

## **Minutes of Cleveland Bay Horse Society AGM held at the Pavilions, Great Yorkshire Showground at 2.30 p.m. on 25 October 2014**

Present: Heather Ketley – President Elect  
Liz Worthy – Chair of Council  
Sandra Anderson – Treasurer  
Sara Turner – Deputy Chair  
David Anderson – Chief Officer  
Andrew Woods  
Cecilia Delville-Lindsay  
Susan Cutts  
Catherine Lea  
Steve Pullan  
Caroline Scurrah  
Mary Scurrah  
Mr & Mrs Brookes  
Sue Jeffrey  
Richard Hodgson  
Matthew Stonehouse  
David Stonehouse  
Barbara Martindale  
Margot Thompson  
David Long  
Pamela Shipley  
Mr & Mrs J. Bennett  
Sarah Ramsden  
Maggie Brown  
Lorraine Chapman  
Mike Tait  
Mr & Mrs C.S. & M Green  
Linda Skeats  
Peter Dallow  
Sian Evans  
Mrs B King  
Jane Preston  
Jayne Fisher  
Norma Wilson

**1. Welcome and Safety instructions** given by Liz Worthy and apologies given for our President Jane Moore who was unable to attend due to unexpected problems looking after her horses. She hoped to get here for later. Liz Worthy welcomed everyone to the meeting and hoped that we would have a good meeting.

**2. Introductions:** Liz Worthy introduced herself as Chair, Sara Turner (Deputy Chair) and David Anderson who had been appointed by Council as Chief Officer. She thanked David Anderson for his work as Chief Officer going into the office to run the Grassroots system and passporting of horses. The office was open 2 days per week. The administration was being run by volunteers rather than a paid Administrator to save money. She also wanted to thank Jane Preston for her fundraising work including running the tack sale, organising the local Ride A Bay Day and acknowledge Jane Horton's help including the photos from the Ride A Bay Day at no cost. Thanks also to Caroline Scurrah for her fund raising effort and to anyone else who has helped fund raising and organising events in the past year. Thanks are also due to retiring Council members, Sue Cutts

who has completed her term, Jean Morgan and Matthew Stonehouse who have not stood for re-election. They have already had letters of thanks and we do appreciate the work they have done. I want to thank Sara, my Deputy Chair, for keeping me sane, for getting out all the AGM paperwork which is a mammoth task, and to Linda Skeats and Sara for helping with the arrangements for this AGM and the paperwork involved. Linda for tackling membership, for chasing up lapsed members and for making phone calls. Thanks to members who have sent donations in throughout the year and being especially generous with raffle money. If anyone has not filled out a Gift Aid form would they please fill it out so we can gain an extra 25% above the donation. Finally could I mention that we are recording the meeting and if anyone wants to speak would they please give their name before they do so on any subject in order for us to identify them in the minutes of this meeting.

**3. Apologies for absence:** Apologies already received from Roy Raikes-May, Peter Price, The Hon Mrs Jan Price, Pat Joiner, Ann Calvert, Henry Edmunds, James Stephenson, Jane Moore – President, Muick Wood, Terry Allington-Warne, Tim Butler, Danny Welch, S. Lines, Claire Brassett, Rob Lea, Claire Underwood, Zoe Woods. Are there any more from the floor? Felicity Wills, Mary Ann Reay, Alistair Charles, Lesley Wolfendon, Jane Horton Karen Hall.

**4. Minutes of Last Meeting:** The Chair called for any amendments. No amendments were forthcoming. Voted to accept minutes proposed by Catherine Lea and seconded by Andrew Wood. Carried.

**5. Matters Arising from the Minutes:** Chair asked for any matters arising that would not be covered elsewhere. None raised.

**6. Treasurer's Report:**

Sandra Anderson presented the Accounts. She went on to mention the difference between restricted and unrestricted funds. Unrestricted funds are those we raise ourselves, subscriptions, donations and we can spend those as we may decide. Restricted are the HBLB grant funds. We have spent more of last year's money rolled over from the HBLB grant and that is a good thing – more take up of the grants offered. The funds in the saving account have not been touched. We are aiming for more take up of the grants available to reduce the carry of HBLB grant. The change of the year end to 31 May had complicated things as we show a portion of the HBLB grant from one year and a portion from the next year's grant. Andrew Woods asked for clarification of the split and the Treasurer responded.

