

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HACKNEY HORSE SOCIETY HELD ON 20th FEBRUARY 2018, AT ROYAL MEWS AT 1.00 P.M.

Mrs B Stockton (Chairman), R. Connolly (Treasurer), S. Bamford, Ms S Barraclough, M. Cooper, J Cresswell, G Docking, G Dudley, M. Hardy, Mrs J Clough, A. McNinch, Mr M Neachell, Miss P Peters, R. Robertson, Mrs N Salter, A. Ward, E. Ward, Miss S Wormald, Mrs D Hicketts (Secretary)

1. Apologies were received from R. Carter and R. James
2. Minutes of last meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman proposed by Mr Neachell, seconded by Mr Cooper.
3. Election of Chairman
Mrs Stockton was the only nominee for Chairman, she was duly elected for a period of three years.
4.
 - i. Junior Officer
Mr Dudley informed Council that Miss Dudley-Apicella would offer a couple of days training for the juniors at their premises. He said that if Council were happy they would like to invite the BDS juniors as well, but they would use only Hackneys. Council were happy for the BDS to be included as long as it was Hackneys that were used. Mrs Stockton asked Mr Dudley if he had the relevant insurance in place for this and he confirmed he did.
 - ii. Catering for the Annual National Breed Show
Mr Docking informed Council that Sue Nebbling and Sue Smith would be happy to help with the catering at the Breed Show. He said how they would organize and collect the food from one of the supermarkets such as Waitrose. Mr Docking said he had managed to obtain sponsorship of £100 from Mr Alexander which would offset the sponsorship from the Ardingly Inn. Council thanked him for this. He stated that there would be a budget of £75 for the Monday and Tuesday and £100 for the Wednesday and they were hoping to have a variety including possibly some hot food such as soup on one of the days. Mr Docking informed Council that as we would be purchasing the food from a Supermarket a basic food handling certificate was required by law. Mr Docking said that Mrs Gallop had kindly agreed to sort this out.
Action Mr Docking to remind Mrs Gallop to obtain food handling certificates
Miss Wormald informed Council she would supply the tea, coffee and cold drinks for the period. Miss Wormald said the Society would need to purchase a new boiler for the hot water, Miss Peters said she would purchase one for the Society. Mrs Stockton said she would supply the wine for the Wednesday.
Action Miss Peters to purchase water boiler
Mr McNinch asked if there would be a separate tent for the judges. It was hoped that a new Gazebo would be purchased and Ms Moore and Mr Peters was trying to organise this.
 - iii. Names for Probationary Judges
Mrs Stockton asked if Council had any names for probationary judges.
Mr Connolly suggested Mr Carter
Mrs Stockton suggested Mrs Clough
Mr A Ward suggested Mrs Osborne
Mr Bamford suggested Mr Quigg and Mr Trimble
Mr Cresswell said he thought that people had to write in if they wished to become a probationary judge. Mrs Stockton reminded him that Council agreed to bring names forward for this meeting.
Council discussed who if any of the people suggested would be contacted to see if they were happy to proceed as a probationary judge. Council decided to invite Mr Carter and Mrs Clough. Council felt at the moment having Mr Carter and Mrs Clough going forward was enough for this year. Therefore, Mr R Denness would, if he still wanted to stand, need to apply in writing another year. Council also felt if Mr Haffenden wished to finish his probationary then he must re-apply.
Action The Secretary to write Mrs Clough and Mr Carter. Mrs Stockton to write to Mr Haffenden and Mr Denness.
 - iv. Judges Seminar
Mr Connolly informed Council that he Mr Dudley and Mr Docking had met to discuss the best way forward for the seminar. He said how they had come up with a few points which they felt would be suitable discussion points. A couple of items were the carrying of whips, should they be show or schooling whips, condition of animals in the ring. Mr Dudley said he would be bringing a sample of shoes to the seminar. Mr Bamford said it should be highlighted the importance of a judge judging animals as though it is the first time they had seen it and for them to judge what is there on the day and not what they have seen before.
Council felt Mr Peters, Mrs Clough and Mr Carter should be invited to attend the seminar.
Action Mrs Hicketts to write to Mr Peters, Mrs Clough and Mr Carter
5. Approval of Accounts
Mr Connolly reported that the accounts were not too bad this year. He said the main reason for the reduction in the operating profit was that the investments were down. He said how there had been a saving on printing this year due to most of the copying for the maildrops being done in house. Miss Wormald asked what had happened to the tent and all the promotional items. Mr Connolly said the tent was insured by the South of England and our insurers had paid for

all the stock and books. There were no further questions. Mr Connolly proposed to adopt the accounts, seconded by Mr Docking, unanimous

6. Price Increases

Mr Connolly said that this year he could not see where the Society could increase prices. It was felt that it would not be suitable to increase membership as the membership seems to be a fair price and with people on Direct Debit several may not renew. Mr Connolly said one thing he was not happy with was how members who wanted to import animals had them traced for nothing. This can take the Secretary and Mrs Neachell days to do this. Mr Connolly proposed to charge £250 for a full trace pedigree and £100 if the person importing had supplied all the information which showed the animal traced and the Secretary only had to confirm its lineage, seconded by Mr Cresswell, unanimous.

