

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

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 10.00 am on Monday 10 August 2015
at Bronaeron, Felinfach, Lampeter, SA48 8AG

Present: Tom Hughes (Chair), Ann Bigley, Elgan Evans, Stewart Franklin, Betty French (President-Elect), Ed Gummery, Angela Kember, John Kirk (Vice-Chair), Dania Leyson, Peter Morgan, Jeff Parry, David Roberts, Colin Thomas, Gilly Thomson

Apologies: David Blair, Dai Harris (President), David Roberts, Jo Sheil-Morgan

In Attendance: Andrew Johnstone (Secretary)

Minute Taker: Jayne Willis (PA)

Welcome & Apologies

A minute's silence was held in respect of Life Member, The Honourable Mrs A Luard of Maidenford, Devon, and all members recently departed.

9543 a) MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 JUNE 2015

It was proposed by Ann Bigley seconded by Ed Gummery that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, subject to the following correction. All in favour.

XXXX

Matters Arising

p.2 9456 Secretary's Update

- **Video** – The Secretary reported that a production company, Boomerang, had agreed to produce the first video free of charge, and hoped to have the first rushes by the end of September.

p.3 9457 Reports from the Standing Committees – 18 May 2015

- **Education & Welfare, Young Ambassador** – Mrs Bigley noted that she had written to this year's Young Ambassador, Gareth Watkins, inviting him to the National Welsh Show, but had not received a reply.

- **Members Services, Exhibition Unit** –

It was proposed by Elgan Evans, seconded by Dania Leyson that in future the Exhibition Unit will fall under the remit of the Promotions Committee only.

Office to update Terms of Reference for Members Services to reflect the decision with copies to the next MS meeting.

Action Points

Office to action

Office to action

p.5 9460, Social Media Policy – finalised version to be uploaded to website, and added to the Society's by-laws - Secretary to contact Geldards Solicitors regarding this.

AJ to action

9543 b) CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13 JULY 2015

It was proposed by Dania Leyson, seconded by Jeff Parry that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting. All in favour.

Matters Arising

XXXX

p.2 9479 AOB 1) WPCS Pavilion, RWAS

Colin Thomas requested that all on Council receive copies of Geldards advice regarding the lease – *copied and tabled on the day.*

Discussion ensued regarding the way forward for arrangements at the Society's site at the showground. The Secretary reported that he had a first meeting with Steve Hughson, the RWAS Chief Executive on 5 August 2015, who very much wishes to work with the Society.

Peter Morgan suggested that as the Society is no longer able to use the existing lease, there may be the option of compensation as the Society is not able to utilise the remainder. Theoretically the only other option is to move to a new build, which cannot be completed within the timescales, and the option is for a marquee for 2016 with no catering facilities.

Stewart Franklin reported that he had spoken to his contact at Royal Welsh to see if there are any other buildings available for the Society to use, and he was told that there are.

Ann Bigley suggested that thought be given to other options at the showground given that the current pavilion is used very little.

Peter Morgan proposed, seconded by Elgan Evans, that the current pavilion is not knocked down at this time, and that the Secretary contacts the Royal Welsh to explore the cost and usage possibilities of existing buildings on the Royal Welsh Showground; and report back at the Council meeting on Tuesday 22 September. All in favour.

AJ to action

In addition the Secretary to update Christina Nixon as soon as possible.

AJ to action

The Chair, Tom Hughes, will enclose an update on the Pavilion in his Chair's Report for the September magazine.

TGH to action

9544 CHAIR OF COUNCIL UPDATE

a) **Next Meeting** - It was confirmed that there would be an additional meeting of Council on the morning of **Tuesday 22 September 2015, 9.30 am to 1.00 pm** before the Finance & HR meeting which will commence at 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm.

Office to action

b) **Committee Objectives** - The Chair noted that Council is half way through its year and for the 22 September meeting it was requested that all committee chairs look at their objectives and, using the traffic

light system, grade their progress to date using the following categories

- Green – achieved
- Amber – targets on track
- Red – not started

**Committee Chairs
to action**

c) **Expenses** – The Chair asked that, with immediate effect office staff and Trustees should inform him and Stewart Franklin, before they incur any extraordinary expenses outside of the usual travel to meetings at Bronaeron.

AJ/ Trustees to action

d) **Bank Mandate** – Following a discussion regarding signatories for the bank mandate, **it was proposed by Colin Thomas, seconded by Dania Leyson that Tom Hughes, Stewart Franklin and Andrew Johnstone fulfil this role. All in favour.**

AJ to action

e) **Pavilion Group Co-optees** – The Chair noted his and Council's thanks to past Trustees, Steve Everitt, Edwin Prosser and Gethin Williams who were co-opted onto the Pavilion & Estates Group to lend assistance, and confirmed that the Secretary had written to thank them on Council's behalf.

9545 SECRETARY'S UPDATE

Andrew Johnstone reported that staff appraisals will commence on Tuesday 11 August 2015.

A number of shows had been attended over the previous two months, notably the Royal Welsh where lots of views were expressed, and contact made with, amongst others, S4C, BBC and ITV regarding interviews and the launch of Dr Wynne's book.

Colin Thomas proposed a vote of thanks to Dr Wynne, seconded by Ann Bigley, for the kind donation of £4.50 from the sale of each copy of his book to the Society. Secretary to write. All in favour.

AJ to action

Following a suggestion from the Secretary, it was agreed to send a copy of Dr Wynne's book to Her Majesty The Queen.

