

Draft AGM Minutes
Cleveland Bay Horse Society

Saturday 19th October, 2024
13.30 GMT

Present:

Mrs Sandra Anderson
Ms Coleen Benfold
Mrs M Brown
Mr and Mrs D & E Cracknell
Miss J L Firth
Mrs Beverley Heffernan
Mrs Elaine Keith
Mr & Mrs H Ketley
Ms Helen & Julie Lane
Mrs Catherine Lea
Mrs Katherine Lines
Mrs C O'Connell (and Micheal)
Mr S W Smith
Ms Jackie Sparrow
Mr Matthew Stonehouse
Mr M N Tait
Ms Paula Thompson
Miss Jessica Thompson
Mr G Welford
Mrs Norma Wilson
Mrs E A Worthy
Mrs K Wylie

Presidents opening of meeting.

Sandra Anderson our outgoing President opened the meeting, welcomed and thanked everybody for attending.

Before turning the meeting over to the Chair, she announced her decision to award the Jack Lynch Trophy(given in recognition to a person or animal of presidents choice) to Beverley

Heffernan for her service on council over the past few years. Since Beverley cannot take trophy back to USA with her photos were taken with the trophy and Beverley was presented with a cake to share.

Apologies:

Rowena Scrimshaw
John Bennett
Linda Skeats
Peter Dallow
Lisa Cartright
Henry Edmunds
Sarah Ramsden
Claire Brassett
Mary Ann Reay
Steve and James Pullen
Lorraine Chapman
Barbara Martindale
Alison Wilson
Richard Lines

Approval of last AGM minutes. Proposed by Sandra Anderson, seconded by Heidi Lorefice. 2 Abstentions 10 proxy votes in favour 22 in room votes in favour. Motion Passed.

Elections to Council.

3 candidates forward for election to council. Maggie Brown, Dan Cracknell and Claire O'Connell.

Candidates must obtain at least 50% of votes to be elected.

As per Scrutineers report, 40 votes returned. 1 spoiled ballot, 5 votes received day before meeting via mail, but these votes were passed deadline so not counted.

Maggie Brown received 30 votes (76.92%)
Dan Cracknell received 32 votes(82.05%)
Claire O'Connell received 30 votes(76.92%)

All three candidates therefore elected to council.

Beverley thanked those who were standing down at this time Heidi Lorefice, Helen Lane, Henry Edmunds and Lesley Orange.

Also encouraged anyone wishing to get involved to apply to be co-opted onto council. We will always need more help.

Treasurer's Report

Presented by Catherine Lea as Peter Dallow could not attend AGM. (Sideshow presentation was created by Peter and is available in Download section of website with these minutes).

Liz Worthy asked for clarification on legal fees paid, Catherine explained these were incurred in creating the new articles and that there have been no legal fees paid since that time.

It was mentioned that printed copies of treasurer's report may make it easier for members to see. Beverley did remind the membership that if anyone wished for printed copies of documents, they could get in touch with office to have printed copies sent out to them.

In finishing the presentation Peter stated he would like to thank the members of our Finance Committee Linda Skeet, Sandra Anderson and Liz Worthy for their conscientious support and contributions to the maintenance of the society's financial operations also I'd like to thank Simon Foreman and David Fisher of our independent examiner Peter Howard and Co and for their help and advice without these individuals methods it would be difficult for me to present results of the society's finances fairly accurately and timely lastly I want to thank my colleagues the CBHS council members and the members of the society you have been a great pleasure to work with and I have enjoyed your fine company leadership and collective wisdom.

The accounts were approved by a majority vote.

Resolutions.

Two resolutions received from Rowena Scrimshaw and Jackie Sparrow, these are to create a welfare officer/ committee to oversee the worries of membership in regard to the welfare of horses.

From Rowena Scrimshaw

Establish a permanent position of Welfare Officer on the CBHS council, with a policy and procedure to support this very necessary role.

