

## EXMOOR PONY SOCIETY

### Trustee Minutes from the 'Virtual' Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 2 March 2021

Nigel Hill (NH) Chairman  
Geoff Bryant (GB) Vice-Chairman/Treasurer  
David Wallace (DW) Vice-Chairman/ECHO  
Toby Hickman (TH) Vice-Chairman  
Dr Sue Baker (DSBA)/Scientific Officer  
David Brewer (DB)/Policies  
Sue Burger (SB)/Articles and liaison with PR Company  
Vicky Lamb (VL)/Area Rep Liaison Officer  
Stephanie Poulter (SP)/Conservation Grazing Officer  
Claire Phillips (CP)/Breed Show  
Rob Taylor (RT)/DNA and Moorland Communications

Susan McGeever (Secretary)

The Chairman, NH, opened the meeting at 10.00am and thanked everyone for their attendance. It was noted that the Trustees were holding virtual meetings to allow for continued good governance during the Covid pandemic.

#### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received:  
David Mansell (President)

#### **2. Declaration of Interest/Confirmation of Confidentiality**

Decision:

It was noted and agreed by all present that declarations of interest should be made in relation to the business set out in the agenda and Secretary's report.

Decision:

It was noted and agreed by all present that the Trustees should maintain confidentiality in accordance with the instructions of the Chairman.

#### **3. Notification of Any Other Business on the agenda**

The Trustees present did not raise any other items of business to be discussed at the meeting.

#### **4. Approval of the Minutes of the Meetings held on 12 January 2020 and 3 February 2021**

The minutes of meeting on 12 January 2021 had been circulated to the Trustees and the Secretary had received no amendments.

Decision:

GB proposed and SP seconded the proposal that the minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting and be signed by the Chairman and this was unanimously agreed.

The minutes of meeting on 3 February 2021 had been circulated to the Trustees and the Secretary had received no amendments.

Decision:

GB proposed and VL seconded the proposal that the minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting and be signed by the Chairman and this was unanimously agreed.

It was noted that the Chairman would sign all sets of minutes held during the pandemic as and when allowed.

## **5. Notification of matters pertaining to:**

### **Health & Safety**

The Secretary advised that there had been no reported H&S matters since the last meeting.

### **GDPR**

The Secretary's advised there had been no reported breaches of data since the last meeting.

### **Safeguarding (Claire Phillips)**

CP advised that there had been no reported Safeguarding matters since the last meeting.

The Secretary advised that there were still a number of volunteers who had not signed the new Child Protection Policy and a further reminder had been sent.

### **Welfare**

The Secretary advised that there had been no reported welfare cases to the Society since the last meeting.

## **6. Responsibilities of Trustees /Management Committee and Chairman's Report**

### **Responsibilities of Trustees**

The Chairman reminded Trustees that if they had been tasked with an action point then any actions taken should be reported to the Secretary in good time so that such reports could be included in the Management Committee or Trustee meetings accordingly. Wherever possible, Trustee actions points should be completed prior to the next meeting although it was noted that some tasks were by their very nature ongoing.

DB had agreed to take on responsibility for policy documents.

### **Management Committee and Chairman's Report**

The notes from the Management Committee meetings on 8 February, 16 February and 1 March had been circulated to all Trustees and had been incorporated into the report for this meeting. Outstanding action points had also been incorporated into the report.

### **Review of Articles of Association**

GB advised that the first draft had been approved by the Management Committee and it would now go to the solicitor to check and amend as necessary. The document would then go forward for approval by the Trustees and then to the upcoming AGM for approval by the membership.

The revision to the articles was to allow for ongoing virtual meetings and to move the membership categories into the rules so that certain items would then only require the approval of the membership and not need to go to the solicitor and then Companies House.

The Trustees thanked GB for his efforts.

### **Sub-committees**

Information relating to the work of sub-committees has been moved to the relevant agenda item.

### **Amendments to Showing and Competition Guidelines**

Mrs Mandy Hill (MH) had attended a HOYS meeting on behalf of the Society. A number of proposals had come out of that meeting to provide for cohesion between the various breed societies guidelines.

MH and NH had subsequently reviewed the current guidelines and believed that of the proposals put forward, Dope Testing was the only one not covered within the current guidelines.

It was noted that the rule would apply to all EPS and affiliated shows and was, of course, currently in practice for NPS shows. The EPS did not currently have the facilities to undertake dope testing but the rule would be relevant at the larger shows where some dope testing took place.

