

**Minutes of Cleveland Bay Horse Society AGM held at the Pavilions, Great Yorkshire
Showground on October 19th 2013**

Present: Mary Douthwaite – President
Norma Wilson – Chair of Council
Andrew Woods – Treasurer

Jane Moore – President Elect, Cecilia Delville-Lindsay, Susan Cutts, Sara Turner, Catherine Lea, David Anderson, Sandra Anderson, Heather Ketley, Steve Pullan, James Pullan, Caroline Scurrah, Mary Scurrah, Mr & Mrs Brookes, John Douthwaite, Sue Jeffrey, Tom Wren, Matthew Stonehouse, Mary-Ann Reay, Mr Tewson, Ms L Dobson, Henry Edmunds, Liz Worthy, Margot Thompson, David Long, Jo Firth, Bill Smith, Pamela Shipley, Mr & Mrs J. Bennett, Sarah Ramsden, Maggie Brown, Mike Tait, Mr & Mrs Orange, Pat Joiner, M Horsfall, Jane Preston, Jane Horton, Lesley Collings, Sian Evans, Mr & Mrs D Phillips, Lorraine Chapman

Introduction and Safety instructions. Given by A. Woods and asked our President to open the meeting.

Welcome Mary Douthwaite., President, welcomed everyone to the meeting

1. Apologies for Absence

Norma Wilson (Chair) asked for apologies from floor. Charles Medforth, Peter Dallow, John Green, Eliza Smith

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

One correction. Mr David Anderson asked under Item 7 how were % figures arrived at for the votes cast as he could not replicate the figure. Question referred to A. Woods to answer- Andrew Woods took notice of question.

Chair asked for other points from minutes. There being no other questions she called to approve minutes with amendments. Approved. For 34. None against. She pointed out that this meeting was being recorded.

3. Matters arising

David Anderson raised the point that DEFRA had issued a consultative document and were going to rationalise and decrease number of PIO's. Recently DEFRA have produced a discussion document. He asked if this was the start of rationalisation. N. Wilson replied that A. Woods attended a meeting of breed societies on the Thursday prior to this meeting and they were more concerned with administration and more stringent rules for issuing of passports but don't at moment hint at rationalisation takings place. It does lay down strict controls and at last council meeting they had mentioned that instead of sending passport back to the office for a change in ownership it would be much more cost effective if they applied and paid fee then we send them a sticky label that could be put in passport which seemed a good idea. New DEFRA regulations would not allow that to happen. Everything to do with passport must be tamperproof and DEFRA is looking at embossed stamps so they cannot be tampered with. It is all about protecting the food chain.

David Anderson raised that the new document mentioned having the office manned 5 days a week and the requirement for digitally storing of all passports. N.Wilson replied - or a contact telephone number. DA said that it seemed that for smaller organisations to digitally store all our passports and have office open 5 days a week was going to be difficult. N.Wilson responded that it was not so at the moment but that PIO's would be more closely monitored and we can expect an annual audit etc. On question of software for passports, Council had been looking at this over the last year and CBHS had been offered a grant from RBST towards purchase of software which would go towards, but not pay for, the new software. What we were using at the moment was 'pre-historic' and we should have replaced before and we are aware of this. Was asked if DEFRA could recommend software. N.Wilson replied 'No'. A.Woods said that we had been having trouble with our software from last spring and he had asked RBST for money for the software. The Hackney and Suffolk societies are both using new software which they are pleased with. He and Catherine Lea and Sara Turner had seen Grassroots in use and were satisfied with it. We could get £1750 grant towards it.

The real concern with DEFRA is possible new legislation from Brussels downgrading Equines. Concern was for small breeds which would have problem meeting DEFRA requirements. CBHS had until this coming Monday to reply on this document and express their concerns. What came from meeting on Thursday was that Grassroots were very involved and would be preparing for their customers to cope with the requirements e.g. logging the receipt of applications for passports. He considered that anyone now applying for PIO status would be in difficulties. He believed Grassroots was the way forward for this Society as it would help us meet many of the new requirements. Security paper was going to be a requirement and as many of the breed societies use the same format of passport and could standardise it may be possible to bulk buy. Also may be required to rivet that passport. Discussion then went onto Grassroots and Lorraine Chapman advised that she could go onto Grassroots from home and review things for her sheep which were registered on Grassroots. N.Wilson then closed the discussion on this subject.