From Jackie Sparrow

That CBHS form a welfare sub-committee to enable compliance with articles. This should be a discreet listening ear for those who may be struggling and empowered to inspect premises taking advantage of HBLB grants to ensure there is good practice.

Beverley reminded membership we do not have any legal authority to gain entry or enforce recommendations. This would have to be done via RSPCA or similar.

Jackie Sparrow commented that many members would be happy to provide support for animals in need of temporary support.

It was also pointed out that in the case of RSPCA animals who are seized are not allowed to be used for breeding going forward, Catherine Lea explained that as a society we have been liaising with RSPCA to help educate them about endangered breeds to allow bred societies to help with homing such animals. To which end the society has applied to join the National equine welfare council. This will allow us a greater communication with welfare organisations if Cleveland bays are involved in their cases.

After substantial discussion everyone present agreed that welfare is a very important issue. Council will work towards a separate page on website to educate and inform owners of steps to take in the event of a problem arising both for one of their own animals and in the case of suspected cruelty or neglect.

Jackie Sparrow proposed a motion that council continue to look into points raised today and formulate a plan on welfare going forward. Kate lines seconded the motion.

The motion was passed.

Breed Committee Report

Discussion on measurement of what qualifies as a small star in regard to breed standards. Catherine Lea explained this discussion came about as a way to help new owners to the breed and vets at time of marking to make clearer whether a star conformed to breed standards or not. She also apologised as the size given in report was 27.3mm which is the new coin size as opposed to 30mm. This was not proposed as a change to the rules of any type just a way of making the marking of white marks more accurate to vets and as a guide to those new to breed to understand.

Extensive discussion was held on the floor with concerns raised as to excluding animals by mis marking them. It was pointed out that white marks are not a conform issue, however white marks are against breed standards. Catherine pointed out that as things stand the passports have

to be marked if animals fall outside of breed standards and this was only an aid to help with the clarification of such. Discussion continued with no resolution reached and it was decided that the Breed Committee would continue to look at it and provide a member discussion session at a later date.

Discussion as to the inclusion of must meet breed standards back onto stallion licensing forms.

Catherine Lea began by explaining at the moment a stallion could technically be passed for licence even if mismarked or over height, lacking bone etc. She pointed out that it used to be on the forms but had been removed.

Again, extensive discussion from the floor followed with points being made about the size of the gene pool and that excluding stallions when so few are put forward is worrying. After extensive discussion this motion passed by a majority vote.

(Report attached in download section of website with these draft minutes.)

Show Committee Report

(Report attached in download section of website with these draft minutes.)

P and P Report

(Report attached in download section of website with these draft minutes.)

There were a number of suggestions for fund raising given including raffle tickets in AGM packs, various draws included in magazine or bay window etc. P and P will continue to look into this.

Question and Answer session

Questions from members received by 4 October 1700

From Rowena Scrimshaw:

Q. Location of AGM: Request that all future AGMs are held in a town or city with rail access. I query why Wetherby was selected where there is no railway station. This meant I could not attend unless given a shared ride, which I arranged this time, but still a long and awkward journey.

A: The Bridge at Walshford was chosen for its accessibility to road and rail networks, and has Knaresborough railway station 7.3 miles away which is 16 minutes in a taxi, or alternatively, according to their website, The Bridge offers a free shuttle bus from Cattal train station to the venue.

Q: Tea and biscuits before AGM: Thank you for organising this, as I requested. Please do so for future AGMs, too, as a service to those attending.

A: We are happy to offer tea and biscuits and hope the members attending AGM enjoy them.

Q: Breeding: Further meeting in New Year 2025 for breeders and members to discuss their experiences of breeding to help others with their breeding journey (extract from Breed Committee Report for the 2024 AGM). I fully support this, perhaps it should be an annual event. Make it clear that any members, including new ones are able to contact the Breed Committee for advice and support and that the breed committee members commit to this. Add to website and advise all new applications, not a one off. Essential to provide more support, on an ongoing basis.