Andrew Woods raised the question of breakdown of donations. Treasurer responded that if donations were given for specific purposes then it was spent for that purpose but if it had not been specified then it would go into general funds. Andrew raised the point that donations into general funds would just disappear in administrative costs. The Treasurer responded that we needed to issue passports etc which was an administrative cost but without this kind of work the breed would disappear and to say that money just disappears is not accurate. Sian Evans raised the need to cut back on administration costs. Treasurer responded that was absolutely the case as we as Council were looking at admin costs, postage, printing, every single type of expenditure was being looked at but we still need money to spend promoting the breed. Sian asked if the cost of paying the rent on the office was warranted. Treasurer responded that in her opinion it was because of the benefits it brings, it advertises and gives a focal point for the breed so that we are not just one person, lots of people trying to work for the benefit of the breed. Sian asked if more cost effective to join administration wise with another society of a similar size to us? Chairman advised if it was cost effective then we would look at it and Treasurer agreed that we would rule nothing out and that we had looked at this as a possibility this year but costs have yet to be identified. The Chair has spoken to another Breed Society and has asked for charges/costs to be provided to us on paper. They have looked at our accounts but have not come back in writing. If we could do it that way, and if everything was run efficiently and would save us money, then we would consider it. Unfortunately they have not come back to us on this. A vote to approve the Accounts was proposed by Maggie Brown and seconded by Catherine Lea. Vote in room 29 for, none against, 1 abstained. 24 Proxy votes for, none against and 2 withheld. Total For was 53, none against and 3 withheld.

Treasurer then went on to explain what had been granted and what had been spent against the 2013 HBLB grant. Grants are only available for UK based horses. She then went on to the HBLB proposal we were putting in for this year (2014 for grant to be spent in 2015). This was the proposal submitted and may not be approved by the HBLB. Chair stated that the advertising grant was put forward again this year. Lesley Orange had done a good job of promoting the use of our stallions in the adverts she had produced. There had been very good feedback to this and knock on effect was articles on the CB were requested and went to many publications. We did not know if it had a direct effect on use of the stallions but by feedback was a promotional success for the breed. Sian Evans queried why some of the stallion grants were only available for stallions at public stud as those in private studs were producing a lot of foals. Treasurer responded that the stallions at public stud were what Council chose to promote to increase the use of our stallions. Barbara Martindale then asked the council definition of 'not at public stud'. Reply given: 'only for use with your own mares'. She went on to say that her stallion had travelled to different breeders. Chair added that if he was going to out different mares then he should/would be CEM tested as HBLB were very keen to promote and encourage the testing to raise the health standards and hence grants were for CEM tested animals. It was clarified that any owner of any stallion would be entitled to refuse a mare if breeding was not suitable for any reason. Treasurer then went through the other proposed grants and reasoning behind them. The Chair emphasised that this was what we had asked for but would not know if grant was awarded until December or January. We had put in for a larger grant than usual and we did not know if we would be awarded everything. We felt that in previous years the emphasis had gone to the mare owner and by this application we were trying to help owners to keep a colt and get it licenced. The Treasurer asked that members in the UK who had CEM tested should send in their vet's bill and apply for the grant. The Chair asked that those who could claim any of the grants should do so. It was not taking money out of the Society, the money was provided by the HBLB grant to pay for these and she encouraged those entitled to grants to claim them. Only 20% was from CBHS funds and we need them to claim it as if it was not claimed then our grant may be reduced. The Treasurer suggested that if they did not want the money then they should claim it and donate it back to the CBHS! Andrew Woods pointed out that the CEM testing was a requirement of the HBLB which had been imposed the previous year and was a big drive from HBLB to improve the health of the breeds. The Treasurer emphasised that we had widely publicised the CEM test grant to try and improve take up of the testing.

#### **7. Election of Council:**

The Chair asked the Chief Officer to announce the result of the postal vote:

85 members voted.

Marcia Brody 45 votes which represents 53%

Maggie Brown 63 votes which represents 74%

Lorraine Chapman 80 votes which represents 94%

Catherine Lea 74 votes which represents 87%

Andrew Woods 33 votes which represents 39%

Total votes cast were 295.