Liz Worthy asked if the packs for publicity which she had asked for and which were recorded in the 2012 AGM minutes were now available. N. Wilson advised that one leaflet had been updated and reprinted but that no packs were available as yet. She advised that there was discussion in Council of producing further leaflets for Stallions etc but due to manpower and money these had not been done. Liz Worthy said that when anyone was going to a show or event it would have been easy to take a pack for display and asked for these to be displayed on the RBST stand or other stands at these events. N.Wilson said it was something for Council to look at as was membership packs as they had had several new members and all that was happening at the meeting was to send an email and provide log-in for website. She said that she believed RBST were going to get their design people to create a poster for the 3 critical breeds. Liz Worthy replied that she was pleased to hear that as she had talked to RBST's Claire Barber at the Rare Breeds Show and she had advised she would try to help. N.Wilson said she did not know if it had progressed. Eva Bennett mentioned that she had taken leaflets to shows and she would like something else she could take. N.Wilson mentioned the time it takes to revamp the leaflets and the work required.

David Anderson raised under Treasurers Report, the underspend of HBLB grant – “are you going to discuss in Treasurers Report and if so will wait until then”. A.Woods said it would come up under Treasurer's Report.

4. Treasurer's Report

A.Woods advised that Sage was set up in 2009. Charlotte Baker had just maintained what her predecessor had put together. The CBHS had bought a second licence for the Sage Software to enable Andrew and whoever succeeded him as Treasurer to be able to view the information remotely from the office computer and review where the money was going and to be able to report to each Council meeting.

The year end had been changed to 31 May from 30 November and that may confuse everyone this time around. The year end was previously at a time when a lot of subscriptions were coming in and these need to be tracked and posted and worked with and this was a pressure point which we have taken away. Also he was conscious that when you came to an AGM you were talking about something that was a year old but with year end change it is easier to give up to date information and year end being working in summer months which is a lot quieter period in the office. Sandra left December 2012. There is now information about Restricted Funds (HBLB Grant). The layout has been changed as is required by the Charities Commission. This includes our 20% contribution added to the HBLB grant. This is now put into a pot which was not part of our reserves.

We need to look at the use of Sage to make the record keeping easier in 2014. Andrew chose an Accountant just down the road and although we were paying for their support the accounts should be better in future. He did not find Sage good as it did not record our stocks and would not raise invoices or keep check of them, resulting in one person who had not paid for their magazine advert. In the future it was intended that advertising in magazine would be prepaid and for magazine to be

out in time.

Jo Firth raised the problem of adverts and artwork not being up to standard and would the advertiser see them before they went to press. N.Wilson advised that the intention was that the advertiser would see them in advance of the magazine being printed. Andrew advised that Lesley Orange was using a print company near to her so that she could go along and check on the quality. Sarah Ramsden said that stallion adverts were going out too late for the breeding season and that we need to be proactive. Andrew advised they wanted an agreement with the advertisers to pay on time then we would meet our obligation to get things out on time. Sarah Ramsden felt that we needed to take advantage of publicity opportunities and that things must happen on time. Sarah feels that people are looking in winter and at the turn of the year for the stallion they are going to use in March and that adverts need to be out much earlier. N. Wilson advised that money had been allocated from the HBLB grant for stallion advertising and that they were already working on adverts in Farmers Guardian. FG would contact stallion owners to see if they would place adverts themselves to hopefully make up a full or half page. They were working with other publications in different areas towards getting best value as Horse & Hound was so expensive and not good value. She said they were aware that the magazine coming out in April was too late for the breeding season. Sarah Ramsden said we had so many ways of communication (for example Facebook etc) and surely it would be possible to put something out at the beginning of the year. She said that Sara Turner was doing an excellent job on the website, but there were no pictures of the stallions available on the website. If we cannot promote our own stallions who else would want to use them. N.Wilson said that some of the stallions are on the Gallery but we need good photos to be supplied by stallion owners. Jo Firth stated that good photos have been provided but they have not been put on the website and those that were on did not have the names. Sara Turner advised that they were very limited with the number & size of photos which could go on the Gallery. Jean Morgan suggested getting a Bay Window out before Christmas with the stallions included. Sarah Ramsden suggested getting it linked to Facebook and Twitter. Lorraine Chapman said she had been trying to get good photos all year for Facebook and had not been provided with them. Pat Joiner said that when she was on the Southern Club she wrote to everyone for photos and only got 4 replies. It is the individuals that are bad at sending things in. Lorraine emphasized the problems she had in getting photos despite direct requests. Andrew said that the message is clear that we need to promote stallions by January at the latest. There is an issue with the website but we may be able to link it to another website for the stallions, but that Facebook photos are meaningful.