Decision:

DB proposed and CP seconded the proposal that with the NPS's consent that the EPS Guidelines would be updated to refer to the NPS rules with regard to Dope Testing. This was unanimously agreed.

#### **Outstanding DNA/Information from the Treasurer**

It was noted that the outgoing Treasurer was still to provide electronic records held on her computer and it was hoped this action would be completed by May.

It was noted that Grassroots would be contacting the Treasurer to remove the Grassroots system from her computer. The system would then be installed on Debbie Davy's computer to assist with work for her PhD.

#### **Working Procedures**

Deferred to April Management Meeting - action ongoing.

#### **Letters from the Chairman**

No further letters had been sent – action ongoing.

#### **Presentations to outgoing officials**

The flyer had been distributed with the Winter newsletter and funds were being received by the Secretary.

DSBA asked if the flyer could also be sent out with the Yearbook in April.

### **7. AGM 2021**

Given the Government roadmap out of lockdown, the Management Committee had looked at potential dates for the AGM given the restrictions were due to end on 21 June 2021.

Two dates – Wednesday, 7 July and Tuesday, 20 July had been put forward taking into account the showing schedule.

Decision:

It was proposed by SP and seconded by TH and unanimously agreed that 7 July 2021 should be the date of the AGM unless the 7 July was not available but 20 July was.

The format for the day was set out in the Management Committee notes of 1 March 2021.

The Secretary would contact Raleghs Cross to see if they were able to accommodate the meeting and, if not, an alternative venue would be sought.

#### **AGM Cups and Awards:**

Ongoing

#### **AGM Speakers:**

The Secretary would also contact the speakers once a date was known.

## **8. Secretary's Report (SECRETARY)**

The Secretary's report had been circulated to the Trustees prior to the meeting and showed the Society's actions to ensure continued compliance with Companies House, the Charity Commission and DEFRA Minimum Operating Procedures for Passport Issuing Offices.

It also showed the continued work undertaken with regard to Brexit, third country listing, mandatory microchipping, liaison with the RBST, liaison with the 826ESA, liaison with DEFRA and liaison with the daughter societies to provide the extended breeding programme and thus the ability to monitor the breed worldwide.

Administration work included the updating of procedures and QC work to ensure the database reflected the DNA samples and reports received from Sandra Mansell. Preparation of documents for scanning was ongoing.

There were no questions from the Trustees on general administration.

### **Insurance**

The task of obtaining alternative quotes to the NFU (general insurance) and Keegan and Pennykid (Trustee's Insurance) and new Accident insurance was ongoing.

An quote for Accident insurance had been received from the NFU to be compared with the other quotes when received.

The NFU would be carrying out a review of the current policy on 18 March 2021.

Alternative quotes for the Trustee's Insurance were awaited and it was noted that the Keegan and Pennykid renewal was due on 18 March 2021 and GB asked if the matter good be delegated to the Management Committee.

Decision:

It was proposed by TH and seconded by VL that the Management Committee should make renewal decisions with regard to the insurances policies and this was unanimously agreed.

### **Image Library (DSBA)**

DSBA advised this was an ongoing project and the Secretary advised she had been unable to pick up all Dan Hancock's discs and copy to a USB stick due to current Government guidelines

### **Measuring Stick (DSBA)**

Ongoing - DSBA monitoring situation.

### **Calvert Trust (NH/Secretary)**

Ongoing - visit pending end of restrictions

### **Grassroots**

Secretary to prepare a report to show how the Society might fully use the system.

## **9. Treasurer's Report (GB/SECRETARY)**

GB advised that:

- Natwest online banking was in place
- Statements and correspondence were sent to the registered office
- a full set of bank statements had been received
- payments via PalPal was now operational

Data entry to Xero would commence the week of 8 March 2021 and it was hoped that the draft accounts for 2020 would be circulated to the Trustees by the end of March.

Data would also be input and accounts prepared for the first quarter.

### **Stripe**

GB advised that some show portals only accepted in Stripe and it might be necessary for the EPS to pursue this in due course.

### **Direct Debits**

GB reported that the setting up of direct debits was underway.

### **Gift Aid**

GB reported that the setting up of Gift Aid was underway. This would include information of Trustees Expenses.

### **Use of Funds**

GB advised that he would report to the next meeting once the accounts were completed and a full picture was available.

NH thanks GB for all his work and this was echoed by the Trustees.

