

EXMOOR PONY SOCIETY

Committee Meeting held on Zoom at 10am on Tuesday 14 May 2024

Trustees in attendance:

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

Others in attendance:

Dr Sue Baker (SBA) – Scientific Advisory Panel Chair – Items 24 and 25 only
Dr Debbie Davy (DDA) – Scientific Advisory Panel – Item 25 only
Deborah Drummond (DDR) – Honorary Treasurer – Item 26 only
Jay Gee (JG) – Secretary
Ruth Thomas (RT) – President

Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Portly French.

Declaration of Interest/Confirmation of Confidentiality

No declarations of interest were made.

It was proposed by SM, seconded by MD and unanimously agreed that confidentiality with respect to the discussions at the meeting would be maintained.

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 12 March 2024 (All)

It was proposed by SP, seconded by GB and agreed that the minutes of Tuesday 12 March 2024 were a true record of the meeting and would be duly signed by the Chairman as and when possible.

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2 (RD and VT due to absence from the meeting or part of, respectively)

Welfare Report

RT would to continue to liaise with Exmoor National Park Authority.

Website ponies for sale

GB suggested that Section X ponies could be advertised on the website, but ought to be clearly labelled as such. SBU suggested an entirely separate For Sale page for Section X ponies, to avoid confusion and this was met with agreement from all trustees. VT suggested there should also be an explanation of what Section X is.

The Secretary would ask Sole Trader to action the above as and when a request for a Section X pony for sale advertisement is first made.

Midlands Area

It was proposed by VT, seconded by SP and unanimously agreed that £500 would be loaned to the EPS Midlands Area.

AGM Debrief

The Secretary read aloud an email from a member regarding the trustees' decision at the previous meeting to cease providing a paid studbook printing service for individual years of the studbook.

The trustees noted that there had been no new, relevant information since their decision and, as such, their reasoning still stood and they would not be revisiting the decision.

EPS and Area Shows (SBU/SP/Chair)

The Secretary would ask each Autumn Show Secretary candidate for a statement and circulate these to the trustees for an online vote.

German DNA Trial

It was proposed by GB, seconded by VT and unanimously agreed that, where an owner or breeder is resident in an overseas EU country, the results of DNA testing carried out by a laboratory in that country can be sent to the EPS' designated UK testing laboratory for parentage verification, subject to confirmation from the UK laboratory that the processes carried out in the EU laboratory are correct and compatible with their own systems. All charges levied to the EPS by the UK laboratory should be charged to the requesting breeder or owner.

Project/SAP Report

It was felt that further information by way of a written proposal was required for the trustees to make an informed decision regarding funding, and a dedicated meeting would be scheduled.

Yearbook

The trustees were very pleased with Elizabeth Etchells' work on the 2024 Yearbook. They asked that Elizabeth be approached again with respect to continuing her role as editor for the 2025 Yearbook.

Exmoor Magazine Advert

RT proposed, SBU seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the EPS increase the size of their regular advert in Exmoor Magazine from an eighth to a quarter of a page