5 papers were void, 3 of which had no name and 2 of which were late.

2 papers were not allowed because only one vote was recorded on each.

The Chair advised that the voting paper was signed by Nigel Pulling as scrutineer and witnessed. She congratulated those who had received the minimum requirement of 50% plus 1 vote and thus were elected to Council and offered commiserations to Andrew Woods who had not obtained enough votes. Sian Evans pointed out that in previous years there had been no need for a ballot when there were not enough applications to fill the vacancies on Council and asked why a ballot had been held this year. The Chief Officer answered by agreeing with Sian that this was when there was not enough applications for Council that there had been no need for a vote but in 2011 it was brought to our attention that under the 2006 Companies Act we should be doing a proxy vote and that we changed have a postal vote to make it fairer to all members using the 50% + 1 (simple majority) required by the Companies Act. Sian Evans suggested that as 33 people had voted for

Andrew Woods and that he was willing to serve that Council consider asking him to serve. Chair said this would be considered and her views mentioned at the Council meeting which was due the next day. We will also be looking at the needs for particular skills. Sian also asked that Council consider the requirement where 2/3 of Council members were to be pure breeders. Chair confirmed that we were aware of this requirement and this would be considered when co-opting members. Barbara Martindale asked if the criterion for a pure breeder was in the year of election. Sian Evans stated that her father had asked for a definition at the 2008 AGM which was given as anyone who had bred a purebred in the last 3 years. The Chief Officer stated that the 3 years definition was for inclusion in Breeders List which appeared in the Magazine. Lesley King stated that she believed that a pure breeder was anyone who had bred a purebred. The Chief Officer agreed this had also been an argument and suggested that Council look again at the definition. The Chair agreed that it would be discussed in Council. She then asked for any more questions on the election of Council members and asked Andrew Woods if he wishes to say anything. He declined.

#### **8. Election of President Elect:**

The Chair advised that Jane Moore as President completes her one year term as of today and the President Elect duly elected at the last meeting, Heather Ketley, takes over as President at the end of today and we need to elect a President Elect who will take over as President at the end of the next AGM. For this meeting we have followed the usual practice that names will be put forward and voted on at this AGM, however we have received a challenge to this stating that it should be a Proxy vote and we agree this would make it fairer to all members so they have chance to vote. Nominations will have to come in with nominations for Council so that it can be a proxy vote. She asked the meeting if they wished to continue with the proposals and vote being taken in the room for the 2014 nominations. The members agreed that this should be decided in the room for this AGM. Nominations were requested. Maggie Brown proposed Steve Pullan. Seconded Lorraine Chapman. Sian Evans proposed Sue Cutts, Matthew Stonehouse seconded. Lesley King proposed Maggie Brown, Catherine Lea seconded. Steve, Sue and Maggie were asked to leave the room so a show of hands could be conducted and called for a non-member present to act as tellers and count the votes. There were 2 volunteers. Chair requested members to use their voting cards and reminded that a majority of votes would decide the President Elect as stated in the AGM paperwork. Steve Pullan was elected as President Elect and congratulated on his appointment.

#### **9. Committee Reports:**

All reports were on the chairs.

**Promotions** – Sara Turner. Sara summarised the report.

Bay Window – Sara would like to see a Breeding issue around Christmas time if members agree.

Website – this was the other big issue. She had written a lot in her report but called for feedback from members as we need to move on to a better website which was more interactive and needed fundraising or to use money from the savings account and called for opinions and ideas on that.

The on-going problems with the website meant it was very difficult to amend and we could not load a lot of things that we would like. Linda Skeats said that the website could be a good marketing tool but at the present time was not fit for this purpose and causing extra work. Sian Evans asked if the website could be a project for someone. Sara advised that we had looked at using low cost DIY websites but the amount of information that we needed to get on and the interactive requirements meant that this was not viable. Sian suggested that perhaps we could use a college to look at this and Sara confirmed was worth looking at again. Sara went on to say that it is the behind the scenes work that is hard and that at first glance we have a good website but if it is redone it needs to be professionally and look to the future for our requirements. Jayne Fisher said that she was an IT professional and the DIY websites were not the best way. It could be that the server the website is on is not good and we need to discuss this. She thought the website was from 2007 and present requirements to meet today's modern equipment (mobiles, tablets, etc) were not built in then. Sara stated that she had talked to the company and there were limitations with our website. She had many problems loading things to the website only to find they had disappeared a couple of days later. It was very time consuming and very frustrating. She has been told by the software company

we use that the program is obsolete and there are no updates available for it and we need a new back office system. She has been looking at other sites and seen some good ones but everything needs looking at carefully for our requirements in the future.

