

**September 2016**

**This is not a full set of minutes**

A meeting of the council of management of the British Blonde Society took place on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at the British Blonde Society Office, Ave M, NAC, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire.

The meeting was opened by chairman Pip Rogers at 9.30am whereby he welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

**Attendance;** Pip Rogers, Stuart Wilson, Vicky Hicks, Andrew McNeil, James Weightman, David Knight, Pauline Williams and Dan Davies. Caroline Jackson was also in attendance.

Alistair Martin, Willie McElroy and Chris Hopley arrived at 10.30am due to flight problems.

**1 Apologies for absence** - Alison Watt

**2. Minutes of previous meeting** - June '16 were taken as read and signed. Chris Hopley had been at the June meeting but had been missed off the previous minutes.

**3. Matters arising.**

a) Stock judging weekend – Pip Rogers said what an excellent weekend it was and that it is a shame that more people do not attend.

4a. Caroline had received very little information from clubs regards the Commercial herd competition regards regional rounds. NI club had sent their results, photographs and article that was heading for the Farming Life and will be used in the journal. A disappointing lack of results from the other clubs. £50 has been sent to Mr Williamson.

5j. Distributing journals – It was agreed that if clubs could help in any way regards distributing journals then it would be appreciated ease on the postage cost. Otherwise Caroline will send the journals at the same time to members.

Clubs could include items into the society mail out at a small cost to save both clubs and society postage.

5e There is already a disclaimer on the pedigree certificate.

10a. Kate Grantham is now back at work. Lucy Boss had been in the office for 5 days to help cover. Caroline has covered some of the rest and some work has had to wait until man hours become available.

**4. Correspondence**

a. Shire Leasing – This was discussed but agreed that the society would not endorse.

b. Festival of Livestock – Caroline explained what this was about. It was agreed that Caroline should try to source stock as economically as possible. **CJ**

c. Balmoral – increased to 4 days 10-13 May 2016

**5. Finance**

a) Accounts – August attached

These were discussed.

Take heifer off the heading of Raffle – heifer under chart of accounts. PW. CJ

Bank Accounts – from Sage 8/9/16

Natwest	9976.80
Natwest liquidity	33018.80
Petty Cash	59.70
Euros	125.77
Coventry Building soc.	45395.97

c) Vicky suggested that we have a budget prepared. Caroline and James Weightman explained the problems with a budget in the past.

1. Difficult to predict income; membership, sales commission and registrations.
2. It is illegal to produce a negative budget.
3. When we are always trying to spend as little as possible.

Caroline will look into producing one. CJ

d. Stuart Wilson brought to the table as a point of interest the accounts from 20 years ago. Pointing out that although cattle numbers sold were up 20 years ago, so was the cost of running of the society.

## **6. Publicity & Promotion**

a) Journal front cover 2017/2018 - This will be the winning photograph as a result of a competition through the next newsletter. The photographs must be of good quality for reproduction onto a front page publication met by the printer. Closing date 3<sup>rd</sup> November. By entering the competition all copy write is given up to the society.

b) Articles for next journal

Articles were offered by Chris Hopley, Willie McElroy and Pip Rogers.

c) Advertising costs Journal 2017/18 -leave the same as last year but bring the closing date to 30<sup>th</sup> November.

d) Flyer - Andrew McNeil has worked on this and asked for ideas. He will have this ready for circulation in the new year ready for the spring events.AM

d1. Caroline will give Andrew the prices for printing through the office contact. CJ

e) Young Breeders – Jack Davies is keen to get a young breeders group going. He is happy to be involved with this Vicky Hicks said she would contact him to encourage him and his thoughts. VH

f) Andrew McNeils suggestions for discussion.- A discussion took place with regards to Andrews presentation.

F1.It was agreed that we should encourage regional clubs that do not have facebook pages at the moment to create one. Vicky said she could show Kate how to link clubs to the society page. VH ( by 15<sup>th</sup> Oct.16)

F2.Vicky will create a document showing club secretaries how to set up a facebook page and tag other clubs. VH (by 15<sup>th</sup> Oct 16)

F3. Kate Grantham will produce a document for members showing them how to register cattle on line.KG ( by 15 Oct 16.

F4 Caroline said she would look into Sage Pay. CJ

F5. Kate will add a footer to the email that pops up to say that the registration has been accepted to include Bank details for BACs payments and the basic prices and late charges.KG

F6. Caroline will send the regional club secretaries the dates for the next council meetings so that if they choose to then clubs can plan club committee meetings around council meeting dates.