### **Fundraising Action**

DW had chaired a meeting on 16 February 2021 and the notes from that meeting had been circulated to Trustees. A further meeting was scheduled for 16 March 2021 to review the actions taken and keep up the momentum.

DW/DSBA and SB all believed that the suggested campaign to raise money to improve the Exmoor presence in the RBST Gene Bank was a sound one and easy to explain to members and the public in general and gave a clear target for fundraising. It could also attract support from key stakeholders.

Decision:

It was agreed that the fundraising group should continue to implement the campaign and put the appropriate paperwork and promotional material in place.

The presentations at the AGM by Andy Dell (SPARKS) and Debbie Davy (PhD and PopRep) together with the help of Tom Blunt (RBST) would identify the genetics most needed to be preserved for the future of the breed. The selection of stallions would be based on data derived from working with the RBST.

The importance of DD having access to the Grassroots system was highlighted and GB noted that it might be some time before the EPS database was genuinely in the cloud with the ability for different people to log in to carry out different functions.

Given that second system was read-only, it might be necessary to purchase a second licence.

Decision:

DB proposed and DSBA seconded the decision that the purchase of a second licence for use by DD should be actioned and this was unanimously agreed.

### **200 Club Action**

The Secretary advised the draws were up to date and payments made.

### **Telephone/Broadband**

The Secretary advised she had not had time to implement the decision to set up a business account for the EPS with BT and hoped to have this in place before the next Trustee meeting.

### **Cost of DNA**

Ongoing – figures to be ascertained for 2019, 2020 and 2021

### **Microchip readers**

RT advised that the purchase of the microchip readers was ongoing.

### **ENPA**

Ongoing – meetings as and when required.

### **Other meetings**

It was noted the genome project under the jurisdiction of the RBST and that had committed to providing further updates to all stakeholders.

With regard to upgrade systems, the Secretary advised that a proposal had been written based on the Dartmoor New Take system but any such change would be a matter for the membership based on the facts and the need.

### **National Equine Forum**

SB, VL and the Secretary would attend the online event and the two Trustees undertook to write a report. The Secretary's attendance would be in conjunction with the workload of the day.

### **HBLB Grant**

NH advised that the reconciliation of and the submission for the HBLB grant had reflected the changes in DNA costs (AHT versus Weatherbys) and the contribution made by breeders. The use of the grant to meet costs of the Society in line with the current guidelines. The submission had been acknowledged and the Society was waiting to hear if the grant budget set out had been accepted.

NH thanked the Secretary for the work she had undertaken in this regard.

### **10. Show Affiliation Secretary's Report and Judge Training**

The Secretary reported that shows continued to cancel for 2021 and that affiliations were being rolled over to 2022 and that she would continue to monitor the situation. That said, a number of shows were going ahead and, therefore, centenary rosettes and the centenary commentary would be required. The Secretary had contacted area representatives to see which area shows would run in 2021.

The Secretary advised that a number of area shows had asked about NPS qualifiers.

CP advised that the NPS would not take all shows under a single payments and that in 2019, the Society had notified the NPS of the qualifiers for the Breed Show and the Somerset Area Show at a cost of £85.00 (12 classes). The remaining shows had contacted the NPS directly and paid the amount required.

DB felt that 2020 had been a difficult year for the areas as they were unable to fundraise or hold events. He felt it might be helpful to both the area representatives and the members in their area if the Society did offer some financial assistance.

The Secretary advised that the question had also been raised regarding centenary rosettes. Centenary rosettes to Area Shows had been approved by the Trustees.

DSBA felt the Society should be looking to support all areas and not just those running shows.

GB agreed that all areas should be treated equally and suggested that areas should put forward submissions for financial assistance if they required it for a specific event.

It was noted that any show could apply to hold NPS qualifiers and that holding qualifiers did, generally speaking, increase entries.

SB felt that the areas all had varying costs depending on the location of the show.

Decision:

DB put forward the proposal that the areas be offered a sum of £100 to be used as they saw fit to further their show and this was seconded by DSBA and unanimously agreed.

### **Centenary rosettes**

DW and the Secretary had worked on a design that would not be limited to 2021.

Area Shows would be offered one centenary rosette per competitor given that sometimes a pony was ridden by two or three different children in different classes.

DW was working on a quote for the Best of Breed, Best Youngstock, Best Ridden and Best Gelding rosettes.

### **EPS Medals**

DW advised that the NPS medals were rosettes with a metal centre stamped with their logo (gold, silver and bronze) made into a rosette. DW believed the cost would for a similar product for the EPS would be around £3 per rosette.