**Show Report – Maggie Brown.**

Maggie reported that entries had been down at shows all over the country and not just in CB classes. We may have lost a couple of shows due to low entries but she will work to try and maintain these classes. She tried to get classes for 4 year old and over at the Great Yorkshire Show but they did not have room for us but she will keep trying to get classes. The turnout at the Breed Show at Equifest was disappointing but there had been a very good turnout at Flintham. Pamela Shippey had spoken to the Secretary of Suffolk and classes were going ahead there. Maggie advised that at some shows pure and part bred classes may be merged. However it had been a tremendous year in that Steve Pullan's Knaresborough Moon Dust qualified for the Cuddy at the Great Yorkshire Show and went to the final at the Horse of the Year Show and represented the breed well. Also that the part bred Trudi Thornton won her final. The horse has now changed hands and instead of being retired after HOYS will now continue showing. Maggie then announced that she had given rosettes for all HOYS qualifiers for the owner and the breeder and she presented Steve Pullan with his rosette and presented the breeder's rosette to Caroline Scurrah on behalf of her uncle Danny Welch. The Chair pointed out that these wonderful rosettes had been donated by Maggie and Maurice Brown. The Chair also thanked Maggie Brown for her dedicated detective work in chasing up a trophy that had been missing at the Breed Show at Equifest. It had been missing for a couple of years and Maggie had chased up a photo of the trophy and traced it through previous winners and found out exactly what had happened. The trophy was with Equifest and using the information and photos Equifest found the trophy. The Chair recorded a vote of thanks to Maggie for her terrier like dedication in finding this trophy. The trophy was won by Bronte Thompson one of our junior members on Jemoon High Society. It also went on to win at Equifest to win Champion Ridden CB, Champion Amateur Ridden and Reserve Champion Home Produced Show Hunter Pony. Bronte and her parents are very keen to promote it as a part bred Cleveland Bay. Congratulations were given to Bronte who is coming to the evening function and the chair added that for a young member it is going to give her lots of enthusiasm and to go on and do other things which will promote the part bred Cleveland Bay. She also mentioned some of the newer members Coleen Benfield and Lesley Wolfenden who had many successes in this their first showing year and offered congratulations to them.

The number of partbreds getting to HOYS was encouraging and 30 members had gone to HOYS to watch Knaresborough Moon Dust courtesy of Alison Slinn who had made the arrangements.

**Supports Group – Cecilia Delville-Lindsay.**

Cecilia has been trying to keep in touch with home and abroad. She has made contact with Pakistan where part breds are used for military horses. Heather Ketley mentioned she had been approached by that country a few years. No questions.

**Breeds – presented by Deputy Chair Heather Ketley in absence of Jane Moore.**

Appointment of Assessors was ongoing. Applicants will assess horses, note faults and 2 independent judges will also assess horses. Stallion Certificates, sample of draft certificate passed around for people to see. Heather called for comments on certificate and asked if anything wrong then please let us know. Helen January asked if we were still accepting applications for assessors. Heather would discuss at Breed Committee meeting next day and let her know. Andrew Woods asked if any of Wyevale Brayden's semen had gone to national archive as this was not taken thru a RBST grant. Chief Officer replied that this was applied for as grant from HBLB when Andrew was on Council and it was then agreed with owner that it was split 50% to owner and 50% to CBHS. CBHS would not use their 50% until the owner had used hers after which we would be free to use CBHS straws. Andrew commented that he suggested that some be passed to RBST for their scheme. Heather replied that there had not been many straws at all so this was not really viable.

