

At the most recent meeting of Council, on Monday, October 12th 2015, a number of topics were discussed.

After a minute's silence for recently-departed members, and previous minutes were ratified, discussion ensued about a new pavilion.

Members will be aware that, since July and via the WPCS website and social media pages, and in the Autumn magazine, the Secretary requested members to communicate their thoughts on a new pavilion to him.

Twenty responses were received both in time and through the correct channels. Two were received out of time. The majority of respondents expressed the opinion that a new pavilion should not be built. Cost, usage and the fact that such a building would be a leasehold rather than freehold property were the most common reasons cited. Council was provided with members' views, discussed these and were each asked in turn by the Chair for their opinions, which were in line with those of the members.

Council proposed and voted unanimously in favour of the following, that: ...the Secretary writes to, and meets with, Steve Hughson [Chief Executive] at the RWAS to report today's decision that the Society is not in a position to fund a new pavilion as per its architectural drawings. The decision was reached because a few days' use per year is not enough flexibility for the Society to get the best capital return on its investment.

The Secretary – who stresses that Council is behind the WPCS maintaining its excellent working relationship with the RWAS, two organisations of approximately the same age that share much history – has communicated this to Mr Hughson. Further correspondence has been exchanged, and a meeting will take place.

In other news, there were brief updates from the Chairs of the Standing Committees, from the Chair of Council, and the Secretary. The Secretary advised Council that the WPCS promotional video had attracted almost 1,000 "views" on YouTube in six days.

The Chair also offered his congratulations – echoed by Council – to Stewart Franklin for his success at Horse of the Year Show.

There was a reminder about the Judges conference on October 31st, and a proposal that the Secretary – with the President or the Chair – attends and lays a wreath on behalf of the Society at the Animals In War commemoration on 13th November in Hyde Park.

The next Standing Committee meetings are on November 16th and 17th , and the next scheduled Council meeting is on 7 th December.

As ever, if you have any comments, please address them in writing to the Secretary by email or by post.

The addresses are

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and

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