Action Secretary to inform members via the newsletter

7. Timetable/Classes for Breed Show

Council felt the Light Trade and Part bred to a show wagon classes ought to be stopped as there had been none or only one animal in them for years. Other than these changes the timetable to stay as last year.

8. Judges For Breed Show/Championship Show

Mrs Stockton raised a concern that there may be a conflict of interest with some Council members choosing judges for classes they were entering, Mr Bamford agreed with her. Council felt that all other options had been tried before and for Council to choose the judges still seemed the best way forward. It was decided to put choosing of judges on the agenda for the meeting in May.

The following judges had agreed to judge at the Annual National Breed Show: Messrs Bamford, Connolly, Docking, M Fuller, N Fuller, Hazlett, Henson, James, Ms Neal, Mr Hamilton-Rhodes, Mrs Salter, Messrs Walker, Ward, Wenham Jnr.

From those who had decided to come forward for judging Council selected the following:

In Hand Pony	– Mr Connolly
In Hand Horse	– Mr Ward
Novice Horse	– Mr N Fuller
Novice Pony	– Mrs Salter
Amateur Horse/Pony	– Mr E Ward
Open Pony	– Mr Bamford
Open Horse/Newcomers Horse/Pony	– Mr James
Junior Young Driver	- Mr Wenham Jnr
Ridden/Private Drive	– Mr N Fuller
International Horse/Pony	– Mr Walker Jnr

The following judges had agreed to judge at the Championship show: Messrs Andrews, Bamford, Connolly, Docking, Hazlett, Henson, James, Ms Neal, Mr Hamilton-Rhodes, Neachell, Salter, Mrs Salter, Messrs Walker, Wenham Jnr.

From those who had decided to come forward for judging Council selected the following:

Open Horse/Pony	- Mr Salter
Novice Horse/Pony	- Mr Wenham
Amateur Horse/Pony	- Mr Andrews
International Horse/Pony	- Mr Neachell
Private Drive/Ridden	- Mrs Salter
Junior/Young Driver	- Miss Peters

Action Secretary to inform members via the newsletter and to write to the judges

9. Breed Show/Championship show – Stewards, stable manager

Annual National Breed Show Stewards

Mr Connolly	– Parking and Stable Manager/Steward
Mr Cooper	– Help for Parking and Stable Manager
Mr McNinch	– Chief Steward
Mr Dudley	–Steward
Mr Jimmy Peters	– Steward
Mrs McNinch	– Rosette Steward
Miss Wormald	– Tent/First Aider
Mrs Nebbling	- Food
Mrs Smith	- Food
Mr Docking	– Commentator (Paid)

With regard to the Health and Safety Mrs Stockton reported she had been in touch with the South of England's Health and Safety person to see if they would be happy, for a small fee, to take on the Society's Health and Safety. Council were happy for her to proceed this way.

Championship Show Stewards

Mr McNinch	– Chief Steward
Mrs Salter	– Steward
Mr Connolly	– Steward
Rosette Steward	– Mrs McNinch/Ms McNinch
Mr Docking	- Commentating

Mr Docking said how the music last year at the Championship show needed to be sorted. Both he and Mrs Salter said the equipment was not suitable or easy to work. As this show is not the Hackney Horse Society's show and the Society only have classes within it Mrs Stockton said she would write to the Show Director of the Rare Breeds of the Year Show to see if anything could be done to improve this.

10. Probationary Approval

Mrs Hicketts reported Mr Huckriede had completed his probationary but no written reports had been received from the judges who took him. She said all the judges were at this meeting so could possibly give verbal reports. The general opinion was that he was extremely knowledgeable and could judge an animal but his attention to detail on turnout was slightly lacking and possibly his manner was a little forthright.

Mr Robetson said how it was totally out of order that written reports had not been sent in for the meeting from the judges. The judges concerned acknowledge that they should have done so and offered their apologies. Council felt that if Mr Huckriede should be accepted onto the judge's panel he should be informed that he must pay more attention to the turnout and be aware of his forthright attitude. Mrs Stockton proposed to accept Mr Huckriede onto the panel, seconded by Mrs Barraclough, with 2 against 3 abstentions proposal carried.

Action Mrs Stockton to write to Mr Huckriede

11. AGM/Dinner Dance

Mrs Stockton asked if it would be suitable to try and put a Dinner Dance on with the AGM. She said how Orsett Hall had agreed to carry over the booking from 2017 so that the deposit of £500 was not lost. If we do not use the booking this year, then the Society would lose the £500 deposit. Mr Bamford asked if the AGM could return to Ardingly and Mrs Stockton advised this was not what the membership requested. Mrs Stockton proposed to try an AGM Dinner Dance for this year which would take place on Saturday 20th October, seconded by Mr Connolly with 1 against and 3 abstentions proposal carried.