**Stud Book Editor Report – read by Cecilia Delville Lindsay in Henry Edmund's absence.**

This was a presentation that Henry had prepared and no printout had been provided. The Stud Book

was almost complete bar corrections and should go to print shortly. He has found a highly skilled firm of printers in Salisbury who will be able to produce the Stud Book to a higher standard than the previous one. It will include colour photographs and will be higher quality than previous Stud Books. Several members have helped with the Stud Book and Henry passes on his thanks to them. The Census has found 361 females and 118 males giving total of 479 horses worldwide. Over the 6 years registrations included in the Stud Book average registrations have been 36 whereas so far this year only are 16 showing therefore 56% less registered this year which is inadequate to ensure the future of the breed. Many mare owners are not putting them in foal due to the economic situation and the numbers could soon become critical if the current trend were to continue a rapid fall in pure bred animals would be inevitable and deaths would exceed births. The Society could perhaps help by taking a look at the whole range of incentives with the help of the HBLB and the RBST to encourage more people to breed their horses. Heather Ketley commented that a lot of mares are not breeding as they are dirty and not getting in foal and this is where CEM testing comes in. We need to encourage the testing of both mares and stallions before breeding to ensure the health and best chance for a foal. Karen Wylie pointed out that a lot of the bigger breeders had now gone and a lot of people just had one mare but would breed but because of being at livery they had to pay to keep their livery place and then with the stud fee and keep at the stud it was expensive. She asked if the stallion owners would consider offering a package to help with the expenses as it could be prohibitive which was putting people off breeding their mare. Sara Turner thought that was a good idea as she was in that situation. She had 2 mares in livery and no land of her own. The Chair thanked Karen for her suggestion. Heather pointed out the wide variation in stud fees. Barbara Martindale commented that it was up to stallion owners what they charged. Cecilia Delville Lindsay pointed out that when the Society ran the Premium scheme the stud fee was fixed and now there was no restriction. Barbara Martindale said that she had noticed in the last Council minutes that Crabtree Merlin had now been registered and she wondered if details had been forwarded to Henry Edmunds as by its age it should be included in this Stud Book. Chief Officer was unsure but agreed that it should be. Chair agreed it would be checked. Colin Green asked if the Stud Book name had been sorted out. Chair advised it would be as in the past.

#### 10. **Members Questions**

1. *Question - How many pure females and how many pure stallions exist in the world and what ages exist and in what country?*

Cecilia Delville Lindsay answered that there were 361 females and 118 males worldwide not including geldings. We could not answer on ages from Henry's report. This question will have to be referred back to the Stud Book Editor for age breakdown and geldings. Lorraine Chapman stated we need to know the breakdown for geldings as these were the ones which were doing things and we needed them for marketing and publicity. Sian Evans asked if we put a questionnaire out asking what is being done with the geldings. Chair answered that the question of what people are doing with their horses was a subject for Facebook and information could be used as marketing tool.

2. *Question on the number of foals registered by the CBHS that were conceived by frozen semen and were born in the UK only and were born in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. Please also confirm the name of the sire used on each occasion.*

Heather Ketley answered that there was one foal registered. This was by Laughton Saladin and out of Steve Pullan's Knaresborough Moon Dust. The Chief Officer advised there was another Steve Pullan's Arena Big Ben. Karen Wylie had also bred one by Oakenbank Grenadier and out of Kingsleys Mary Rose. Sian Evans said that her father and they were looking at the collection of semen from their stallion and the costs. There followed a discussion on AI using fresh and chilled semen, setting up procedures for the mare and the costs involved taking semen. It was not a cheap option and relied on the ability of the specialist equine vets.

3. *Question - Have we any news on the 4 year and over class at the Great Yorkshire Show?*

Chair advised we had dealt with this in the Show Report. The answer was no, not at the present time but we will keep trying.

4. *Could the tea/coffee be complimentary at the AGM? People travel miles to attend and £2.20 for a small cup of warm filter coffee is expensive. If not free could this be supplemented?* Chair asked how many had actually bought coffee at this price? Not many had as was cheaper at the cafe on the showground. Chair advised that even much as we would like to provide it free then the CBHS would be paying that and it mounted up to quite an expense and we need to watch the pennies. We had enquired but they would not allow us to bring a kettle and make it ourselves. Perhaps next time we should point out that there is a cafe and the 'Fodder' to purchase refreshments.

