

SUMMARY MINUTES OF A HYBRID COUNCIL MEETING HELD 24th JANUARY 2023

(Confidential matters are not included)

Present: Daniel Morgan (Chair), Sharon Charlton (Vice-Chair), Debbie Jones, Steve Everitt, Tanya Baldwin, Martin Waters, David Davies, Rosie Wilson, Dilwyn Roberts, Wyn Jones.

By video conference: Dewi Evans (President Elect), Lottie Stephens, Angela Kember (From Australia).

In attendance: Dennis Price (President) Meirion Davies (Company Secretary), Gemma Bassett Burr (Office Manager)

Minute Taker: GBB

The minutes of the Council meeting held on November 30th were ratified and approved as a true record of the meeting.

Matters Arising from November 30th: The CS shared that there was no update on the role of Society Patron following the death of Her Majesty the Late Queen Elizabeth II.

A second quote for fencing had been obtained and it was noted that planning permission may be required to erect flagpoles and display flags at the Society Offices.

Skye Whittle had been appointed as the Society Young Ambassador for 2023-2024 and Trustee Lottie Stevens was appointed as Skye's mentor.

The journal had gone to print with 608 pages and advertising was covering the printing costs. The Company Secretary thanked the trustees who had submitted reports for inclusion in the Journal. The WPCS Bursaries had been raised in the F & HR meeting and would be discussed at the next meeting of that sub-committee. Following the Education and Welfare Committee's 'Producers meeting' the Office was awaiting responses from those present.

A Disciplinary review working group meeting was being arranged. The

2023 Judging & Showing handbook proof had been circulated to all trustees for corrections. The Chair of the Judging and Showing committee had written to the Area Associations and also invited the membership to submit their ideas for the future appointment of judges to the Judges Panel (to be returned by 15th March 2023)

Breeder's certificates for the breeders of gold medal winners at the Royal Welsh Show would be produced in-house and presented at the AGM to honour breeders as well as owners/exhibitors for winning a Gold medal.

All 2022 registrations, submitted without errors or problems, have been processed. Two ladies have been nominated for President and only 4 nominations for trustees from 5 vacancies have been received, which will require nominations from the floor of the AGM to fill the one remaining vacancy.

All foals born in 2023 will have a Welsh/English passport, rather than a French/English passport as a result of Brexit and the Official Spring sale will be held on 21st May in Brecon Market by the Society's Official auctioneers McCartneys.

The Company Secretary and Vice-Chair of Council will attend a meeting along with other invited equine Societies at the West Wales Horse and Pony enthusiasts' group on the 22nd of February. The RWAS Spring festival are offering Welsh breed classes in-hand for the first time and have been liaising with the Society.

Following the Vice Chair's article for the Journal regarding the evolution of the breed descriptions from the Society's founding, it was unanimously agreed that there was no need for any changes to the current descriptions.

Arrangements for the Awards night and Presidents dinner were discussed and agreed, with the President donating the disco and the Office having sourced a large number of sponsorships for prizes etc.

The Company Secretary reported that annually when stallions are being licensed, it is found with a small number that their stated sire does not

actually qualify as their sire, during the parentage test for a licence. In these cases, the Office ask the breeder to nominate other possible stallions/colts as the sire who can be parentage tested as the potential actual sire. Each test costs and causes the Office a large amount of administrative work, currently at no cost to the owner of the stallion being licenced. It was resolved that in future the person responsible for submitting the sire for licensing should bear the costs of all tests required to find the correct sire plus a £25 plus VAT administration fee.

Following some discussion, it was resolved that the 2023 Sire Ratings awards will be collated from the results of all the affiliated bronze status, silver status and gold medal shows.

Discussion ensued around so termed 'tit for tat' judging and producers also being judges. It was resolved to seek advice on the legal position of possibly creating rules in future to prevent these actions.

It has been confirmed that the 2024 International Show will be held in Holland although the date and location are not yet confirmed. In 2026 it returns to the UK and coincides with the Society's 125th anniversary when it is hoped some of the current European transport rules and related costs may have been relaxed.

6 new prefixes and 4 extensions to prefixes were approved. Trustees also approved a list of new members of the Society who had joined since the last Council meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 17.04.