



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

**BULLETIN MINUTES FOR THE WPCS COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
BRONAERON ON TUESDAY THE 13TH OF JUNE 2023.**

Council met with apologies from Jocelyn Price. Angela Kember and Lottie Stephens joined the meeting online.

The following items were discussed:

Condolences are to be expressed to the bereaved family of JMB Vet Mr P Jinman OBE BVet Med Dip Arb FCI Arb MRCVS and to Gunn Johansson Chair of the Swedish Welsh Pony and Cob Society on the passing of Sture her partner.

The WPCS Office will soon offer a new passporting service with the endorsement of the Welsh Government as a passport issuing office under the banner of 'EquiCymru' for non- pedigree animals throughout the UK. WPCS members will be able to passport such animals at a discounted rate. This is one of a number of strategic projects which are currently in development to offer new revenue streams for the Society and provide benefit for its members.

A video conferencing system has been ordered to enhance the facilities for online meetings, this will cut down on Trustee travelling and incurred expenses.

The review of the Complaints and disciplinary process is ongoing, incorporating social media practices, and conduct at shows. A member who is a qualified barrister has been co-opted in an advisory role to the group, and will provide free advice to assist them with the review.

Priority repairs and refurbishments to the Society's pavilion at the RWAS were actioned. This is constantly being reviewed as the building ages, in line with any changes in health and safety legalisation.

Following the review of the Judges Assessment, the next assessment will now take place in 2025 to allow applicants to probation under the proposed criteria, which is still in development of a new process to be introduced from 2024.

A guide for those wishing to use the services of a Producer, following the Education and welfare committee's meeting with that sector, will be shared with the membership this autumn.

Publicity reports from members have been invited for a selection of shows throughout the country.

The Official Spring sale was reviewed, its image and impact. Concern was expressed at the turnout of handlers in the ring, and the number of animals which were not brought forward on the day. It was noted that members by entering have agreed to present their animals unless they have a veterinary certificate to support their non-attendance.

Volume 103 of the WPCS Stud book and the 2024 WPCS Calendar will be available for sale at the Society's pavilion during the Royal Welsh show. The price of the Stud book will be increased to reflect the true costs of production.

The feature articles for the 2024 WPCS journal have been commissioned.

An advisory panel for Colour descriptions made up of volunteer members with genetic colour expertise has been set up to assist the Office when registering.

The expressions of interest to study for a PhD or MSC based on "*The evaluation of the socio-economic contribution made by Welsh Ponies, Cobs and their Part-breds to the history, culture and economic development of Wales*", has so far engendered a good response from potential researchers.

Applications for grant funding have been made to the Welsh Government 'Shared Prosperity fund'.

A list of new prefixes, and extension of existing prefixes to additional names was approved, and new society members accepted.

New charges for office services were approved and will be implemented from the 19th of June 2023.

A suggestion was tabled by the Chair that foals bred by members of the Hill Pony Improvement Societies be allowed to register foals born in the current year for a flat fee of £22.50 until the November deadline because of the practicalities and dates of the gatherings was considered but not approved by the majority of Council.

Two proposals for amendments to the Society's Articles of Association were accepted and will be taken to the AGM in 2024 for consideration by the membership.

Elite medals awarded in 2024 based on the number of animals forward in sections at Bronze or Silver status shows will be engraved and framed as awards.

Confidential matters were also discussed but are not included in this bulletin.

The detailed Council minutes are subject to ratification.

Chair and Company Secretary 14/06/2023