5. *Showing – is it possible for CBHS to provide rosettes for highest place Cleveland Bay at designated dressage and riding club venues i.e. Port Royal and Arena UK with monthly events for every discipline in every class on the day? This would highlight the breed and encourage more entries.*

Show Chair advised that some rosettes had been privately sponsored by CBHS members at some events. Rosettes cost about £2 each plus postage out so there could be substantial cost involved and unlikely we could afford to sponsor many. Sarah Ramsden advised that the Irish Draughts gave out nice rosettes in hunter classes. Steve Pullan stated that the show had to buy these rosettes from the ID Society. Sarah said that she felt that we ought to be promoting the part bred taking part in show jumping, eventing etc. which in turn would promote the pure bred. Chair asked that Maggie Brown reviews the position both from Shows and Performance Scheme perspective.

6. *Question - Could the annual subscription date back to 1<sup>st</sup> December?*

Chair advised that this had been discussed in the AGM sub-committee because of the difficulties caused by getting the packs out in good time and people rejoining at the last minute too late to be included in the voting. It is in our articles as 1st December but over the last few years this has not been enforced taking memberships from differing dates. This spread out the workload of chasing lapsed subscriptions through the year. Chair felt that some people let their membership lapse and only rejoined later when they needed to. To revert would cause quite a lot of work initially and called for discussion so that we could take forward in council. Discussion followed and agreed that this would be taken forward for council consideration.

7. *Question Could we introduce a 'three strikes and out' policy for members who's conduct either personally or on-line does not meet the society's standards?*

Lesley King commented that there were examples on the forum of people not meeting these standards and having this would ensure quick disciplinary action. Chair advised that we as a Society can take action to cancel memberships but this was a serious action to take. Lesley felt that having 3 warnings was sufficient. Cecelia Delville Lindsay felt that a society with small numbers of members and an aging membership that every member counts. Matthew Stonehouse advised that we are all members of 'the company' and should this be adopted it would need to be incorporated into our articles. Chief Officer confirmed that it could be done if we amended the articles. Heather Ketley stated that years ago her father enjoyed coming to shows and events of the CBHS because it was such a friendly society but these days with all the bickering on the forum people no longer wanted to join us. She wanted to see the society get back to being a friendly society. This comment was supported in the meeting. Lesley King supported this saying that this bickering was making the society an unwelcoming environment to our new members. Chair stated that this would be taken back to council.

8. *Cruelty to horses. There have been examples of incidents of cruelty to horses including Cleveland Bays and wonder if it was time we had a section of the society where members, friends and non-members could contact to show concern or request honest help be it for assistance, funds, fodder or anything to prevent Cleveland Bays suffering or being neglected. To be available if anyone is in need of help just as farmers rally around to help other farmers in distress. If this could be set up as a Cleveland Bay Helpline then there should be no excuse for Cleveland Bay owners to neglect this rare breed of horse or any equine in fact. Anyone unwilling to get help for their horses should be reported to the appropriate bodies.* Chair called for comments. Lesley King raised that someone had raised concern for a horse of hers which turned out to be totally unfounded. She had been accused on an internet forum. Saying that her horses had welfare issues. It was going to be



brought up at council and was all totally unfounded. Barbara Martindale said that a lot of breed societies had a Welfare Officer. The CBHS are not geared up for this and Chair advised that if anyone had any concerns then they should report it to the appropriate welfare organisation directly. Jayne Fisher advised that the BHS had trained individuals to deal with Welfare and was better to report to the BHS direct and let trained people deal with it. Sandra Anderson suggested that the CBHS could possibly provide contact numbers on the website or on the answerphone for organisations who could help. Chair suggested that if members needed help then their first contact point should be the office.