A: Thank you for your suggestions. We do hope to make use of Zoom for such discussions moving forward. Our contact information is on the website for the public and we do get queries.

Q: HBLB meeting early 2024 (Via Zoom) to provide opinions on the allocation of the HBLB grant. At the meeting it was confirmed at the end that opinions would be compiled and distributed, was this done? I couldn't find these on the CBHS website for members to refer to.

A: The meeting was held on 25th January and ideas were summarized in the February meeting minutes.

Q: As for 4 above: I would have wanted to see a more thorough and complete response to the listed points by the Breed Committee, not just one paragraph in the breed report for the AGM. An itemized response would have been useful, considering all the points and this should be regularly reviewed by the Breed Committee and reported on to members.

A: The areas brought up were listed in the 25th January minutes and semen collection, ET and the magazine cost contribution has been taken forward. The other areas need further discussion. Thank you for your suggestion.

Q: As for 4 and 5 above: Last point listed: "A scheme towards housing more colts for assessment at 3 years of age." At the meeting it was recommended not just to house colts but provide grant funding to run on colts until 3 years of age, then assess/collect, if considered good quality and before gelding the colts, if this was desired/needed by owners.

A: We continue to discuss this issue in Council meetings and welcome further input from members.

Q: Stallion license proposal and size of star. The AGM is not a suitable occasion to discuss this. It needs a full and thorough discussion as a standalone issue at a Zoom meeting.

A: The AGM or an EGM are the appropriate venues for discussing such matters as provided in our Articles of Association. We can certainly make use of dedicated Zoom meetings for further discussion, but proposed changes of this nature must be voted on by the membership at an AGM or EGM.

Q: Show report – AGM 19 th October 2024. As has been suggested by others, would it be possible for the CBHS to provide CBHS rosettes for all entries at classes for shows that are not specific CBs? This should be encouraged, to reward members who enter their horses in non CB classes, e.g. hunter or rare breed classes.

A: CBHS rosettes for both pure and part bred (currently kindly sponsored by Maggie Brown) are already awarded to the highest placed CB at many shows which hold classes for which Cleveland Bays are eligible - hunter, sport horse, rare breed etc. We will look to provide a means of alerting us that owners have entered a class and would be happy to receive sponsorship for future rosettes.

Q: CBHS stand at Royal Windsor Horse Show. I wish to note that the large hanging banner of Mulgrave Supreme was excellent. (This is a comment to provide praise and not a question as such).

A: Thank you for your kind comments, we think it was a big success at both Royal Windsor and Great Yorkshire. The image was supplied courtesy of Maggie Brown and was brought to completion by the combined efforts of Show and P and P committees. We are delighted to hear that you liked it and the general feedback we got from the show stands was that it was well received.

Q: CBHS Archives. Request an update on how historic data is collected (images, photos and documents), the archive that houses the CBHS archives. Request to regularly remind members to donate or share material for archives, on an ongoing basis and provide details of how to do this. Request for there to be a permanent archives officer on the CBHS Council. Include full details on the CBHS website.

A: CBHS Archives are stored in North Yorkshire County Records Office in Northallerton. We agree that receiving and archiving historic breed material is very important, however it is a time consuming undertaking and a willing volunteer with the appropriate expertise would be welcome to help. There are a number of email accounts currently holding more recent images, hopefully these can be downloaded onto a memory device for long term storage.

Q: Breeders' Directory. (P&P 2024 Report). Essential to provide this, update it & photos/videos of stallions (including deceased ones).