Discussions took place on the level of subs and that a full year and part year's subscriptions were included in these accounts. Andrew Woods noted the drop in subscription and members and that there were now no paid up 'Friends'. As there was no process of chasing up lapsed members it did need to be chased up. There was a definite need for someone who specifically followed up on lapsed members. Pat Joiner pointed out that people had to look at costs of memberships to different things. Andrew Woods thought we had to look at what people got for their membership. He said that there was still quite a lot of transfers and transactions for the British Horse passports. Also mentioned that for partbred passports some were looking to register with others first then overstamp but he was encouraged that most registered with the CBHS first.

Chair asked for any more questions on the Accounts. Some of the prenotified questions had been left in the office. Liz Worthy had prenotified questions some of which had been dealt with already. She queried the £200 club income as not enough was showing for this current year. Steve Pullan answered that the 200 Club was going down and down so that it had not been run for this year. N.Wilson added that now we had the raffle people were not joining the 200 Club. Liz Worthy then asked if the Magazine costs included 2 years magazines? Andrew Wood talked about the costs and budget had been set at £1000 but Lesley Orange had got it for about £800, then there was around £300 plus coming in from advertising. They had haggled and got costs down. Same with the calendar. He would like to see more advertising in the magazine and was concerned about some articles which became free adverts. Liz Worthy commented that articles used to be in the magazines promoting what people had done and their successes and she did not see this as free

promotion. However it was a good way of promoting our breed as when people came to the stand at the Great Yorkshire Show and they could see this and if it was someone they knew, or photos of the stallion their horse was by etc. then they bought the magazine. Liz Worthy wanted to thank the Anderson family for their donation of £1500 for the magazine to be in colour.

She also asked about the security of the accounts now that the Sage Accounts was available remotely to Andrew Woods. He answered that by use of passwords and changing passwords was recommended. The office computer is backed up by a 'cloud' backup that we pay for. The Sage info has to be physically transferred and he has not loaded all into his computer. It is sent by email – he does not have direct access to the Sage on the office computer. He takes back-ups periodically. Also the access to bank accounts is through controls and passwords. Maggie Brown queried the costs shown for the Performance Scheme as she thought that some costs of rosettes other than for the Performance Scheme had been included. No more questions on Accounts. Henry Edmunds proposed a vote of thanks to Andrew Woods for the huge amount of work he has done and said we are lucky to have him.

Proposal to accept Accounts – Pat Joiner Seconded ?????? 31 for. None against. Proxy votes 41 for and 3 withheld

5. Special Resolutions

5.1 Memorandum of Association

Objects Paragraph 3b)

To compile and publish a Stud Book for such Horses and a Register of Part Bred Horses and to acquire the copyright of any such Stud Book or of any pedigree already published, or any such Register

To change this Paragraph to read:

To compile and publish a Stud Book for such Horses, *a Part Bred Stud Book* and a Register of Part Bred Horses and to acquire the copyright of any such Stud Book or any pedigree already published, or of any such Register.

