

EXMOOR PONY SOCIETY

‘Virtual’ Committee Meeting, Tuesday 12 March 2024

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

Deborah Drummond (DD) – Honorary Treasurer (for Item 27 only)
Jay Gee (JG) – Secretary (absent for Item 30)

Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from:
Sue Baker (SBA) – Scientific Advisory Panel Chairperson
Michael Dewhurst (MDE) – President

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 16 January 2024

It was proposed by SP, seconded by MDR and unanimously agreed that the minutes of Tuesday 16 January 2024 were a true record of the meeting and would be duly signed by the Chair as and when possible.

For: 8
Against: 0
Abstentions: 1 (SM)

Welfare (Secretary)

In relation to the welfare issue detailed in the reports, it was agreed that no further action needed to be taken by the EPS, given that the ponies were under veterinary supervision.

Secretary’s Report

It was proposed by GB, seconded by VT and unanimously agreed that those who have not paid their memberships by 31st March 2024 should be removed from the database on 1st April 2024 (or as soon as possible thereafter).

It was proposed by SBU, seconded by GB and unanimously agreed that should those removed from the database due to non-payment by 31st March wish to re-join after this date, they would be required to pay the £5 re-joining fee.

It was proposed by SP, seconded by MDR and unanimously agreed that the “Stallion and Youngstock Premium” for the Spring Show and Midlands Show would be £25 if the pony was located within 25 miles or £50 if over 25 miles.

It was proposed by DW, seconded by SP and unanimously agreed that committee meeting summaries, listing only the decisions made as opposite to full minutes or abbreviated minutes, should be published on the EPS website.

It was proposed by MDR, seconded by SBU and unanimously agreed that summaries (or abbreviated minutes already published for earlier years) should only be published on the EPS website for meetings that took place during the past four years.

Registration and Membership Administrator’s Report

It was proposed by SBU, seconded by DW and unanimously agreed that Susannah Muir should email all members with an email address listed on the database with their membership number; 100 membership cards should be purchased and printed which would be available to members by request to Susannah Muir.

It was proposed by VT, seconded by RT and unanimously agreed that Susannah Muir could send out Junior Newsletters, as per the meeting reports. These should be sent via email wherever possible.

The draft in-ground foal packs/letters were approved.

Show Affiliation Secretary’s Report and Judge Training

It was proposed by SP, seconded by MPK and agreed that Rosettes Direct would be asked to provide the EPS rosettes during 2024.

For: 9

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1 (DW)

It was clarified that the above would not apply for rosettes ordered by EPS Area Representatives or Show Secretaries, who would be allowed to continue deciding for themselves who to place their orders with. It would apply to rosettes ordered by the Affiliations Secretary for affiliated shows, area shows, EPS shows, the Pony of the Year final and the Marion Williams Bursary.

It was proposed by MDR, seconded by RT and agreed that Portly French, Katherine Bowling-Hartenfeld, Madeline Haynes, Janet James and Charlotte Matravers would all move into their third year on the EPS Probationer Judges Scheme.

For: 9

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1 (PF)

It was agreed that probationers could probation under more than one judge at each show, and each report submitted by a different judge would count towards their total minimum requirement.

Area Report/Representatives

All areas should have an area bank account, separate from the area representatives’ personal accounts.

It was proposed by GB, seconded by SBU and unanimously agreed that all area representatives would be asked to provide a simple income and expenditure and balance at the end of each year.

It was proposed by GB, seconded by DW and unanimously agreed that the Society would loan the reformed Western Area sufficient funds to get their first show set up.

Inspections

It was decided that trainee inspector assessments could only be done in the Autumn as the assessment could only be done with foals. This would ensure consistency across all assessments.

The membership length requirement for joining the inspector training scheme could be fulfilled by membership of an EPS daughter society.

2024 AGM (NH)

It was agreed that the Helen Dashwood Rose Bowl would be presented to Karen Ricketts at the 2024 AGM.

EPS and Area Shows

It was proposed by MDR, seconded by SM and unanimously agreed that the amended showing rules be submitted to the 2024 AGM for approval by the membership; if approved at the AGM, the amended rules would come into force on 1 January 2025.

It was agreed that the Tawbitts Shield would be awarded for best all-round child's pony at the breed show.

Following a member suggestion, it was agreed that all Area Representatives would be invited to a Zoom meeting every January. Information on their area shows (dates, venues and judges) should be gathered at this meeting and each area representative should be asked to give a short summary of their area's finances, as discussed in Item 11.

Performance Awards

The Junior Performance Awards winner did not usually receive a trophy. A trophy no longer in use could be repurposed for this.

Marion Williams Bursary

It was proposed by PF, seconded by SM and unanimously agreed that the change of wording for the Marion Williams eligibility criteria, as detailed in the meeting reports, was approved providing the last sentence was amended to "Where the recipient has already received an invitational placing in the current year (January - December), the invitational place will be passed down the line to the next eligible recipient, who must be riding or handling a registered Exmoor pony, owned by a member of the Society."

It was proposed by DW, seconded by MDR and agreed that Imogen Davis, Harry Defty, Megan Gillon, and Poppy Evans would receive £100 each; Lily Bailes and Apryl Watts-Little would receive £50 each.

For: 9

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1 (SP)

Great British In Hand Show

DW proposed, MDR seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the EPS would repeat their sponsorship for the Great British In Hand Show as per 2023.

Any Other Business

It was proposed by GB, seconded by MPK and unanimously agreed that studbook printouts would be removed from the EPS Scale of Charges and the EPS would no longer provide this service.

Employee pay review

This item was minuted by PF in the absence of the Secretary.

Employee pay review of 10% increase:

Proposer: GB

Seconder: DW

Vote unanimous.

Effective 1st April.