

14/11/23 Council Meeting Summary

The chairman welcomed the two newly co-opted trustees who had enabled council to be function (TH and AB). A new vice chair of council was appointed (DR). It was agreed that the diagnostic review indicated that there are operational areas to look at, as well as strategic areas regarding trustees, with clarity of roles to be established. Role descriptions will need to be established. MW took over the role of Chair of Finance/HR with AB as vice chair. AK was confirmed to take on the chair of the Members' Services committee and will now work with the office to produce the journal. MD to be chair of the Judging and Showing committee and JVP to chair Education and Welfare. Trustees were unanimously voted into these positions.

The staff are to have a meeting with IT support on the new system. As they transit to this training for all staff will be required. DR offered to help with any translation with forms etc that are required as a bilingual service must be offered... All trustees agreed that a new phone system and investment for a new website must be a priority.

The office had picked up that there is a lack of DNA data from the Historic DNA study undertaken by Aberystwyth University on Hill ponies. They had been provided with DNA reference numbers, but no profiles exist for the mares sampled by the university which has led to confusion for some breeders. It was resolved that the society passports the outstanding foals on the proviso that the relevant mares are DNA tested in 2024 by a designated vet/at a designated place.

Topics for the next sales meeting with McCartneys were agreed to include lotting, H&S ie safety in the stabling area and collecting rings must be improved and enforcement of the rule banning children from the collecting and sales rings must take place. All trustees agreed that any third party disputes at the sale should not involve the society.

A discussion regarding Judges' Disclosure forms/contracts resolved that there is a strict deadline for the return of these to the office by 'signed for' post, with reminders posted. Despite this a few judges had not returned them. It was agreed that the current rule had to be abided by in fairness to all.