

EXMOOR PONY SOCIETY

'Virtual' Committee Meeting, Tuesday 14 March 2023

Nigel Hill (NH)
Geoff Bryant (GB)
David Wallace (DW)
Sue Burger (SBU)
Mark Drummond (MD)
Portly French (PF)
Sheralee Matravers (SM)
Margaret Partridge Keane (MPK)
Stephanie Poulter (SP)
Rob Taylor (RT)
Vivien Taylor (VT)

Also:

Liz Barker (LB, President)
Sue Baker (SBA, SAP Representative)
Jay Gee (secretary)

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from:

Vicky Lamb

It was proposed by GB, seconded by SP and unanimously agreed that the minutes were a true record of the meeting and would be duly signed by the Chairman as and when possible.

Secretary's Report

It was proposed by GB, seconded by SM and unanimously agreed that the link to the Ponies for Sale form be included in 2023 foal registration packs sent by Grassroots and made available on our website.

It was proposed by RT, seconded by SP and unanimously agreed that a link to the Inspector Availability survey should be sent to all inspectors as soon as possible, with the addition of a question asking for preferred inspections with no guarantee that these would be accommodated.

It was proposed by GB, seconded by SP and unanimously agreed that a link to the Owner/Breeder Availability survey be sent to owners/breeders on receipt of returned foal registration packs to Grassroots.

It was proposed by DW, seconded by GB and unanimously agreed that members who had not paid their subscriptions by the 31st March 2023 should become 'non-members' and, if they would like to re-join, should pay the same price as a new member and should not receive any correspondence sent to members, such as newsletters, yearbooks and AGM packs.

It was proposed by SP, seconded by SM and unanimously agreed that Section X ponies should not be displayed on the online database.

Show Affiliation Secretary's Report and Judge Training

The most recent applicant could be assessed at the Spring Show.

Area Report/Representatives

It was proposed by NH, seconded by MPK and unanimously agreed that Rachael Davis would be appointed as joint Dorset and Somerset Area Representative with immediate effect.

Inspections/DNA

It was proposed by SP, seconded by GB and unanimously agreed that Prof Willmann and Dr Delling should be accepted onto the inspectors panel with immediate effect.

Marion Williams Bursary

It was proposed by DW, seconded by VT and agreed that the £500 bursary would be divided between all applicants, with each receiving £80.

For: 10

Against: 0

Abstain: 1 (SP)

It was decided that, at a cost of approximately £15 each, sashes would no longer be presented for the Marion Williams Bursary.

Studbook

SP suggested that some of Gill Langdon's legacy could go towards printing costs. GB thought the studbook should be self-financing but some of the legacy money could be used to purchase additional stock for Friends of Exmoor Ponies.

2023 AGM and Spring Show

SM supported Penny Beattie's recommendation regarding the Tawbitts Trophy for the Most Child Friendly Pony and had some further questions to ask her.

NH suggested that the committee had not given enough time to review the proposed changes to the showing rules. It was therefore agreed that they would not be voted on at the 2023 AGM.

NH explained the need to add an item to the AGM agenda regarding an addition to our Articles of Association. This was a DEFRA recommendation and it would be remiss of us not to add it.

It was proposed by GB, seconded by RT and unanimously agreed that the EPS should seek to update the Articles of Association to reflect the DEFRA recommendation by adding the following sentence to the end of the Articles: "In order to comply with zootechnical legislation the Exmoor Pony Society declares that it does not discriminate between members."

Performance Awards

SBU was of the opinion that online results should not be included in and amongst other competitions as the number of attempts available for online competitions could be unlimited.

It was proposed by SBU, seconded by SP and unanimously agreed that the EPS run a separate performance award for online competitions with the rules being the same as for the physical awards.

Referring to correspondence received from a member, SBU stated that she admired their ambition and vision but did not feel that many members would attend an 'Exmoor Pony Awards Evening'. It was decided that the Secretary should write to them and thank them for their suggestion, also drawing their attention to the Area Points Awards, all of which cover youngstock and in-hand.