A: We do intend to publish the Breeders' Directory on February 1, 2025 and the Magazine on May 1, 2025. The biggest hurdle we hit this year with the directory was the lack of information being shared. We are hoping to complete a breeders' directory for 2025 with opt in information from stallion owners and breeders. If anyone has anything they would like to have included in the 2025 breeder's directory please email cbhspandp@gmail.com

Q: Professionalism and courtesy by CBHS members when dealing with enquiries from members and non-members, including enquiries about horses for sale, use of stallions and other matters. This has been a problem for a long time, ever since I became a member of the CBHS. Others have noted the same. For example: (a) lack of response about using breeders' stallions. (b) Failure to provide semen (c) Failure to respond to or follow up queries on horses for sale or ad hoc queries. Earlier this year, I decided to purchase two purebred mares or fillies, for pure breeding, and spent a great deal of time phoning, sending emails and writing to breeders about this. A few people were very helpful, but most did not reply or failed to follow up, e.g. sending photos, even when promised. One stud did not reply to voicemail or emails, but when I made a group visit, there were two females for sale. By that time I had identified one pure mare through a personal contact. Some of those who did not reply or follow up know me, my devotion to and long experience of the breed. I am not put off, but this lack of professionalism and courtesy is unacceptable, including for new people or those wanting information.

A: Thank you for your comments, we agree that common courtesy is important. However we cannot dictate how quickly members respond to personal enquiries.

Q: Update to be provided on case of extreme cruelty and neglect by a CBHS member in 2024. Member was prosecuted by the RSPCA. This was a very serious case, with horses dead, starved and dreadfully neglected. Confirmation that the member, was expelled as a CBHS member.

Note that I have submitted a member's resolution to have a permanent Welfare Officer on council, with a policy and procedure on welfare matters.

A: The member was removed from Society membership in accordance with our Articles. Please see our discussions related to your resolution for further information.

From Jackie Sparrow:

1. What is the current number of registered CB outside of the UK? A few years ago we estimated 800 in the UK and 200 in North America, do we have more current numbers?

We have no new data.

2. *What is the number of CB's in the UK?*

It is estimated at approximately 800.

3. *How many of the registered pure CB in the UK are in the North?*

We do not have data regarding this matter.

4. *What is the distribution of CBHS paid up members in the UK and overseas?*

81% of CBHS memberships are UK

13% are USA

3% are Australia

2% are Canada

.5% Ireland

.5% New Zealand

5. *How many paid up members of the CBHS are in Yorkshire?*

We do not breakdown our membership by region, therefore cannot provide this data. It would be time-consuming to manually undertake this task.

6. *In light of WHW now using the recent cruelty case as publicity. What steps have been taken by council to prevent this happening again? How many pure CB horses were seized and how many are still alive?*

See discussion with the two resolutions.

7. *What steps has P and P taken to promote the breed at shows and national advertising to help the pull through sales of foals and encourage breeding?*

P and P along with show committee created new stand interior pieces to both showcase versatility and history of the breed. These were on view at Royal Windsor, Royal Highland(on RSBT stand) and Great Yorkshire shows. We collaborated with the BEF for an article in their magazine about the breed. We have been maintaining the website for sale page, trying to share more via social media. We also ran the Cleveland Bay Challenge again this year to promote usefulness of the breed. We have a few things in line for next year but can't comment until we know if they will bear fruit. Unfortunately the cost of advertising in the national magazines is prohibitive, especially when (from what we have been told) previous adverts have had little effect on membership numbers or animal sales.

8. *In light of the lack of young stallions licensing, what steps have Council taken to aid those who would like to run on a promising colt to licensing and collection or standing at public stud?*

We have taken the suggestion from the January member meeting on HBLB grants and continue to discuss it, we do not yet have any concrete proposals to put forward as we are working through several questions.

9. *What action has been taken to ensure shows such as Malton and Gransden retain Cleveland Bay classes?*

Show Committee works hard at liaising with these shows and encouraging continuation and where possible establishment of new Cleveland Bay classes. HBLB funding for show attendance is reviewed annually, but the emphasis has to be on owners wishing to show their horses. Unfortunately, if the classes are not supported, we have trouble persuading shows to continue - we believe this was the case at Gransden. We are waiting for a response from Malton; however we have not been informed that CB classes have been withdrawn.