N. Wilson said everyone had had details in their AGM pack.

Proposal was displayed on screen -Memorandum of Association permit that a Stud Book be published. We are compliant that we have pure bred stud book and part bred register, and have the copyright of this. Discussions had taken place in council to compile and publish a part bred stud book and compile a register. The breed committee recognise that there is a lot of work to be done but need agreement that we go forward with this. This is needed to encourage the registration of part breds and ensure they do not go elsewhere to register. Proposal is for the breed committee to go forward with this.

Liz Worthy asked if the part bred stud book is to be published and if so what were the cost implications? Would it pay for itself? N.Wilson advised that this vote was to get the agreement to go forward and look at this and to change the articles so that they could if they wanted. We do not know what DEFRA are going to do and if we want to we will already have the registration with DEFRA. Liz Worthy asked that if we change the Articles are we committed to it? N.Wilson advised that they were not that far. Liz Worthy was concerned that if we approve this then it was an open ended cost. N.Wilson restated that should we wish to do it we would be able. Bill Smith thinks that the wording was not correct and this would without doubt commit the CBHS to compile and publish this part bred stud book. He believes that more discussion is required and come back with something more definite. Henry Edmunds suggested the wording was changed but the meeting pointed out that the wording could not be changed. The vote was on what was currently put forward. Pat Joiner pointed out that the Welsh societies have a part bred stud book in the back of

their pure book. N.Wilson advised that some part bred breeders wanted to prove their competitive breeding. The Stud Book could only be of proven breeding whereas the Register could have a parent of unproven breeding crossed with a CB. There were no preconceived ideas on this Stud Book. Jo Firth asked if we pass this as an objective then would it commit us to do it? N.Wilson replied 'No'. Bill Smith asked why discussions could not go on until more is known and establish what costs would be. N.Wilson said no point until they knew how the membership felt about it. Currently no remit to even have the discussion. Andrew Woods advised that if we had this under the Articles then we could if we wished do it. Need to consider how many in part Bred Register would qualify. Did not have to be a hard covered book it could be issued electronically. Liz Worthy asked if all part bred would go into this stud book and not in the Register. Matthew Stonehouse advised there was a criteria for the stud book and not all would meet it so we would still need the Register. Sarah Ramsden asked if it would generate an income. Andrew Woods said that if a horse got to a high performance level then the Stud Book would carry through the Cleveland Bay aspect of the horse by the passport. Register would still be required for those part bred with no breeding in their background. Pat Joiner said that for the Welsh part bred stud book it only needed to be 1/8. Bill Smith re-iterated that on the wording put forward it was committing us to it. Andrew Woods advised we could not change the wording as we had proxy votes but if resolution was passed then we could have vote in the room to Council to guide or limit them what to they could do. Bill Smith said he could not agree with wording as it was. Sarah Ramsden said that she considered that the part bred was more marketable and anything we could do to promote the part bred was good and in turn promote the pure bred. Bill Smith agreed but if the resolution is passed then we need the second vote for the way forward and then come back with their thoughts. N.Wilson considered that if we did not pass the vote then it was a waste of everyone's time and no more discussion could go on. Caroline Scurrah said that she wanted to support it but was concerned about the wording. Andrew Woods felt that the wording and approval did not commit us to do this just to look at it. He feels there is a tremendous amount of work to do. Some are for it some against as some want to just deal with pures and others who want to develop the part bred. In the European sector he cannot register his part bred with the CBHS as they have no stud book so he has to go to AES to protect the breeding. He is clear that work needs to be done and can be run in parallel when we have Grassroots and will not impact greatly on the work of the society. It has to be thought through and a lot of work gone through before the CBHS do it. N. Wilson called for the vote. 33 for, 2 against, 5 abstained. Proxy votes 27 for, against 15, withheld 2. Total 60 for, 17 against 7 abstained. Andrew calculated that 71.4% so vote is not carried as does not meet the 75% criteria.

