

## 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 Council Meeting Summary

The chairman was on-line and welcomed trustees to the meeting.

He reported that Geldards were still looking into aspects of Thelma Carter's legacy covering any remuneration owed to the society.

There have been problems loading up the direct debits covering membership this January/February as the society has transitioned from XIS to Xero. Consequently, the office have had to revert to the old system because of the timescale. On line cyber training is being undertaken in the office and it will be available to trustees as well. Meanwhile, trustees were also asked to arrange their DBS checks. It was agreed that the Financial Procedures required updating as soon as possible.

The CS reported that she was drafting a letter to send out to the Young Members.

The postage costs of sending out the Journal and enclosures had been investigated by Karin. It is £3.50/£3.90 for the UK, £15.35 /£16.60 to the EU and £26 - £30 for the rest of the world. In order to cover costs, this should maybe be factored in to membership fees. And, also, it was suggested that we look again at the cost of Life Membership. It had been agreed by council that the printers would pack and distribute the Journals and enclosures this year via Royal Mail. However, because of the costs of this, a decision had been made that it be sent back to the WPCS office to send out, which of course necessitated extra work for the office. (With the help of some trustees the office met their deadline.) AK was thanked for all her work with the Journal and she kindly agreed to help in its production next year should it be required, as she comes off council this time.

Matters from committees were discussed. It was agreed that a series of short educational videos etc be commissioned and loaded up on the website. The Young Judges' Competition will be held on the Sunday morning of the 125<sup>th</sup> Show in Builth. Appointments to the WPCS Driving Panel of Judges were confirmed.

Discussion over extending DNA profiling for Welsh ponies and cobs took place – whether to make it compulsory at the point of registration for foals and, if so, whether it would cover both colts and fillies. It was decided to investigate costings with Weatherbys in the hope that increased numbers of registrations could reduce the cost. If profiling was to be extended it was anticipated to come in in 2028. The CS is also very keen to look into tightening up the process of Stallion Licensing.

Arrangements for the 125<sup>th</sup> Show were discussed. In order to fit everything into the timetable it had become evident that a two day show would be required. The RWAS have kindly agreed to this but it was noted that the Welsh Kennel Club have their annual show over this period so that the showground will be very busy and will necessitate some organisation. EP will approach the judges to check their availability so that the schedule can be finalised and published.

The AGM will be with us shortly so arrangements were discussed and confirmed for this. It will be at the same venue as the Performance Awards are to be held at.

Discussion had taken place with McCartneys on the Official Autumn Sale. The society is pressing McCartneys to reduce the entry fee for visitors as well as the cost of the catalogues, charges which appear excessive. The society offered to get quotations from our printers which may prove more economical than theirs. For the next sale, non-members may be allowed to enter their animals for the sale but at extra cost.

MD and JK had inspected the WPCS Pavilion. Repair work is required so it was agreed to get estimates so that it can be done as soon as possible.

Correspondence included a letter from Westmorland Show (9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> September) who are putting on Welsh classes. The YFC will be asking for Welsh Section As for this years Royal Welsh Horse Judging competition. A letter was received from the semi-feral group who have ponies on Garway common asking for some written support from the society.