Decision:

It was proposed by SB and seconded by VL that if a sponsor would not be found for the medals then the EPS could pay the cost. This was unanimously agreed. A gold medal would go to the Breed show, silver to the Area Shows and bronze to nominated Area Shows.

### **POTY**

It was noted that the numbers attending the final of the POTY had reduced in number over the past years and that premiums had been paid in the past to ponies presented at the final.

POTY currently fell under the responsibility of the Show Affiliation Secretary and this role was currently undertaken by the Secretary.

It was felt that the role of Show Affiliation Secretary could be taken on by an individual or group and in this regard, the Secretary was asked to write a breakdown of the work involved in the role. Ultimately the role would be overseen by a Trustee.

It was noted that the Performance Awards were currently organised by SB.

It was agreed that premiums would be offered to ponies presented in the ring at the final of POTY.

### **Breed commentary**

DSBA advised that the revised commentary was the next item on her list to address after the centenary exhibition at Dulverton Heritage Centre.

### **Judge Training**

The Secretary would liaise with Lauren Brill for an autumn date for the next judge's assessment, most probably after the Midland Show, and also contact those on the list for an assessment. A final decision could be made in May.

## **11. Breed Show Secretary's Report**

NH advised that CP had tendered her resignation as Breed Show Secretary and thanked CP for the brilliant job she had done over the years.

NH asked if anyone knew of anyone who would take on the role or be part of a small group tasked with running the show.

CP advised that everything had been in place for 2020 and remained so for 2021.

NH understood that Exford Show was going to go ahead on 11 August and he had met with the Show's Chairman who was keen not only to celebrate the EPS's centenary but also mark Gill Langdon's passing. A number of suggestions had been put forward such as the major classes in the main ring and a parade of Tawbitts ponies. He felt it was all good news apart from Clare stepping down as Breed Show Secretary.

GB felt that there was the potential for joint promotion with Exford Show and that closer ties should be made. Steve Lodge should be contacted with regard to potential PR. The signage could be changed to read both Exford Show and the Exmoor Pony Society Breed Show.

GB advised he had contacted the Dawson's who would be willing to run a handy pony class throughout the day – in the past this had attracted entrants to the show.

RT commented that this class had been run before but that no entries had been forthcoming and Exford Show ran a handy pony class. The show committee would need to agree it and he was not sure the farmer would be prepared to put up another ring.

CP advised that this had been discussed in the past and that there was no room for another ring.

TH and SB echoed CP's comments regarding the ring and the amount of effort for little return and not many children entered the breed show.

GB felt children would wish to participate and that the Society should ask again.

SP felt that if Exford Show already ran a handy pony class the Society should offer a special 'Best Exmoor' rosette to encourage people to enter.

DB agreed with the previous comments saying that most exhibitors were occupied with the main show classes.

CP advised that Dunkery Shrike had been champion of Exford Show's own pony classes and there were lots of pony classes that the Exmoors could join in.

NH felt the EPS should not detract from Exford Show's classes but work with them and that the Society should provide rosettes for Exmoor's entering their classes. After all the EPS received funds from Exford Show.

Decision:

TH proposed and VL seconded the proposal that rosettes be provided for Exford Show's classes open to Exmoors and this was unanimously agreed.

GB felt that the EPS should then ask Exford Show to include information on which classes EPS rosettes would be available and DW advised that this could be done through the General Secretary.

CP advised that Exford Show did not print a catalogue for the pony classes – it was entries on the day. CP did advise that a catalogue was produced for the Breed Show.

NH would speak to Exford Show Committee.



It was noted that GL/CP/ST sat on the Exford Show Committee and it was agreed that NH would take GL's place and the new Breed Show Secretary would replace CP in due course.

CP advised that the Breed Show Schedule would not be ready to accompany the Yearbook because the current schedule did not include the proposed centenary class.

DSBA advised that the thought had been to have a class where ponies and exhibitors were dressed as in the 1920's and this could be done with Tawbitts ponies. The Secretary suggested that people dress as per the decades so that people could see how showing had changed over the century. It would be important that Tawbitts ponies and owners were ready to go in the ring.

CP undertook to send the 2020 Breed Show Schedule to the Chairman.

The Show Sub-Committee that looked at the 2020 schedule was Emma Wallace/Sarah Taylor/ Lisa Clarke/Geoff Bryant and Clare Phillips.