Action Mrs Stockton to organise

12. New Members/Prefixes

Council agreed to the following new members:

Raymond Linard and Nancy Graylen, Ilford, Essex – Jenny Todd Carmarthen – Ciaran Millar, Maghera County Derry

There were no new prefixes

13. Any Other Business

Mrs Hicketts informed Council that Mr Justice Chowdhury rejected the submissions of the defence. So the DJ's Orders and findings stand with regard to the RSPCA case against the Smiths.

The Secretary Informed Council that the South East Riding and Driving club wished to affiliate their two shows, one being 27th May the other 15th July, Council were very pleased to accept this affiliation.

Mrs Stockton read out a letter from Miss Wormald where she stated how upsetting it was that people used derogatory names towards people and how as a Society we should not be allowing for this type of behaviour. This Council agreed with.

The Secretary Informed Council that she had been informed of a newspaper article which was dated 12th February which stated Mr Brazier was also involved with the RSPCA case that Mrs Wade was regarding the puppy farming. Mrs Stockton wrote to him the next day stating that his membership had been suspended under the Society's Articles.

Mrs Stockton informed Council of a letter that she had received from Mrs Wade where she stated the minutes were incorrect from the June 2017 meeting. Mrs Wade stated that she was not the person with Mr Hyatt and therefore could not have been involved. Mrs Wade decided to send the letter to some members of Council but not all and no copy had been received into the office. She had sent it to one of the people mentioned within the letter as well but not the other. Mr Connolly said it must have been a case of mistaken identity. Council accepted Mrs Wade's comments that she was not involved.

Mr Docking raised concerns with regard to the lack of security around the tent and also of members using it for the auction without any officials from the Society being involved. Mr A Ward asked if an auction was taking place this year to which Mrs Stockton replied that the members who operated it last year had expressed an interest to hold one again this year, but she had had nothing official. Mrs Stockton said she would write to Ms Sparrowhawk to see if they were going to hold one.

Action Mrs Stockton to write to Ms Sparrowhawk

Mr Docking said that if they did not hold an auction he suggested having a bring and buy table which would run all week. He said he was certain "the girls" would help run it.

Council felt that the issue of security needed to be addressed and Mrs Stockton said she would contact South of England to see the best ways forward.

Action Mrs Stockton to contact South of England

The Secretary reminded Council of the situation with regard to the new GDPR. Council had already been sent some information which showed what the Society needed to undertake in order to comply with the new legislation. Both Mrs Stockton and the Secretary were concerned as to the complexities of the legislation within the Society and felt it required a more trained person to undertake writing the Privacy Statement and T's and C's. Mrs Stockton proposed contacting and paying a professional person to sort the GDPR for the Society, seconded by Mr Docking, unanimous. Mrs Hicketts said that we would need to appoint a Data Protection Manager as per the new legislation, which could not be the Data Inputter, there were no volunteers for this post at this point.

Mrs Stockton read the re-structure for the Society which Mr James had been tasked to do from the previous meeting with regard to the Secretary leaving at the end of 2019. Both Mrs Stockton and the Secretary were concerned that the Society, especially with the potential decline in income and the concerns with regard to the HBLB grant, may not in the future be able to sustain a Secretary along the lines of the present Secretary's role and maybe this was the time to put some of the jobs that are done In House to Council and the Society's Members. Mrs Stockton suggested that one way forward was possibly for various members of Council to Chair and help run various committees with members of the Society being co-opted to get involved in helping as well. She said that if this was possible that eventually the Annual National Breed Show, Year Book, Newsletters, etc could be taken over by Committees and only a paid Secretary to run the Passport Issuing Side and basic administration which would correspond to the membership and studbook. This could reduce the Society's costs considerably and therefore there would be the potential for any spare funds to be utilised for promoting the Breed. Council did not want to pursue this course of action. They wished to advertise the secretarial job along the lines of continuing with everything the existing Secretary does at the moment. The Secretary informed Council the registered office for the Society would have to be a UK address due to the Passport Issuing Organisation side of the Society. This would limit applications for the post to an English address only. To overcome this problem, she suggested making the accountants address the registered office of the Society this would mean anyone within UK could apply. The Secretary said she had spoken with the accountant who had agreed to do this if Council so wished. Council confirmed this was the most suitable way forward.

Miss Wormald asked if there would be any problems for where the Secretary was based. The Secretary could see no reason other than travel expenses to meetings etc.

Miss Peters wondered if someone had won the title of Young Driver and they were driving in the Open and Novice classes whether it would be suitable for them not to be allowed to enter further years. Council felt there were too few Young drivers for this to work.

Mr Docking said he would speak to Ms Sydney Smith to see if she would be happy to display the Society's Museum pieces.

Action Mr Docking to speak with Ms Sydney Smith

Meeting closed 4.45 p.m.