Meeting Minutes
Cleveland Bay Horse Society
Council Meeting
Wednesday 17th September 2025
1930 BST

Present: Matthew Stonehouse (MS), Catherine Lea (CL), Claire O'Connell (CO), Norma Wilson (NW), Daniel Cracknell (DC), Sarah Kirk (SK), Elaine Keith (EK), Tierney Hill (TH), and Karen Wylie (KW)

Absent: N/A

Apologies: Maggie Brown (MB)

General Business:

MS opened the meeting and declared it quorate. Apologies were received from MB. No conflicts of interest were declared.

<u>Accounts for AGM</u>
CL presented the annual accounts, noting efforts to simplify presentation for clarity. The accounts will be posted on the website upon approval to reduce mailing costs, with printed copies sent to members requiring physical copies. MS proposed approval, DC seconded. Approved unanimously.

<u>DNA Profile Sharing with Sports Horse GB</u>
CL reported a request from Sports Horse GB to share DNA profiles for graded horses. Discussion focused on the purpose, relevance to CBHS, and potential implications for registration integrity. Council noted that the DNA testing costs (£50) are currently paid through the HBLB scheme. CL to email Sports Horse GB for clarification on rationale before final decision.

<u>Genotyping Proposal</u>
Council reviewed emails regarding a genotyping study introduced by Andy Dell, involving selected CBHS horses. Council agreed to endorse with stipulations: access to resulting data, inclusion of international horses if feasible. CL to email response, requesting direct society contact for breed-related matters.

<u>DEFRA Compliance and Grading System</u>
MS provided an overview of a recent DEFRA meeting attended by MS, CL, and EK. The CBHS is required to restructure the Grading Register; adjustments needed include starting grading recording from 50% blood and restructuring the stud book visually; the core elements shall remain the same. MS to circulate a detailed summary via email for Council review and AGM presentation.

Breed Committee:
DC updated the Council regarding ongoing stallion licensing. DC noted low uptake on mare and stallion maintenance grant forms. The HBLB grant application for 2026 must be submitted by month-end; DC requested current membership and foal registration figures (UK and overseas, purebred only) from NW/CL for inclusion. Potential adjustments to grant categories were discussed; DC to seek guidance on amendments to the submission forms.

Publicity &Promotions (P&P):
CO reported progress on the annual magazine; it is at the printers. CO presented a proposal to transition to an online format for future editions to reduce costs (printing/postage costs currently consumes ~£20 per membership), with a printed version available for members who wish to pay for it. CO shall present a resolution at the AGM. Discussion followed on software compatibility and online platforms for easier editing.

Show's:
EK reported progress on the Cleveland Bay Camp; 15 horses are signed up, with 18 people attending. Everyone has paid, and all preparations are in place.

Any Other Business:

<u>Matters Arising:</u>
N/A

<u>Memberships for Approval:</u>
Mel Ellis – unanimously approved.

<u>Running Costs:</u>
CL highlighted the increasing running costs. It was noted 80% of current registration costs are spent on passports covers and postage alone, resulting in losses to the society. MS has drawn up a report and proposals for presentation to the new Council post-AGM.

<u>Office Computer Purchase:</u>
CL proposed purchasing a new office computer. Unanimously approved; select options and circulate before purchase.

<u>Other:</u>
Council discussed pending registrations, and paperwork issues. An update was made to Council regarding potential welfare / re-homing cases.

Meeting Adjourned: 20:46 PM
Next Meeting Scheduled: TBC (post-AGM)