GB felt the show needed more than one person especially on the day. There were those involved with setting up rings, handling cups and rosettes etc. The 2019 meeting had provided a forum for ideas.

It was agreed that CP should write a job description giving the timings for different actions.

NH thanked CP again and said that any help she could give this year with regard to the Breed Show would be appreciated.

It was noted that all Trustees would remain in situ until the next AGM (provisional date 7 July 2021).

The Secretary raised the question of NPS qualifiers as this currently ran under the remit of the Breed Show Secretary and CP advised this year's qualifiers would be done. CP would also write a brief for the work required for NPS qualifiers.

GB did not feel that Grassroots should be used for online entries and felt a stand alone system should be considered until the Grassroots online version was up and running.

### **Cups**

CP advised that there was still a number of cups that had not been returned.

RT suggested that Area Reps bring the cups together and they could then be shipped.

The Secretary advised that she would be able to arrange for UPS to pick up any packages of cups and NH offered to receive them in the first place.

DW felt he may be able to pick up cups in the North.

It was hoped to be able to arrange a valuation at a cost of £20-30 per cup.

## **12. Project Report**

### **PhD**

DSBA advised she had nothing to report.

### **RBST/Genome Project**

The Secretary advised that this item been addressed earlier in the meeting

## **13. Area Report**

VL advised that an email had been sent to all Area Reps who had not submitted their Area reports and that now there was one outstanding.

## **14. Inspections/Inspector's Meeting/DNA**

### **Inspections**

The Secretary advised that paperwork was awaited for one inspection and then one further inspection had been put back until the Spring at the request of the owner.

The decisions of the previous meeting were reviewed:

#### **Decision 1:**

To put forward an amendment to the wording of the rule to make it clear what was required of the breeder.

Wording to be available by the inspection sub-committee at the end of March for a Trustees meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **Decision 2:**

To create material which would clearly show a set of specimen photographs and a video of a foal inspection to show vets what the inspectors were looking for. Whilst some breeders were vets, the vast majority of breeders used vets who were not aware of the inspection process or the breed standard. The vet should be present in at least one of the photographs.

Details to be available by the inspection sub-committee by the end of March and any appropriate wording included on the Rule \* (a) 3 (ii) form. RT to take video clips.

Consideration to be given to the wording relating to the vet and the wording independent equine vet.

DB suggested 'must have regularly treated equines in the previous five years'.

With regard to independent, the Society had to consider that all vets worked to 'professional standards'.

The actual wording would be left to the inspection sub-committee.

#### **Decision 3:**

To appoint a different set of three inspectors each year for any foals put forward for registration under Rule 8 (a) 3 (ii).

Agreed as and when the need for Rule 8 (a) 3 (ii) is required.

#### **Decision 4:**

To organize an Inspection Discussion Day as soon as Covid-19 restrictions would allow.

The preferred date was 19 September and the preferred venue the NFU building in Stratford on Avon. It was noted the last meeting took place at this venue in 2013.

The day would start at 11am to allow individuals time to travel to the venue.

RT asked if the Society could encourage participation by including lunch and it was felt that those attending should bring their own lunch.

NH undertook to contact Maddy Buttner to see if she was prepared to assist with the day.

Decision 5:  
Correspondence with breeders who had submitted questions.

NH advised that he still needed to respond.

Decision 6:  
To write to the vets completing the forms and ask for their feedback.

Wording for questionnaire to be provided by the inspection sub-committee by the end of March 2021.

Decision 7:  
To write to breeders who had used the rule for their feedback.

Wording for questionnaire to be provided by the inspection sub-committee by the end of March 2021.

It was important that there was a workable system moving forward.

### **Inspector's meetings**

Pending due to current restrictions.

### **Call for First Aiders and First Aid Trainer**

The Secretary advised that there had been no response from the notice included in the Winter Newsletter.

### **15. Yearbook**

GB advised that a good amount of content had been received and the Yearbook was in the final stages of production and awaited the Secretary's input following this meeting. It was also hoped to include details of the AGM date and venue and the Inspection Discussion Day date and venue.

The winner of the Centenary Art Competition's photograph would appear on the front cover.

NH had written to Christopher Price (RBST), Sarah Bryant (ENPA) and Adam Henson (Countryfile) for a comment on the EPS centenary.

RT has spoken to Richard Eales (ENPA) for an article on the Haddon and Warren herds.

### **16. Website/Facebook/Twitter**

GB reported that training had taken place and that SB/LR/Secretary and himself were now working on the website knowing the deadline of 20 June 2021.