AJ to action

9546 REPORTS FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS

Not addressed on the day – to next Council Meeting at 0930 on Tuesday 22 September 2015

- Education & Welfare – 13 July 2015
- Judging & Showing – 13 July 2015
- Members Services – 13 July 2015
- Promotions – 13 July 2015
- Finance & HR – 14 July 2015
- Young Peoples Group – 30 June 2015
- International Meeting – 20 July 2015
 - Future International Shows
 - D Blair email re Harmonisation

9547 WPCS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS FROM OTHER SOCIETY MEETINGS

- a) **NEWC 24/06/15** – Ed Gummery and Dania Leyson attended this meeting with the following points noted:
- Defra to advise on its future process by autumn
 - Talk of enforcing notifications of transfer, with fixed penalty notices sent via the breed societies
 - Local authorities to enforce the movement of abandoned horses
 - BHS Trailblazers Group to be introduced Autumn 2016 for young members
 - Possibility of retrospective microchipping
- b) **Cross Party Assembly Group for the Horse 30/06/15** – Colin Thomas attended on behalf of the Hill Pony Improvement Societies, and Ed Gummery on behalf of WPCS with the following points noted:
- Meeting with Angela Burns AM, CT offered assistance regarding HPIS, but assume no evidence of WPCS ponies or World Horse Welfare would have contacted the office.
 - Philip York had suggested a future meeting, possibly at Bronaeron
 - Ms Burns AM will continue to work on behalf of the Society and report back.
 - Hopeful that the WPCS will retain its PIO status as Defra will not have the sole database.
 - Meeting offers good interaction between breed societies

9548 ANGLO WELSH

Eric Davies, Maesmynach, had raised the issue of reinstating the register at the AGM in March 2015, following its closure in February, and was told it would be taken back to Council. Ann Bigley confirmed that Council would not be reinstating the register and crosses can be registered as part-breds.

9549 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **A S Everitt** – Council noted Mr Everitt's comments and that a reply had been sent by the Secretary. *Letter received.*
- b) **South Western Area Association** – Had written requesting a donation towards the maximum cost of £890 for their 2015 indoor stand at the West Country Equine Fair in December. They sell WPCS goods and take around £500 per day.

It was proposed by John Kirk, seconded by Ann Bigley that the Society donates £450 for this year's show only, and any future requests should be submitted on an annual basis.

For: 7. Against: 2. Abstentions: 1 Stewart Franklin, conflict of interest. Motion carried.

AJ/CH to action

It was counter-proposed by John Kirk to donate £250, seconded by Elgan Evans. For: 3. Against: 8. Motion not carried.

- c) **British Driving Society** (for information) – *letter received*

- d) **Animal Health Trust** (for information) – *letter received*
- e) XXXX
- f) **WPCS of Southern Africa (new overseas association)** – The letter was handed to the Secretary by Gustav Karlsson at the International Meeting on Monday 20 July 2015 at the Royal Welsh Showground. It was noted that Mr Karlsson had left WPCS South Africa and set up WPCS of Southern Africa. Secretary to reply.
- g) **DEFRA: Proposed Changes to EU Zootechnical Legislation** – It was agreed to ask the Bethan Jones to complete the form before the closing date of 17 August 2015, noting that she may need to consult with S W R Michell, Honorary Vet regarding certain sections.
- h) XXXX
- i) **The National Pony Society** (for information) – *Letter received.*
- j) **Cross Party Assembly Group for the Horse, 10 July 2012 (DL)** –
Not addressed on the day – to 22 September 2015 meeting.

AJ to action

BJ to action

Office to action

9550 ENROLMENT OF NEW MEMBERS & RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIPS

It was agreed to accept the applications for and renewal of memberships, subject to the office checking one name.

Members accepted subject to office check (BJ)

9551 AOB

- a) **RSPCA Correspondence/ Recruitment of Regional Welfare Officers (EG)** – Mr Gummery noted that he now has a high level contact at the RSPCA, and talks are ongoing regarding the possibility of them assisting the Society in regard to Regional Welfare Officers and accredited training. Two expressions of interest had been received for the RWO vacancies and Mr Gummery will visit their homes in the first instance.

Stewart Franklin left the meeting at 3.55 pm
- b) **Complaints Update (DL)** – Jeff Parry suggested that complaints should be dealt with by a small committee. It was noted by Mrs Bigley that if there are any complaints, they will be dealt with according to the Society's procedures by the Secretary as the investigating officer. Mrs Leyson asked if the office had complaints that had not yet been dealt with. The Chair reiterated that the Secretary is the investigating officer and questioned Mrs Leyson on why she needs to know, as we the Trustees should remain impartial.
- c) **White Markings (AJK)** – John Kirk reported that Jo Sheil-Morgan will be submitting a paper for consideration at the 21 September Judging & Showing Committee, which will be forwarded to Trustees.
- d) **Prefix** – Mr Parry noted that an animal in Germany registered with his prefix has dropped "Talponciau" from its name. It was noted that the Society has no control over overseas animals.

e) **WPCV Letter of 18 May 2015 (not addressed at last meeting)** – It was agreed that the Secretary and Bethan Jones should address the request as the office will know what charges should be requested.

AJ/BJ to action

f) **Central Prefix Register Meetings** – It was reported that although Angela Kember was appointed as the Society's representative in 2015, the CPR does not send notice of its meetings to the Society's office. **It was agreed that the Secretary will contact the CPR to request that meeting notifications are forwarded to him.**

AJ to action

The next Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 22 September 2015 at 0930.

With no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 4.30 pm.

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