9. *CBISH (Cleveland Bay International Sports Horse). A long question had been asked in writing by Sian Evans and she summarised it by saying she was very supportive but asking where CBISH stood with regard to the Society.* She asked that a 3 person sub-committee from council plus other society members who are also CBISH members to participate as allowed for by the Articles be set up to expedite this and also comply to the Memorandum and Articles whilst still under the direct control of the CBHS. Chair stated that as had been published the CBHS would not go ahead with this until it had been before and agreed by the membership. CBISH was seen as a good promotion tool to help the breed and to record the achievements of horses. Forging the Future allowed for the set-up of such a sub-committee with 3 council members and others to take it forward as long as the sub-committee vote was confined to the council members. Chair also stated that she had a watching brief since CBISH was set up and was keen for discussion to go forward as this would help with the promotion of our horses especially the part bred. We wished to look deeper into this and bring back to the membership but by issuing this document were advising members that this was happening. At that time if the membership wished to go with it then at that time we would put forward proposals to change the Articles. Another similar question was asked by Colin Green who wished to raise the development of a Cleveland Bay Sporthorse Stud Book in collaboration with the CBHS by CBHS members. Chair also stated that the vote at the 2103 AGM which rejected the Cleveland Bay Sporthorse Stud Book was because of the concerns of members of the lack of information available and knowledge of what was involved. Council wished to take this forward again when consequences were known. Lorraine Chapman advised that this was a long term project requiring a lot of work and they were concerned that this would overburden the Council, who needed to concentrate on the other work of the society for the pure bred and needed a way to do this without that. It was confirmed that to enter a stud book then parentage must be proven. Barbara Martindale asked what would happen to our Part Bred Register? Lorraine stated there may be different levels within the stud book with differing criteria. Colin Green asked the members present if they agreed the need for such a stud book to record performance. He thought there was a need for an independent group to progress the stud book without having to come back to the members all the time. Chair advised she believed that at the moment we were not in a position to make that kind of decision and that we needed to go back to basics by putting a sub-committee together as suggested by Sian Evans and move step by step. It would be slow because we needed to get this right. Barbara Martindale said that the Part Bred Register took 16 years of discussion before it came about. Chair thanked her for her comment however asked that those present agree to us setting up a sub-committee of council which would have 3 members of council and others but that only the 3 council members would have a vote. Any decisions would need to be referred back to the full council and final decisions would be referred to the membership. The meeting agreed.

10. *Andrew Woods had sent in a resolution which had been received too late to be sent out to the members however Chair was willing for it to be discussed and if agreed we would take it as a motion to the next AGM. She asked Andrew to summarise this.*

His request asked that we revert to a system accepting appointment to council on the basis of the number of votes cast and not a percentage of the vote received. Chair and Chief Officer pointed out that the 50% +1 method that is current was in fact proposed by Andrew Woods, in accordance with the Companies Act, and put forward by Council at that time and voted thru at the 2011/2012 AGM. Andrew also stated that it was not in accordance with the CBHS Articles and that these Articles were outdated and not fit for purpose. He said that the issue was that the current 50% + 1 was not



supported by the Articles and not supported by the Companies Act. Chief Officer advised that the current council had carried on with this as they had been informed that this was the only option. Chair was surprised that something encouraged and voted thru as a result of Andrew's persuasion was now considered to be incorrect by him just a short time later and now considered unfair. Barbara Martindale stated that the Articles had been updated by Nigel Cowgill, who was a barrister, and he had gone thru them with a 'fine tooth comb'. Sandra Anderson asked for Andrew's definition of a simple majority, did he still mean 50% + 1 vote or 51%? Andrew Woods confirmed yes 51% - a simple majority. Cecilia Delville Lindsay commented that in the past when 6 people applied for 5 places then 5 got on. Chair said no – we had continued the method put into use in 2012 which had been approved by the then Council. Chair stated that currently voting had been taken out of the room so that every member had chance to vote. The Chief Officer explained that YAS held a postal vote then voted on a resolution to accept the result. Lorraine Chapman thought we ought to seek external legal advice before making further changes. Chair asked that the meeting confirm if they wished us to take this motion forward as a resolution for the next meeting. It was agreed to take this forward.

11. *Questions – Forum Privacy. (1) Member complained that a member had breached her privacy on the CBHS forum and asked why he had not been instructed to comply with the forum rules or his log-in removed?*

Sara Turner, Forum Administrator confirmed that the member concerned had been instructed to comply with forum rules.

