

**Summary of the Non Confidential minutes of the Council meeting
held at 9.00 a.m. on 11th March 2019 at Bronaeron, Felinfach,
Lampeter, SA48 8AG**

Present: Colin Thomas (Chair), Geraint Davies, Daniel Morgan, Gwyn Jones, Wyn Jones (Vice Chair), Daydre Chambers, Roger Davies, Elgan Evans, Peter Morgan, Dilwyn Roberts

Apologies:

In Attendance: Elizabeth Russell (President) by telephone, Brian Foster (President-Elect)

Minute Taker: Rob Allen (Consultant Administrator)

Welcome and Apologies

The Chair asked trustees to place their mobiles on silent or switch them off.

Declarations and Items for Any Other Business

No declarations.

Three items were identified as AOB:

Boynes Backup
Stud Book printing prices
Royal Welsh Gelding Show

Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 26th February and Matters Arising

Corrections:

Dilwyn Roberts clarified that he was asked to attend the 26th February meeting on the afternoon of Sunday the 24th. He received a phone call from Colin Thomas asking if he was happy to be proposed and seconded as the tenth trustee of the Society.

Matters Arising:

The Consultant Administrator gave an update on the AGM.

Cups and trophies: this is an item on the updated company issue log as requiring repair and maintenance and there is a lack of clarity around the stock insured at Bronaeron

Gelding Show prizes: there are no sponsors for these prizes to date and the office continues to work on this.

Miss Broderick: clarified that this stays at Bronaeron and the winner receives a photo

PL Edwards: has given his apology for the AGM and identified someone to pick up the award on his behalf. Daniel Morgan will be speaking on this at the AGM.

2019 Portrait for Performance Show Supreme Champion: The office has located an alternative artist at a cost of £350. Roger Davies asked Jess Wood to contact him as he has contacts that maybe able to assist at a cheaper cost. Trustees felt that the artist should be written to.

2019 Debbie Dunbar portrait: the office is endeavouring to contact her, Geraint Davies confirmed that this is happening, but the Society needs confirmation (**NB office has now confirmed with Ms Dunbar**)

Speaker for Mike Daley award was identified as Daniel Morgan.

Staging Plan: no issues arising from those who had been sent it for review and feedback. It was confirmed the trustees will have tables in front of them. Trustees will not be introducing themselves at the beginning.

Vote of thanks to the retiring president: The Chair will identify members to do the vote of thanks.

Receipt of speeches: By 5pm on Friday 22nd of March. To be e-mailed to Rob for insertion in the running order and the minutes.

Roland Michell correspondence dated 5/3/19 was tabled. The Chair advised that he has approached Aberystwyth university to act as a DNA subject expert. There has been no response to date. He felt that the Society needs expert opinion.

There was further discussion on a cost benefit analysis as the administration cost to the Society was never factored in. Suggestions included asking MHA Broomfield Alexander to under-take a business case review using the actual costs to the Society. Geraint Davies said he would liaise with the Office Manager to identify the cost. Rob Allen will locate the 2016 business case review. **Agenda item for the 29th of March Council meeting.**

Brightwells has moved the sales from Malvern to Hereford.

Chair/Vice Chair Update

Colin Thomas spoke on his vision for the Society should he continue to be Chair following the AGM. He has spoken with the Vice Chair, President and President-Elect. Colin formally apologised to President Russell and President-Elect Foster that events have been happening in their year of office. He referred to the Pamela Wood report from 2006 which was stated could have been written yesterday.

A discussion took place that the Society should be communicating better with the membership. Responses to social media posts have to go through Council which results in delay and is too slow in the modern world. Members are publishing text on Facebook and the letters arrive later with the Society.

The Society needs to be able to draft non-confrontational statements, to own the process of engagement and to communicate positive messages which are measured and evidence based. There could be the appointment of an honorary communications officer and Council could co-opt

someone with the required skills. Or executive responsibility delegated to the Chair, Vice Chair and Chair of Finance and HR. The Consultant Administrator suggested that the Company Secretary job description could be reviewed to include updating the website on governance issues without going through other staff and which would speed up Society communication.

The Society needs to improve its future planning with a clear business plan, be more efficient and reduce the firefighting. It was remarked that trustees are stretched to the limit, sitting on Council and on two standing committees each. Should the number of trustees expand to improve scrutiny? How can members be encouraged to put themselves forward as trustees?

Implementation of Auditors Recommendations

Society staff will be asked to progress against the recommendations and report to the Chair of FHR.

Staff Handover Notes Procedure

The Consultant Administrator spoke on the proposed procedure. One correction was made to the procedure.

It was proposed, seconded and carried that the staff handover notes procedure be added to the staff handbook.

Daniel Morgan and Brian Foster left the meeting.

Brightwell Sales Report

It was confirmed that there is a letter pending and will be actioned as soon as possible.

WPCS/brightwells Central Equine Register

No further action.

Bar Codes for Promotional Goods

This agenda item links with the auditor's recommendations. The Society continues to carry too much stock. To be an agenda item for the Promotions Standing Committee.

It was proposed, seconded and carried that the Area Associations be able to raffle off unwanted WPCS stock to raise funds.

Antiques Roadshow

Daniel Morgan advised that a trustee has been requested to go to Nebo. It was agreed that the Chair of the reconvened Promotions Standing Committee should go.

Correspondance

Letter to be sent apologising and referring to administration issues.

Any Other Business

Royal Welsh Gelding Show Sponsorship

RWAS is asking for £750 to sponsor the gelding show at the Royal Welsh in 2019. In 2018 the price was £750. It was confirmed that the Society has not yet paid for 2019.

It was proposed, seconded and carried that the Society accept the price of £750 for 2019 but advise RWAS that the Society will need to review for future years subject to the economic situation.

Stud Book Costs

The cost of producing the next stud book was tabled. It was confirmed that the Society easily sells 55 books and that 75 books will need to be ordered.

It was proposed, seconded and carried that the Society accept the price to print the next stud book.

Boynes Back-up

It was confirmed that the Society currently has no network back-up and it was agreed that Boynes should complete the work.

The Council meeting was closed at 5.00pm

The next Council meeting will be held at 2.00pm at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Glasgow with lunch from 1.00pm.