5.2 Resolution on changes to Articles of Association.

Clause 18 disqualification of members of council

Clause 18b

shall have been absent from Meetings of Council for a period of one year, without reason for such absence which shall be satisfactory to a majority of the Council at their first meeting of such year, he shall be deemed to have been removed from the Council and his place may be filled as hereinafter provided

To read:

shall have been absent *for three consecutive* Meetings of the Council, *irrespective of the reason for such absence* shall be deemed to have been removed from the Council and his place may be filled as hereinafter provided

Paragraph 18i renumbered 18j

Para 18i to read:

A Council member shall not vote in any respect of any contract to which he is interested or any matter arising thereout, and if he does so his vote shall not be counted. UNCHANGED

Paragraph 18j removed

Put forward by Andrew Woods as he travelled long distances to the Council meetings and some people did not turn up. There had been problems with getting a quorum at Council meetings and some had very little commitment for the work involved. People need to take responsibilities and pull their weight. Liz Worthy said that in the past it used to have to be stated on the Nomination for Council form how many meetings had been attended. Heather Ketley asked why it had to be 3 meetings in a row and not 3 meetings for whole of year. With 3 consecutive somebody could come to alternate meetings and not get thrown off. Discussions re possibility of missing meetings due to snow in January, foaling in April and illness in June and be thrown off.

Vote: For 37 Against 3 Abstentions Nil Proxy Vote 63 for, Against 16, Withheld 5. Vote announced as 75%. Passed. (**Note – calculates as 81%**)

Liz Worthy asked that when voting papers for Council go out next year it is declared how many meetings have been attended.

6. Election of Council Members

Nigel Pulling of YAS has acted as the Scrutineer. No-one has seen the result. Henry Edmunds opened the sealed envelope

Votes cast (in alphabetical order):

Sandra Anderson	60
Marcia Brody	27
Heather Ketley	62
Catherine Lea	40
Jane Moore	76
Lesley Orange	44
Caroline Scurrah	56
Linda Skeats	65
Matthew Stonehouse	46
Sara Turner	56
Norma Wilson	46
Andrew Woods	38
Liz Worthy	69

Total votes cast 685 . 92 voting papers papers returned

Andre Woods clarified results

Those elected:

3 year term: Jane Moore, Linda Skeats, Liz Worthy, Sandra Anderson and Heather Ketley

2 year term: Caroline Scurrah, Sara Turner and Norma Wilson

1 year term: Matthew Stonehouse

Andrew stated that Lesley Orange had not achieved the 50% of votes cast therefore Council could co-opt who they want and that person would stand for re-election at the next AGM.

Show of hands was carried out to confirm the agreement that Norma Wilson would serve 2 years and Matthew Stonehouse would serve one.

(Note: In accordance with the Articles the % required of votes cast to be elected to Council should be 50% + 1 vote and therefore Norma Wilson and Matthew Stonehouse were offered

the opportunity to be co-opted to Council for one year. Matthew Stonehouse accepted but Norma Wilson declined.)

7. Election of President Elect

Liz Worthy proposed Heather Ketley and spoke of her record of showing and turnout and her years of work for this breed both on Council and in promotion. Seconded by Mary Scurrah.

No other nominations were received so Heather Ketley was appointed as President Elect.

8. Reports from the Council

(Reports had been circulated)