(2) *Were all members of council party to the decision to remove all rights to privacy in May 2014. Were they aware that the forum did not now comply with the National Stalkers Forum Guidelines?* Sara Turner explained this was the public forum and a member of council proposed that we close the public forum. It had been agreed to keep the members forum open and close the public forum and because of historical problems we would ask everyone to sign on the members' forum under their own name. The vast majority of users agreed and it was hoped to keep to a friendlier atmosphere. So yes it was a full council decision. Sue Jeffrey suggested that the person who had put the question stay off the forum if that was how they felt.

(3) *Are the Council familiar with the 1997 Harassment Act?*

Chair advised that if anyone thought they were being stalked they should go to the Police which she had asked one member to do.

(4) *Do the Trustees approve of the Forum Administrator making offensive remarks about this member on the forum?*

Sara Turner responded that it was directed at her when she accused the member of being puerile (childlike) and that was the offensive remarks and Sara would not retract that as she felt that person was being very childlike. As far as she is concerned that was the end of it. Lesley King supported the Forum Administrator.

12. *Past Minutes 4 March 2012. Can the Chief Officer list the threats of legal action received from Andrew Woods? It is custom and practice for the Chair to invite new members to council, why is it minuted that the Deputy Chair was to invite Andrew Woods to Council? Minutes state "A.O.B. Henry Edmunds proposed, Norma Wilson seconded that Andrew Woods be invited to Council to replace Emily Williams. Steve Pullan and David Anderson opposed his nomination because of his previous threats of legal action against the society. There was a vote and the decision was 7 for and 3 against. Norma Wilson will write to Andrew Woods."*

Chair responded that this should have come up at a previous AGM as it was from 4 March 2012.

Chair stated that these minutes were agreed and passed at the next council meeting as will ours.

Chair asked the meeting if they required any action on questions 11 and 12 should be taken to Council for action. Response was 'No'. Matthew Stonehouse commented that the questions on the Minutes (Question 12) should have been brought up at the time.

13. *Question on international participation in CBHS. CBHS is the international home for the Cleveland Bay Horse. What are the steps the society can take to embrace and enhance the society's international leadership while still encouraging participation, and developing leaders for the breed*

*in the UK, Europe and abroad? What can the society do to eliminate obstacles, technological as well as legal (if any exists) – for fuller participation by members around the world on committees and governing council? Is it the will of the leadership to bring in this broader participation to grow the strength of the breed internationally?*

Chair advised that Marcia has just been appointed to council and will participate by Skype and attend one meeting. Chair asked Andrew Woods to comment. Andrew urged us to read the relevant section of the Charities Commission document regarding electronic meetings and discuss within council. Chair advised that skype is difficult in the YAS office as it drops out. She also stated a personal opinion that if skype was acceptable why did she need to come almost 80 miles to attend when she could stay at home? Also if we all stayed at home who would connect us all to the meeting? Matthew Stonehouse commented that council had to agree to accept skype. David Anderson stated that it was the voting via skype that was the issue. We could use it to hold a meeting but not vote. Steve Pullan stated that when it had been tried with multiple users for a CBHS Exec's meeting it had been a disaster. Chair commented that we would see how it goes with a single skype participant. Sara Turner added that Marcia has said that if we need to purchase technology then she was willing to pay so that there was no cost to the CBHS. John Bennett advised that skype votes would only be legal if participant could be seen. Chief Officer advised that Marcia would be seen.

11. **Any Other Business.**

Jane Preston wanted to thank Sara Turner and Caroline Scurrah for the wonderful new look to the display stand at the Great Yorkshire Show. She also asked for Items for the Car Boot Sale that Caroline and herself were holding. She proposed that 2 CBHS calendars be sent to Royal Mews. Jane commented on the Ride-A-Bay Day. Everyone had enjoyed themselves and it gave us a lot of publicity. She wanted to thank Jane Horton for the photos. Jane said today's Tack Sale was still open for people to buy. Sandra Anderson wanted to include Steve Pullan in the thanks for the GYS. No other business.

12. **Raffle.** It has raised £760 at the moment plus a considerable amount of donations.

1<sup>st</sup> prize £100 won by Caroline Scurrah; 2<sup>nd</sup> prize £75 won by Claire Underwood;

3<sup>rd</sup> prize £50 Margaret Green.

The Chair closed the meeting at 6.15