

This is not a full set of minutes.

A meeting of the Council of Management of the British Blonde Society took place on Wednesday 7th June 2017 at The British Blonde Society Office, Ave M, NAC, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire.



The meeting was opened by the chairman Willie McElroy and commenced at 9.35am. Willie thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He welcomed Kate Shenton to the council.

Attendance; Willie McElroy, Pip Rogers, Stuart Wilson, Alistair Martin, James Weightman, Stuart Mycock, Chris Hopley, Pauline Williams, Kate Shenton, Alistair Martin, Dan Davies and Vicky Hicks. Caroline Jackson (breed secretary) was also in attendance. **(Full Attendance)**

Minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and signed by the chairman.

Matters arising

8a	Willie will continue to look into sponsorship for the new promotion display for the September meeting.	ACTION WM
10 a	Facebook viewers have increased dramatically by adding the free ticket competition for Balmoral. We are running the same competition for the Highland show and hope to do the same for the Welsh. The winner is chosen electronically	WM
	Correspondance	
4a	Agricultural advisor Aine Galvin from Teagasc has requested names for potential farm visits in July. Suggestions were Rogers, Shentons, David Knights, Dave Skinner and Roy Kinnish.	CJ
b	Checs letter regarding TB – Caroline explained that this was put together without the support of the pedigree committee. They have introduced an optional new grading system for TB.	
	Finance – Delivered by Stuart Wilson	
a.	Accounts- were discussed. Accounts are looking positive. We are on line to be making a saving of above £1000 on postage as a result of emailing rather than posting as much as possible.	
b	Sale Costings- A discussion took place and it was agreed to continue with two spring sales.	

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	<p>Increasing the entry fee for sales and reimbursing for those cattle forward was discussed but was decided against.</p> <p>Caroline explained that the crush hire at Worcester is paid for by Worcester mart though organised through Caroline.</p>	
c	<p>Journal Costings – We are down on adverts this year with more pages.</p> <p>It was agreed to put a word limit on club reports and suggested that Caroline be a bit more selective with photographs. The member directory was better set out in this year’s journal.</p> <p>It was agreed that secretaries are contacted and advised that the closing date is the end of the first week of January without movement. Deadlines must be strictly adhered by as this is wasting a lot of time having to follow up things.</p> <p>Caroline said that she had missed the Everingham advert and had offered a free advert in next year’s journal.</p> <p>It was agreed that adverts should be put on the website and on Facebook.</p> <p>Council and secretaries all get a proof of the journal via email and it would be appreciated if everyone would take the time to check what they can.</p>	<p>CJ</p> <p>CJ</p> <p>CJ</p> <p>CJ</p>
d	<p>Cardpay – it was agreed that we take the second option whereby we offer over the phone card payment and charge the 2.5% on top of the invoice to the member. This is a 30 day option to cancel at any time.</p> <p>Going forward, we could look to having a shopping basket page on the web for internet payment possibly in the future.</p>	CJ
6.	Publicity & Promotion - Chris Hopley	
a.	<p>Publicity pictures for display stand – we need to look out for commercial herds that would be good to have a photographer attend to take pictures for the new display stand. The picture of Henry Griffins bull at Carlisle should also be considered for the stand.</p>	All.
b	<p>New website – Willie McElroy and Kate Grantham have been working on the new website and it should be ready to go live in the next couple of weeks.</p>	WM
c.	<p>c. Beef magazine / Farmers Guardian – Breed directory adverts.</p> <p>It was agreed that we would not do these breed directory adverts in the Beef Farmer magazine or farmers weekly but should re consider for the</p>	CJ

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	Farmers Guardian in December for 2018.	
7.	Shows & Sales - David Knight	
b.	<p>National Show Time of judging 11am. - The presentation dinner will take place on Friday 16th June on the judging day. Stephen Potter is sourcing Blonde beef. Anyone who wants tickets should let Caroline know before Friday.</p> <p>The Midlands club will be hosting drinks in the lines following the grand parade.</p>	
c.	Highland /refreshments - George Hamilton and Alison Watt are organising the refreshments between them for the stand. The stand is as it was last year in the way of a half stand. The Highland did not want us sharing with NMR and the Blue Greys had been approached but had decided to stay as they are. In order to keep this stand, it should be manned at all times.	
d 1.	Welsh – Presentation, the club have agreed to look after the presentation refreshments.	
d 2.	Interbreed young handler competition. Names were forwarded for the youngsters that may be interested in entering this. We can enter up to 5 members but can only enter 2 into the actual competition.	
e.	<p>Beef Expo- Stuart Mycock gave a report regarding Beef Expo which was held at Stoneleigh. Roy Kinnish had very kindly provided cattle for the stand which made our stand, stand out from others as several other breeds didn't have cattle on stands. They drew people in. Thank you to Roy, Charles and Stuart Mycock and Stuart Wilson for their support regards this event.</p> <p>When we run stands Caroline asked that if she is not on a stand then members should be mindful that names and contact details are taken.</p> <p>Caroline thanked Chris for booking the stand. The British Blue society generously shared their electricity at no cost.</p>	
f.	Judges list 2018 – Names should be thought of for the September meeting. Stephen Potter and Kate Shentons names were put forward for the updated judges list. Sheena Kennedy has not been removed from the judges list but left off due to personal circumstances this has now been put on with her new details for future judge's lists that are requested.	AJ