Promotions - No questions

Shows - No questions

Supporters Group - No questions

Breed and Stud Book Editors Report

Jo Firth asked about the Horse Assessors. Norma Wilson advised inspection process was renamed as assessment process. Council have started work on the parameters for the assessors. The Chair resigned and as no-one wanted to take over as chair it was tagged onto the Chair of Council duties. Have called for those who want to be assessors and tried out the assessment process and now can invite people to put their names forward. This work is ongoing. Jo Firth asked for criteria. N.Wilson advised that they had to have 10 years experience of the breed, be a member of the CBHS or willing to join, and be on a judges list (not necessarily CBHS). Jo Firth stated that she previously was an inspector and the breed committee was now saying that you had to be on the judges list and she would now not qualify as she had no wish to join a judge's panel. Is this not restricting who would be eligible? Jo Firth asked for how you were assessing these people and what parameters would you set on that persons abilities. N. Wilson responded that if on a judge's panel then you would expect them to be able to assess. Every element of horse was marked on a score. Individual assessment of horse by 3 assessors with no conferring and sheets are averaged. If at the end there was a major difference in scoring then the assessors would need to look at it and if this recurs then we would need to look at training. Jo Firth considered there should be training on the ground. N.Wilson said they should be competent by their CV and we had a loop-hole to this. Previously you were not allowed to know score of any inspection. Intention was to openly discuss assessment scores with owner once the scores have been averaged. Jo Firth thought that it was Council that has to pass or fail the horse and now it was down to the assessors? N.Wilson said that a recommendation would be given to the Breed Committee and this recommendation would be given to the owner at the time of the inspection. Norma advised that the majority was now written down. Sarah Ramsden asked that one thing to be considered was the conflict of interests of the assessors and something should be written in about this. As a society we are very small and need to be transparent. She also raised that other societies had inspections at locations perhaps once or twice a year, both in North and South, where people took their horses for assessment and it was a very open procedure. This would also be a medium for the training of assessors.

The Chair was asked about the post castration taking of semen. She advised that it could provide 40 to 80 doses of semen but was dependent on the testicles getting to the lab within 6 hours in good condition. This had being put forward for HBLB grant but we did not get the money. The horse would be assessed pre castration. Currently there is only one young colt coming forward for licensing. We need to look at foaling returns and identify a genetically interesting and good looking young colt between 28 months and 4 years and this is a way to save the genetic material. We would have to have forward planning and agreement with the owner. We could offer to pay for the castration if we could get the testicles. Jane Moore asked how you were going to assess that the

semen would freeze and was viable pre castration. Norma Wilson advised part of the package is pre testing, vetting, swab testing etc. Steve Pullan asked what the advantage was over just sending the horse for collection? Norma Wilson replied that there were a lot more costs involved with collection, quarantine, more health checks, etc and it is a much longer drawn out process.

Norma Wilson informed the meeting that a horse had been selected to go to Japan but she was not at liberty to disclose any information as it was going through the veterinary checks at the moment and no announcement was to be made until it was definite.

9. Members Questions

Some have been answered already. Any others will be answered with the minutes as we do not have them here.

Discussion on HBLB Grant

Focus on grant this year is prescribed by HBLB in the 2 meetings we have had. Most of this has been covered in some of the discussions. CEM testing lab vouchers and money will be available. Included in the application is a Young Horse Assessment Grant and we hope to hear about the grant award before Christmas.

Heather Ketley asked when Stallion Licences documents (certificates) were going to be available. Norma Wilson replied that she had got them but was unsure who needed them so needed stallion owners to get in touch if they needed one.

Renewal of membership date was raised by Pat Joiner as surely there was one date for subscriptions? Norma Wilson advised that over the last couple of years renewal dates were from when people renewed their subs. Pat Joiner thought this should not be the case but the Chair replied that the Treasurer was in favour of this as it brought money in throughout the year.

Sandra Anderson asked why Henry Edmunds had been allowed to send a letter out with the AGM paperwork and voting papers. Henry Edmunds replied that he thought it was important to let members know what had been achieved in the last year. Norma advised that Henry had written the letter before he had gone away and she acted as Administrator and had sent it out with the committee of three's wishes. Henry said he stood by what he had said in the letter and in the views expressed. He could not see anything wrong in it. Sarah Ramsden questioned that a personal letter should have gone out with a voting pack. She queried if it should have been allowed and should it be allowed in future? Bill Smith agreed that the letter should not have gone out with the voting pack. Andrew Woods said that the procedure should be reviewed taking into account what had been said.

Gabrielle Gordon had forwarded questions asking

1. If the Council will create a yearly update to assessors on rules & regulations.

Answer – already had a discussion on assessors and this point will be referred to the breed committee.

2. Will the CBHS involve overseas members in committees? Answer - Open to Council to co-opt anyone they want to their committees.

3. Will the CBHS consider asking a group of scientist researchers from the UK RBST, the Livestock Conservancy in US and Australia to study the grading register?