The sub-committee were working first on the EPS side including the shop for memberships/transfers etc before looking at the Friends shop. DSBA felt the EPS shop should carry a different name so that no confusion arises.

Secretary advised that she had emailed all Trustees to look at the pages that fell under their area of responsibility e.g. conservation grazing, areas etc.

### **17. Exmoor Pony Festival Trust**

RT advised that there was nothing to report due to Covid-19 and undertook to contact Linzi Green again regarding the account. He noted that Gill Langdon would be sorely missed as a committee member.

## **18. EPS Centenary Events**

DSBA advised that the art competition was complete and the children's competition was almost there and there had been some wonderful images.

DSBA's next task was to work on the Centenary Exhibition and put the art and children's competition online.

The Secretary advised that she had sent out the rosettes for the story and art competition and would also be sending out the rosettes for the children's competition.

Work was ongoing on the quiz - DW/SB/RT/GB/NH/VL all agreed to read a section of the questions and the virtual ride which was attracting interest from the membership.

The Secretary asked if the Patron would be able to provide a few words that could accompany centenary press releases and this would be considered.

JP/LR were working on the virtual stallion parade and online shows.

Work on the centenary merchandise was also ongoing.

## **19. Review of Charity Policy Documents**

Given current workload the sub-committee would like to present the papers to the May meeting and DB confirmed that he was working through the policies.

## **20. Young Judge's Competition**

The sub-committee was waiting to see whether the competition would be able to go ahead in 2021.

## **21. Breed Promotion**

The notes from the meeting to discuss the EPS Mission Statement and Strapline had been circulated to Trustees and work was ongoing to update all documents with the strapline and paper the mission statement.

### **Advertising Budget**

GB/Secretary to prepare when 2020 financial report is available

### **Tourist sites/Rare Breed Farms**

Ongoing action by Secretary.

### **Sole Trader**

The report from Sole Trader was accepted as read and it was agreed that an online meeting would be beneficial.

It was noted that SB was continuing to write articles but needed input from Trustees and members.

Portly French had been appointed to the position of Young Reporter and SB would liaise with her over articles.

Sole Trader had indicated that they would be able to update the pony map.

### **Breed promotional material**

A review of the Society's literature was being undertaken with the Website sub-committee taking the lead.

Literature would be distributed to the relevant Trustees for comment.

## **22. Conservation grazing**

The Secretary advised that she had not had the time to action those tasks assigned to her but she hoped to address this in the near future.

A list of action points had been circulated to the sub-committee and the Trustees.

SP had written an article for the Yearbook and had reviewed the existing literature and felt that it was still relevant today although improved photographs and possibly some case studies would be beneficial.

DSBA would speak to Alan Tibbit about a re-edit of the existing film 'Guardians of the Land' and the possibility of having the film available to view.

Having films of Exmoor ponies on current conservation sites on the You Tube channel and on the website would be useful and some owners were taking short video clips.

The Secretary would contact the Czech Republic and Germany.

SB advised that she was looking at the possibility of producing a map showing where Exmoor ponies were conservation grazing. The Secretary advised that Grassroots had a mapping facility but you did need to know where the ponies were. Ponies were coded to show they were conservation grazing where this was known and further information was due to be received.

SB felt that a Facebook group for all conservation GB native grazing ponies could be beneficial and the Secretary advised she would raise the question at the next RBST equine breeds meeting.

DSBA felt that the project might be of interest to colleges, universities or agricultural colleges. The Secretary suggested that a college could put forward an application for a bursary/funding and DSBA agreed providing the project was followed through. SB/DSBA and Secretary to consider how best to achieve the goal.

## **Item 23 - Any Other Business**

### **Request for a RDA pony**

A call should be put out to the membership to ascertain if a suitable pony was available to loan.

### **Central Prefix Register**

The Secretary advised that work on finding the current owner of a prefix was ongoing.

### **President/President Elect and Trustees**

A call had been put out in the Winter Newsletter and two people had come forward to date.

It was agreed that due to Covid-19 and the delayed AGM date of 7 July 2021 the deadline of 19 March would be extended to 7 May 2021. The notice in the Winter newsletter adapted as necessary would be posted on the Facebook page and website.

The following items were carried forward to the May meeting:

NPS Accumulator

Request for funding

NH closed the meeting at 15.55 and thanked everyone for their hard work.

Next meetings 8 April (Inspections) and 6 May (Full)