



**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 12TH OF SEPTEMBER 2023.**

Council met at Bronaeron and received apologies from Cemaes Evans.

The following items were discussed:

The Official Society sale to be held on October 20,21 and 22 has attracted 612 entries. When entering members agree to the terms and conditions of the sale and if the entry is not forward the fee of £100 will be charged unless a valid veterinary certificate is supplied. This is to avoid animals being sold prior to the sale and the disappointment of potential purchasers who have travelled to the sale in good faith that the animals catalogued will be forward. Vendors who refuse to pay the fee will not be allowed to enter animals for future Official sales unless the payment is made.

The new Official Sales website is efficient and has been well received. Due to available staffing numbers projected for that day, it was agreed that the WPCS office at Bronaeron will be shut on the Friday (20/10/2023) of the sale.

The Sarum Investments Gelding show and the Young Judges Pony selection 'My pick of the sale' will again be held at the Sales. The Office will facilitate transfers of sold stock, and various new lines of merchandise will be available for sale from the WPCS stand along with Volume 104 of the WPCS Stud book.

The 2024 WPCS Official Spring sale will be held on Sunday the 19th of May at Brecon Livestock market.

The resignation received on the 27th of August 2023 of Trustee David Davies was confirmed by the Chairman.

The issue of confidentiality was raised by the Chairman who reminded Trustees of their responsibilities and the Trustees code of conduct. It is critical that Trustees respect the need for confidentiality as the Society has established rules and protocol to follow. Rumour and misinformation damage the Society and the member's interests and would not be tolerated; any Trustee found breaching this code would be dismissed.

The Business Diagnostic report and recommendation that had been recently presented to Trustees and staff, (commissioned by the Council to address operational structure and historic financial deficit) was discussed in detail. Following short, medium, and long-term recommendations that had been made to look at Trustee roles and responsibilities and improve efficiency in our operational processes and services to the membership, together with registration, financial and case management system compatibility, the Company Secretary reported on some of the early short-term recommendations which are already being actioned and implemented.

Two vacant posts which have arisen as staff have left the Society's employment are now advertised. The closing date for applications is September 26th.

New Promotional leaflets will be available on the Society stand at the upcoming Horse of the Year show, at the NEC Birmingham that will be resourced by a group of the Trustees. The Chairman thanked JP for her personal contributions.

The Society will attend the Memorial service for Animals who have fallen in War, to be held in November at Hyde Park, London.

The President's dinner and Awards night will be held at Venue Cymru, Llandudno on Saturday the 2nd of March 2024.

The WPCS Annual General Meeting will be held at Theatre John Ambrose, Ruthin on Saturday April the 6th 2024 at 1.00pm.

Three applications have been received for the role of WPCS Young Ambassador 2024 - 2025. Candidates will be interviewed in October. It was agreed that the appointment of a Young Ambassador and a Young Ambassador-elect would be actioned if candidates were suitable.

The next edition of the Welsh Stud book will not include the detailed members list.

The WPCS pavilion at the RWAS showground and remedial works which are required was actioned. Trustees discussed the viability and costs of the Pavilion and its benefit to members. A note of thanks from the Chairman and delegated authority was given to two Trustees to action and oversee the works.

Annual Membership subscription fees for 2024 were confirmed as follows – Adult membership if paid by direct debit £41.50 or by other means £47. Junior membership will be £14. These increases are in line with inflation as agreed by the membership at the 2022 AGM.

Trustees agreed to freezing the fees for advertising in the Society's Annual Journal for the third year running to encourage more advertisements.

The Colour advisory group which consists of volunteer members who are experts, has assisted the Office with applications from breeders who wish to offer alternative colour descriptions when registering, to those recognised as the Society's basic colour descriptions. DNA evidence must be provided.

A working party of trustees was set up to look at the breed descriptions, this consists of EG, EP, SC, SE and JP. They will consider the breed descriptions following Sharon' Charlton's researched article in the 2023 WPCS journal and report back to Council.

Trustees expressed their thanks and congratulations to the family of President Dewi Evans for hosting such a successful open day at Hilin Stud on the 29th of July.

The RWAS Spring Festival organisers wished to continue with their 'Home produced' section at next year's event. Trustees agreed that this was an inclusive initiative and wished to convey their support for the concept.

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

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

The detailed Council minutes are subject to ratification.

Chairman and Company Secretary 14/09/2023

ENDS