Answer: to be referred to Breed Committee

4. Several years ago the CBHS gave overseas members free registration for SPARKS compliant foals. The overseas members pay more for membership so they could spend this giving free registration for SPARKS compliant foals and would be good will and not cost the Society much. Answer: that the high postage cost is the difference between the fees of the UK and overseas membership.

5. Semen storage - £60 cost to the Society per month which is reclaimed from the HBLB.
Answer: need to store where is considered have the best set up.

Norma Wilson stated that there were more questions but that they had been left in the office. The meeting needs to be brought to a close as the new Council need to meet immediately after that to take forward the work of the Society. Members asked if the rest of the questions (left in the office) would be answered and were assured that they would be answered in the Minutes.

10 Any other business

Jane Preston asked about the current manning of the office because she requested acknowledgement of her donation from fundraising and had sent 3 emails in 3 weeks. Norma Wilson replied that they did not know about it. The money appeared in the bank and they did not know where it had come from. Jane asked if it had been tied to her email and Norma replied not at the time. Jane had told Charlotte (in CBHS office) it was coming but that had not been passed on when she left. It was sorted in a couple of weeks when the mail got redirected to Norma. Jane stated that she had sent 3 emails with no response. Norma explained that after Charlotte left she had intended to take the computer to her home but as she was moving she left it in the office until the house move was complete. From then on emails were collected several times a day. She could only apologise.

Norma Wilson then closed the meeting at 7pm and said that dinner would be served at 7.30pm. Norma Wilson closed the meeting at 7 p.m. to enable the new Council to meet. the dinner will be at 7.30.

Questions put forward by members for AGM on 19 Oct 2013 which were not raised on that day but dealt with by Council on 17 Nov 2013

Marcia Brody

Q. What is the process currently in place for selecting and approving overseas breed assessors?

A. The process and requirements for Breed Assessors is currently ongoing. This is with the new Breed Committee and treated as high priority.

Q A letter from an individual Council member accompanied the official voting materials for this election (2013). It did not appear to be representative of the collective views of the Council. What is the process by which other Council members or individuals might request that their views be circulated to the membership in a similar manner?

A ` This was discussed at AGM as raised by another member and at the Council Meeting on 17 Nov 13. It was decided this was not the right 'vehicle' and no letters of this nature would accompany the AGM information pack in future.

Q May a mismarked, registered purebred colt receive a basic licence for purebred breeding at this time? If so, what are the conditions for this licensure, other than completion of the veterinary exam required prior to granting of any basic stallion licence?

A This question has been referred to the new Breed Committee for answer but please understand they have a heavy workload at the moment and other items must take priority.

Q In the light of recently published Minimum Operating Standards for UK Passport Issuing Organisations, how can the CBHS justify the closure of its office and still retain PIO authority? If CBHS ceases to issue passports, what is its plan for transfer of this authority and to whom?

A At the Council meeting on 17 Nov 13 the Council agreed that the CBHS office would be retained but we would not employ an Administration Assistant. Plans were being put in place to cover the new requirements when implemented.

Q In recent Council minutes, overseas members appeared to be instructed to channel their questions through other Cleveland Bay related organizations. Why would a CBHS member be prevented from going directly to CBHS, simply because they live in another country? They may not be a member of one of these other organizations and further, these other entities have no legal relationship with the CBHS and the CBHS members may simply not wish to get involved in an additional layer of bureaucracy. Overseas members pay a premium for their dues – why would they expect direct contact with CBHS than a member living in the UK.

A. This was not the intention. Many questions come from overseas and we would ask that they be channelled through the Support Group Chair (Cecilia Delville-Lindsay) as the initial single point of contact for the CBHS. Cecilia will then direct the question to the relevant person.

Charles Medforth

Q The Society's reputation is at a very low ebb, this has been further injured by the non attendance of a secretary in Harrogate. It is my view and that of many others in that the office should be maintained and a secretary appointed.

A At the Council Meeting on 17 Nov 13 it was agreed that the office would remain where it was but we would not have a paid Administration Assistant. Several members of Council have volunteered to carry out the office work and a voluntary Chief Officer appointed in line with the Forging the Future document.

