair. He, although standing for re-election, and having enjoyed his time with a hard-working Council – had not enjoyed the social media accusations.

REPORT FROM WORKING GROUPS

MEMBERS' SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Chair of Members' Services Committee confirmed that the latest Stud Book had been proof-read and was on sale. The Chair, Vice Chair and members of this committee were congratulated for by now being only 2 years behind schedule on publication of Stud Books, a vast improvement to the situation.

The Spanish WPC Society had informed a member of Council who had been in that country that they would be interested in purchasing old stock of Stud Books in large quantities. Council member and Deputy Company Secretary to liaise on the volumes and the numbers available.

RARE BREEDS TRUST

The Vice Chair reported that he had attended a meeting in Stoneleigh.

He also confirmed that the Radnorshire Hill Project was progressing well.

HOYS DISPLAY

HOYS has offered a place for a WPCS pony or cob with monetary aid. It was suggested that a local area association be approached to assist. Details to be discussed at next Council meeting.

HARMONIZATION

Some members of Council felt that this recurring matter should be resolved. Some were of the opinion that it was a moot point with the Brexit situation being unclear. It was aired that an AGM resolution would be needed as any change would involve the restructuring of the constitution of the WPCS. Because of uncertainty surrounding this matter by situations outside the control of the WPCS it was proposed that this was a matter that needed legal advice and that the Society's solicitors compose a letter of explanation to overseas societies involved in the issue. The motion was carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

BRIGHTWELLS CORRESPONDENCE – previously discussed.

WELSH ASSEMBLY RESPONSE

The liaising WA officer refused a meeting with WPCS representatives while the consultation was in progress.

INTERNATIONAL SHOW

The Chair of the International Committee had received correspondence requesting that the 2021 International Show status be given to Germany. He said that a date and venue had been proposed. Although no longer on Council, he was prepared to take the exhibition unit to Germany.

Council were unanimous in agreeing to this proposal.

AREA ASSOCIATION QUESTIONS IN RELATION TO JUDGES' ASSESSMENT

PERFORMANCE MEDALS

The Chair of Judging and Showing clarified that Rule 8.6 in the Judging and Showing Handbook should have read "excluding lead rein and first ridden." Junior membership was acceptable.

HOYS GOLD MEDAL

Rather than do away with the medal and penalise the membership, it was decided that a compromise be sought with HOYS officials so that the gold medal only be awarded to a Welsh-bred Champion. All were in favour of this

JUDGING AND SHOWING HANDBOOK

An agreed response to be sent to member questioning the content of the handbook.

RWAS MEETING

Another request to be sent for a meeting.

CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

These to be discussed in detail with trustees at the earliest possible opportunity.

WEBSITE UPDATE

6 tenders had been received, 2 of which would be investigated further through presentations.

ENROLMENT OF NEW MEMBERS

All new applications accepted.

AOB

CHARITY COLLECTION

AGM charity collection to be donated to Air Ambulance.

ROYAL CHESHIRE SHOW

The exhibition unit to attend and request to be made for an improved location site.

WELFARE UPDATES

The Chair of Education and Welfare updated the meeting on 3 live on-going cases. He opined that social media exaggerated some cases causing unnecessary difficulties. He would continue to monitor and update Council on the cases.

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

The Vice Chair of Council stressed it was imperative that this be dealt with immediately as the completion date was 30th May, 2018. The WPCS is corresponding with all Native Breed Societies in the UK offering to host a meeting. The Company Secretary and Deputy Company Secretary to urgently call a consultation with all Native UK Breed Societies regarding the revised EU rules on Equine Identification Wales.

WPCS DVDs

The president had contacts that could produce DVDs but he (the contact) would not be available until late May.

PUBLICITY OFFICER

Enquiries to be made for Lampeter Show.

PASSING OF A PROMINENT MEMBER

The Chair gave details of the funeral arrangements and trustees made a joint donation.

The Chair of council wished the President a successful AGM.

The President replied that he had enjoyed his tenure with a hard-working Council and to disregard uninformed social media criticisms. He wished the upcoming President all the best

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING.