Awards Presentation AGM October 20th 2024

Congratulations to everyone who made it into the show ring this season. When adding up the points for these trophy awards, we realised that there are many new faces as well as horses, amounting to 35 pure and 19 part bred Cleveland Bays being shown in Cleveland Bay classes. In addition, there are many pure and part breds competing in Hunter, Sport Horse and Rare Breed classes. You are all doing a great job flying the Cleveland bay flag. The Society also congratulates all those showing and competing all over the world – we love to hear of your successes.

As in previous years, the trophies awarded today continue the Cleveland Bay Horse Society's heritage, having been donated by previous UK members and breeders. To the winners, we hope you enjoy being their custodians for 2025, and adding to their history as well as your own memories.

The Jack "America" Welford trophy presented by the retiring president has been awarded to Beverley Heffernan. We realise that Beverley can't take the trophy with her to Utah, so as cake solves everything, we would like to present Beverley with a cake made by Utter Indulgence, and invite delegates to help her consume it this afternoon.

Ridden classes are gaining more support – wherever possible we are trying to provide for pure and part breds to compete separately, but we need exhibitor numbers to keep increasing.

This year, the Northern Breeders trophy for the best pure ridden is awarded to Embleton Reel owned by Tracey Williams.

The Chris dykes Trophy for the best ridden part bred is awarded to Aredis Little Ben owned and ridden by Bronte Thompson. Bronte and Ben have had an amazing season, winning Light weight Hunter, Working Hunter, London International Hunter and Side Saddle classes all over the country, culminating in the Champion Home Produced Hunter at the Royal International.

The Society recognises the crucial role pure and part bred breeders play and the Rose Tinted Breeders Cup is awarded to the breeder gaining most points from their home bred stock. This year, the trophy is won by Steve Pullan, who with his quality pure bred Arena stock and part bred

Aredis breeding saw Arena Monarch and Arena London exhibit in pure bred classes and Aredis Little Ben and Aredis Russel represent classes eligible for part bred Cleveland Bays.

The Alfred Pease trophy for the pure bred foal gaining the most points over the Heritage shows of Hinderwell, Danby, Egton and Stokesley was awarded to colt foal, Mulgrave Royal Viscount, owned and bred by Messrs Duell & Welford. Viscount also wins the Baydale SCBBC trophy for the pure foal with most overall points.

Trophies already awarded at the GYS as a tradition include the David Keenleyside Cup for the

Champion foal which was won by Scarholme Gaia, owned and bred by Jackie Sparrow. Also the Highmoor Stud trophy for the Champion Part Bred at the GYS, won by Brackenbrae Lucent, owned by Miss Ann Hebron and bred by John Bennett and the Margaret Raikes May

trophy for the Champion Mare which was won by Braithwaite Mulsanne – actually, her second year as overall Champion at the GYS.

The Fothergill Memorial Salver for the highest placed young stock at the GYS is awarded to 2 year old colt, Barbarian Maverick owned and bred by Jo Firth. Maverick also wins the In Hand Shield for the most points overall for pure bred young stock.

The Ramblers trophy for the most points in Mare classes is awarded to Mulgrave Snowdrop, owned and bred by Messrs Duell & Welford. The mare had another stellar year supporting all 4 heritage shows and winning the Marygold Nixey Trophy for the most points over these particular shows, and the Eden Valley Salver for the highest points overall, for either pure or part bred in Hand, being unbeaten this season, and accruing 40 points. This means that Snowdrop and Mulgrave connections also win the Keenleyside Salver for the most points pure bred breeder and exhibitor.

Rowena Scrimshaw's beautiful crystal Gelding trophy has certainly encouraged more geldings to be shown right across the country. This year's winner is Bahian Terminator, owned by Emily Fisher and bred by Sarah Pomfret. Emily won this trophy last year too, with her other gelding, so congratulations on winning this two years in a row.

Finally, we have a new award, kindly given by Maggie Brown. This is the Ditchley Young Handlers award for 16 to 18 year olds who have shown their own or have shown Cleveland Bays for others In CBHS classes throughout the season. The young gentleman's award goes to Harry Lea, and the young ladies award goes to Jessica Thompson. Congratulations.