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g.	<p>Sale in Northern Ireland - letter from Davy Gibson has been received. It was agreed to help with £350 The club are offering to put a charge of 1% society levy charged to the vendor and it was suggested that a 1% commission be asked for from the auctioneer that should be paid to the society at the same time and then this 1% should go back to the club.</p> <p>Sell under society rules, Upset price of 1800gns,</p>	
h.	<p>Calf show – It was reported that the North East club were happy for the society to support and encourage other members support their calf show at Thirsk. Caroline would send a prize.</p>	CJ
i.	<p>Euro Blonde Sedan – Willie McElroy explained that there was word of a breakout of Bluetongue in some parts of France which may affect British Blondes attending this event with animals. The event takes place on 7- 10 September if anyone would like to attend.</p>	
j.	<p>Sales Judges 2018 – The sales were run through with names put forward for judging.</p> <p>Kate Shenton and Stuart Mycock said that they would like to shadow a senior judge. It was suggested that Kate shadow Roy Kinnish at Cheshire 2017 and Stuart shadow David Knight at Yorkshire 2018. Caroline will speak to the relevant people.</p>	CJ CJ
8.	Young Breeders – Vicky Hicks	
a.	<p>Vicky thought that as it has been discussed and not agreed upon, that the young breeders should not have a formal identity but whenever there was a show that we maybe include something for the young members.</p>	VH
b.	<p>Young Show Stars –support from the society £80 per member to use as they see fit, ie B &B. Lucy Corner, Mellissa Donaldson and Sean Mitchell are happy to enter this again this year. Caroline has not had interest from any other member.</p> <p>Pip Rogers remarked what a high standard this competition was last year.</p>	CJ

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c.	Young breeders weekend/NBA 21 – 23 July looking for £65 per member sponsorship from Soc./ stewards – It was agreed not to support this due to location and directly before the Welsh show. 14 – 18 was to close an age bracket as well.	
d.	Stock Judging/ Three counties Young breeders – Vicky will organise a demonstration on Thursday 15th June at 6pm for the young breeders at the Three Counties, it was agreed that she ask Stephen Potter to be masterjudge and demonstrate on his own animals. They could then join forces with the young farmers on the Saturday for judging. Vicky will organise this. Caroline will arrange a prize for this and look to see if she has stock judging cards.	VH CJ
9.	Breed Development - James Weightman	
a.	Strategy written by Alistair Martin. Alistair worked through the strategy to tweak any points that were needed from council. Add number 15, Increase sponsorship. AM & WM to break these down and allocate various topics to each sub committees in order to work towards achieving these aims and objectives.	CJ AM WM
c.	EBV roadshow held by North East club – This was a good roadshow presented by Emma Steel who was very good. It would be good to encourage other regions to provide a similar evening in their clubs. It was suggested that Caroline Ask if there was something that could be added to the web.	CJ
	Vicky Hicks said that there was DEFRA funding if we want to create our own figures. She will look into this.	VH
d	FIERBA meeting – James Weightman and Willie McElroy had expressed an interest in the European judging however were unable to attend at such short notice. Stephen Potter and Hilary Jones attended.	
e.	Calf Inspections - to be inspected. Everingham Nelshia (N & J Barrett) James Weightman ,Leitrim Norah (P McGurk)Alistair Martin , Alijon Natalie (J Ball)Kate Shenton To be completed and returned before 23 rd June in order to get the pedigree certificates out to the members.	JW AM KS
f.	Caroline said that members should be mindful to obtain a copy of pedigree certificates of bulls or semen bought before not after the sale. It is the responsibility of the breeder. Likewise if members are using foreign semen	CJ

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	Or bulls then they should check pedigrees as in France, as duplicate names are used.	
10.	Administration	
a.	New Members – attached, 3 x new members since March. EJ & VC Gilman, RJ & ME Willet & son and Mr P Jones were welcomed to the society.	
b.	Registration Figures - attached, 87 up on 2016	
c.	Next meeting, Tuesday 19th September - Stoneleigh Thursday 7th December (to be confirmed)– Carlisle	
d.	Administration forms, hours, holiday and expenses, new forms have been created and will be completed by staff and signed off by Chairman.	
e.	New stationary – It was agreed to go with A4 pedigree certificates with 2 colours only on the new logo. Three colours to be used on letter heads and compliment slips.	
f.	It was agreed to purchase a new laptop.	CJ
11.	Any Other Business	
a.	Sourcing Sponsorship – All members to try and source sponsorship.	All
	Caroline was asked to put a list together of things that could be sponsored and Vicky would put together a suggested package for more than one item for a larger amount of money.	VH & CJ
b.	Ian Appleton will be judging the Royal Welsh show.	
12.	Next agenda Judges List 2018	
13.	Close the meeting – there being no further business the meeting closed at 2.55pm	

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