F7 ( was F1) Merchandise - Andrew McNeil and Caroline will work together on this. CJ & AM.

g) Breed commentary - It was suggested that this needs updating, Caroline will email to council the current document and review it at the next meeting. If anyone has any suggestions please put them forward. CJ

The commentary could be sent out with sashes and rosettes.

## 7. Shows & Sales

### a) National Show 2016 v 2017 – Three Counties/Malvern

1. The Three counties have been approached for the next two years to have the National show. This had been agreed at a previous meeting and it had been agreed that the NI club should be asked if they would like to host the National show every fourth year. Willie and Alistair thought that the club would want to do this but would take it back to discuss with the club committee. AM & WM next meeting.

2. It was agreed that the supreme champion should always lead the parade of Blondes in the grand parade.

3. Ask Three counties to provide rosettes for the missing class rosettes.

4. Food was not good this year at the presentation dinner. Caroline has already spoken to the caterers.

### b) Welsh show 2016 v 2017 – nothing to report.

### e) Judges list 2016 – proposal for 2017

g) Worcester sale 8th October – inspection Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Oct. no show. This is a society sale.

h) Calf show at Carlisle October 2016 – entry form was passed around. The winner of the calf show will win free membership to the society for one year.

i) Welsh Winter Fair 2016 – It was agreed that the society should pay for the stand space. The club would like to make the stand a bit bigger by a panel in order to get the cattle on to the stand.

j) Agri Expo 2016 - It was agreed that the society should pay for the stand space. Alan Keith is sourcing cattle for one pen, The club are happy to arrange erecting the stand.

k) Champion male & female sashes at Royal shows. (presently we have nothing for the opposite gender to the champion)

1. It was agreed to have champion and reserve sashes at all the Royal shows.

2. Stuart Wilson offered to sponsor the National show champion and reserve sashes. He was thanked for this. CJ

### n) Pedigree herd competition 2017 or 2018. It was agreed to look at in 2017 for 2018.

Caroline will collect the pedigree herd competition trophies so that they are in the office. CJ

N1) It was agreed that the regions would be offered £50 if they run pedigree herd competitions in 2017 upon returning an article and photos that can be used in the press and the journal.

## 8. Breed Development

a) Quality eating testing – Dr H Jones, NI club have requested that this is looked into. Caroline has looked into this but it is too expensive and we are unable to source the number of animals required.

Caroline has spoken to Simon Marsh at Harper Adams, the costs were going to be extremely high and the number of cattle required would also be difficult to provide.

b) Exporting opportunities for Blondes to be exported to France – NI club had sent this as a request to be looked into. Alistair Martin said that he would speak to Dessie Green.

## **9. Administration**

a) New Members – 2 x junior members Jessica Johnston and Holly Shenton. Full members x 3 Mathew Reynolds, Sean Tracey and C Pedlow. They are welcomed to the society.

Caroline will write to the part paid members in December, sending a new standing order and their invoice for 2017 with a letter pointing out the benefits of membership to the society. CJ

a1) Total members to date = 304

Full x 230, Assoc. x 3, Life x63, Junior x8

Part paid members x 68.

b) Registration Figures – August figures show that we are 151 registrations down on the same period in 2015.

c) Society charges 2017 – These will be bought for checking to the December meeting.

**10. Next Meetings;** It was agreed that after the December meeting we should try meeting on a Wednesday instead of a Monday.

a) Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December H & H Carlisle 9.00am – Accountant in attendance.

2017

AGM 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017 at Carlisle

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Stoneleigh

Wed 7<sup>th</sup> June - Stoneleigh

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> September - Stoneleigh

## **11. Any Other Business**

a) M Reynolds, Buckinghamshire. Would like to re start and join the society using his Grandmothers prefix 'Jubilee'. Same holding. This was agreed.

b) Random calf inspections – next agenda

c) Pip was expressed his disappointment on behalf of the Welsh club that so many trophies either did not get returned or came back dirty. Caroline will endorse this on the next newsletter. CJ

d) Andrew McNeil has spoken to Dalton tags who are offering a discount to Blonde members. Caroline will include this and the fact that Farmers Guardian are offering a free pair of overalls to any new subscriber on the next newsletter.

December newsletter we will include merchandise.

**12. There being no other business the meeting was closed at 4.20pm**

## **Next agenda**

Show stars

Society charges

Calf inspections