Q I understand that my name has been omitted from the President's Trophy, might I have an explanation as to why this has occurred.

A This will be checked and dealt with accordingly

Joanne Firth

Q I would like an official list of the Horse Assessors for the UK. I have been asking for their names for 2 years. Why are they not published on the website? Why have no assessors got any criteria to work by, therefore there is no common practice of horse assessment? Explain!

A The new breed committee are working on this as a high priority. They have been given a list of possible assessors and are looking at the criteria and hope to come up with a positive result in the near future. For further information contact the Breed Committee Chair – Jane Moore.

Jane Preston

Note – Question 1 mislaid. – apologies. If you represent this will be answered promptly, Remainder of questions below.

Q Can the Council reassure members that the CBHS office has enough staff to communicate efficiently as the donation, from my work place HSBC, via BACS, of £375 took 3 emails and 3 weeks to confirm safe receipt. Please note the £375 is the result of an annual sponsored ride + £52 car boot sale totalling £427 donated to the Society.

A Newly appointed officials and Council can only apologise on behalf of the Society for this. Have no knowledge of why this was not acknowledged at once. Measures are being taken to ensure this should not happen in the future but please bear with us until this happens.

Q I would like the Chair of Council to comment on the following. I bought my first Cleveland Bay Gelding over 10 years ago and was introduced to the Society. I was rather impressed at the dedication and steadfast concern of the well being and future of our beautiful Cleveland's. Over recent years & especially present times I have become concerned with certain areas of council which seem to have lost this totally. Consumed in self-esteem and blinkered to the real reason why we are here today –

the breed itself and the future of the Cleveland Bay. Let's get back to basics, regroup and put all our steam and effort into doing what is best for our horses.

A The Council and officers of the CBHS totally agree with your sentiments, Jane, and hopefully the new Council will do much to alleviate your fears. However there is a huge amount to do so progress may be slow but you can be assured of the enthusiasm and dedication of those on Council.

Colin Green

Q Why not allow private advertising of Studs on the website as an additional source of income? Many other breed societies allow this.

A Whilst this is not possible with the current website, it is something we would consider for the future.

Q How is Council tackling the need for greater fundraising?

A Fundraising was discussed at the Council meeting and several new ideas for fund raising and sponsorship put forward. Further details will be circulated to members as they are developed.

Q Are Council considering moving the office away from the YAS into a private home and if so will members be consulted before such an action is taken. It is my view that Society reserves should be used until increased funding raised can cover this.

A, The office is to remain where it is but we are not employing a paid Administration Assistant. A voluntary Chief Officer, in line with the Forging the Future document, will be appointed and various council members have volunteered to help with the admin and business of the society. The reserves at the current time are untouched since the move from Stephenson's at York to the office at the YAS.

Margot Thompson

Q On the Council nomination form I expect to see if the nominated person is already serving on Council and if so how many meetings they have attended.

A It was Council decision that an abbreviated form should be sent out however at the Council meeting on 17 Nov 13 it was agreed that the full form should be sent out and the points raised included.

Q At the 2012 AGM I asked to know more about SPARKS and I was told that I would have a written explanation. Why has this not arrived?

A This must have been overlooked and will hopefully be resolved in the near future but please bear with us whilst the new council prioritises urgent business.

Jo Strange

Q I fully agree with the sentiments expressed in Henry Edmunds open letter regarding the CBHS office. The Side Saddle Association has adopted a system of a secretariat working from home for many years with success. My question is when is this change along with the appointment of a suitable person going to take place, so that Council members have more time for the roles to which they were elected?

A At the Council meeting 17 Nov 13 it was agreed to keep the office but without an employed Administration Assistant. This question is answered above.

Q I would like to ask for a Vote of Thanks for all the hard work done by Norma Wilson as Council Chair in 2012-2013 in very difficult times.

A Norma Wilson has been an exceptionally hard worker for many, many years both on Council and for the Northern Breeders Group'. As she has now stepped down from Council a letter of thanks has already been sent.