

THE WELSH PONY AND COB SOCIETY
CYMDEITHAS Y MERLOD A'R COBIAU CYMREIG

**Summary minutes of the Council meeting held at 9:00am on Monday
14th October 2019 at Bronaeron, Felinfach, Lampeter, SA48 8AG**

Present: Colin Thomas (Chair), Wyn Jones (Vice Chair), Daniel Morgan, Gwyn Jones, Dilwyn Roberts, Barry Hall, Deborah Jones, Sharon Charlton, Elgan Evans, Daydre Chambers, Roger Davies and Geraint Davies,

Apologies: Brian Foster (President), C R Davies (President-Elect), Elizabeth Hampson and John Welsh

In Attendance: Gemma Bassett-Burr (Interim Deputy Company Secretary)
Meirion Davies (Company Secretary)

Minute Taker: Gemma Bassett-Burr (Interim Deputy Company Secretary)

Welcome and Apologies

Declarations and Items for any Other Business

- Database Contract
- Independent Investigator Invoice
- Member and the Museum and the retired Publicity Officer
- Wreath for Remembrance Sunday
- Gelding show at Cob Sales
- Confidential
- Fayre Oaks
- Confidential
- Confidential
- Application onto judging panel (process review)
- Confidential
- Complaint Received
- Fashion Show

Trustee Complaint

Confidential minute

Matter Arising

Confidential matter to be reviewed – **Proposed and Seconded. 2 abstained and all others in favour.**

Bursary Grant to be transferred to the Education and Welfare agenda for the next meeting.

Company Secretary to look into the expenses claims for the young judges.

President - informed the committee that he had received an invitation from the Australian International show secretary on 04 October 2019 to attend the forthcoming show and dinner in Australia, due to the short notice he was unsure if he would be able to attend.

Confidential minutes

Pedigree of an animal

With reference to page 32 of the Judging and showing handbook an expert is to be contacted to investigate. Honorary vet to be contacted to investigate to conclude on the matter. To be added to future agenda.

Proposed and seconded that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting. All in favour.

Chair/Vice Chair of Council update

Chairman - it is vital that council stick together and take this Society forward. He also expressed his disappointment that decisions are being overturned.

Congratulations were passed onto staff as well as to Company secretary, it was also mentioned about the positive social media posts.

Company Secretary Update

Company secretary discussed how he would like to include the hill ponies in the website as concerns were raised at the meeting that the Young people are not interested. The possibility of the New Young ambassador could be an advocate for the Hill Society along with President-elect as the up and coming president.

Reports from the Standing Committee – Finance and HR

Confidential minute

There was discussion around the need for a an awareness campaign for stallion passports to be returned to be correctly stamped as a 'gelding' when required.

Confidential minute

During the period Dec 19 – Jan 20 The Chair of Finance and HR will sit with the Company Secretary and Finance Officer to set the budget for 2020.

Company secretary - expressed his disappointment at the tremendous costs to the Society in financial terms and in staff's time lost by the membership calling two meetings just 18 days apart.

A member provided the Society with a letter to confirm that we do not have to provide financial reports or minutes but it was stated that it has always been custom practice and created openness and honesty.

Confidential minute

Reports from the Standing Committee – Judging and Showing

One of the speakers had been in touch following the judge's conference and was disappointed that he had received no formal thanks from the Society for speaking at the event.

Reports from the Standing Committee – Members Services

Chairman - declared a conflict of interest

Interim Company secretary gave a brief overview of the journal tender meetings and member's service preferred a supplier. Chair of FHR agreed the cost of this as suitable. **Proposed and seconded. 1 abstention all others in favour for progressing with the chosen printer.**

It was discussed the future tenders should be for a period of 2 to 3 year rather than tendering each year.

A member has confirmed that she will provide the society with show reports for Lampeter, Glanusk and Welsh National Shows.

A member has agreed to film in the museum for free including a short piece with the retiring Publicity Officer. If we wanted the film edited this would then incur a fee.

Young Ambassador will be targeting Instagram while in Australia and Company secretary has asked the International show committee what they would like the YA to do while she is in Australia.

International Show Germany – Judge suggestions

Section A – nomination
Section B – nomination
Section C/D – nominations
Part Bred - nomination
Ridden – nomination

Reports from the Standing Committee – Education and Welfare

To be discussed at the next meeting

Reports from the Standing Committee – Promotions

Embroidered stock has been ordered for Fayre Oaks and the cob sales. Chair of Council authorised in the absence of Chair of FHR.

Look at the possibility of sponsoring a WPCS jump to be used at a major Show jumping Centre .

Next season's focus of the committee for videos will be on driven, ridden and part bred classes.

Discussions are also under way as to where the lorry will be attending next year looking at 3 locations in Wales and 3 locations in England.

A tender also needs to go out for next years video production.

Royal Welsh Meeting Date

To be arranged after the Royal Welsh Winter Fair

Brightwells Sales Meeting Date

To be arranged after the Cob sales in November

Business Plan

Three trustees nominated to work on this.

February 2019 Auditors Report

Auditors report is to be looked into and any points to be actioned and incorporated into the business plan.

Regarding stock levels we need to establish when stock becomes obsolete. Can we work with bookstores to sell them or pulp books no longer required?

Joint Memberships

Everyone on the panel should be single members

Proposed and seconded. All in favour that we write to those on the panel who are joint members.

Tenders for Solicitors, auditors etc.

Tenders to be concentrated on in the New year. Particularly the solicitors.

Confidential minute

Premium Judges

Two Premium judges selected.

Proposed and seconded, All in favour

ESA - correspondence from the secretary

Copies of Brexit document provide to all trustees on the day.

Approval of General Meeting Minutes August 31st

Proposed to next meeting 04th November 2019

Proxy Voting and Access Problems

To look at a way of easing membership access to the meetings to create a smoother process. Proxy votes to also be looked into, to see how this can be improved with votes also being taken from the floor.

Confidential matter - Chair of FHR.

Complaints Raised by Members Questioning Integrity of the Scrutineers

We are currently waiting to hear any further information on this.

To Cover Points Raised at the General Meeting 31st August 2019

The Council need to go through each point raised at the general meeting to discuss and action. Postpone to a further meeting.

Confidential legal advice.

A separate workshop session is to be scheduled between now and Christmas to discuss all points raised. We do not want to leave this too long following the meeting.

A member has contacted the President, a member and the Company Secretary to try and set up a meeting. This should have come through the correct process. The member is to be contacted to inform her that she needs to write to the society for consideration. **Proposed and seconded by, all in favour.**

Confidential minute

Proposed and seconded, all in favour

AOB

Wreath for the Fallen animals – no official request or contact from the organisers has been received. A member to be contacted to see if she could provide us with a wreath for Sunday 10th November. Company secretary to attend.

Confidential matter

Judging application form to be reviewed and a report to be created looking at how this is done and how it could be done.

Judges declaration form to be brought forward for the 04th November 2019. Meeting.

Fashion Show – we have 30 models attending from the age of 2 to 30 from Scotland to Southampton. The majority of tickets have been sold.

New database contract concerns. Office manager shared some of the concerns raised by the solicitor with the contract, We are unable to accept a contract that is not fit for purpose. Office manager and Company Secretary have been given permission to contact other IT system providers. **Proposed and seconded, all in favour.**

With no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 5:35pm.

ENDS

