



THE ARAB HORSE SOCIETY
Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18th April 2015
commencing at 2p.m.at Bromsgrove Golf Club

Present: Mrs. J. Bridges (JB) Mrs N. Meredith (NM)
Mrs. Anne Brown (AB) Mrs D. Whittome (DW)
Mrs A. Dixon (AD) Mrs. J. Lowe (JL)
Mrs. Joan Woodward
Mr. A. McLeod in attendance

1) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs Whittome declared an interest in one of the WAHO Trophy nominees.

2) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs. Elaine Mann.

2(a) Mrs. Julie Bridges announced that she had received notification that Miss Marlyn Pollard had resigned from Council after the AGM. Council thanked her for her time.

2(b) Mrs. Bridges welcomed Mrs. Anne Brown to the Council as a new Trustee/Director

3) ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Annette Dixon was proposed by Mrs. Joan Woodward and seconded by Mrs. Diana Whittome and elected unopposed.

4) ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Joanne Lowe was proposed by Mrs. Natalie Meredith and seconded by Mrs. Diana Whittome and elected unopposed

5) ELECTION OF HON TREASURER

Mr. Alastair McLeod was proposed as Hon Treasurer by Mrs. Natalie Meredith and seconded by Mrs. Anne Brown and elected unopposed. Mr. McLeod was also elected as Governors Representative, proposed by Mrs. Natalie Meredith and seconded by Mrs. Annette Dixon. Mr. McLeod confirmed that any report to Governors would be after the Minutes had been passed by Council.

6) COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Stud Book & Registration Committee: Mrs. Joanne Lowe, Mrs. Natalie Meredith and Mrs. Diana Whittome were elected.

Show and Events Committee . Mrs. Joan Woodward was elected plus Mrs. Elaine Mann (in absentia)

General Purposes: Mrs. Anne Brown.

Mrs. Julie Bridges did not stand for any committee.

7) CO-OPTIONS

After a short discussion it was decided to bring the number of council members up to 12 by co-option of 4 members. Seven people had volunteered to help; a short resume of the skills of each one was given, and a vote was taken. Those successful (*in alphabetical order*) 1)Mrs. Jayne Armstrong 2) Ms. Katie Gore 3) Mrs. Carolyn Kokta 4) Mrs. Joanna White. Mrs. Dixon will contact all to see if they are willing to be co-opted.

8) APPOINTMENT OF A WELFARE OFFICER. Mrs. Ann Green had indicated that she was prepared to continue with the post and was elected. AD will contact her to confirm and to thank her for her work this year.

9) MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF 17th FEBRUARY 2015.

As the corrected minutes weren't ready, it was decided that they should be circulated immediately after the meeting and any amendments must be received by the Chairman by 25 April. Anyone not responding by that date would be deemed to have accepted them as a true record and no further amendments could be accepted. The minutes would then be declared final.

10) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE COUNCIL MINUTES

Deferred to the next meeting as the Minutes were not passed.

11 FINANCIAL REPORT FROM THE HON TREASURER

11.1 Mr. McLeod had circulated a financial report with figures from January to March 2015 and a summary of the figures. The report showed that we were down on this time last year but to bear in mind that some of these costs fell to the move from Windsor House. He also reported that the new working hours of 8a.m. till 4 pm. have been very successful from both the staff and the members' view and a lot more calls come in between 8 a.m. and 9a.m. The calls to SB & R were monitored for 3 months before the staff made this request. The Budget for the move was £20k and has cost £15k. He outlined that both imports and exports were down for SB & R. Currently, GP finances were alright however the magazine advertising is the one area not being absorbed into the office and recommended that a group should be set up to tackle past advertisers and to pull in pages for the next issue. A suggestion was made to look through the last six editions of the magazine to see who had advertised and who may be interested in advertising again.

The main concern was about the Malvern finances as there was £2,500 shortfall in Ring sponsorship which Mrs. Armstrong had managed to achieve for 2014 and this will affect the bottom-line figures for the show which did extremely well last year. He asked that somebody look into selling the tables in the sponsor's tent and stated that this must be picked up immediately by the Show Committee to action. It was suggested that Mrs. Woodward could take this on as she is also organising the Sponsors Tent.

11.2 STAFFING The discussion regarding staff salaries are recorded in a Reserved Minute

11.3 WINDSOR HOUSE.

Valuations have been received from 4 different Agents varying from £750k to £995k and Carter Jonas has agreed to complete an updated valuation to comply with Charity Commission guidelines. Mr. McLeod reported that there have been 6 viewings so far and

2 people are returning for a second look with their builders. One offer has been received which was low and on advice from the Agent have turned it down as the house was only just on the market. We need to bear in mind that the building will deteriorate and we have to insure it, pay rates, pay the gardener and etc. and that we should consider the best offer forward within the next two months at which stage a second agent to market the property would be considered. It was agreed by all that Mrs. Meredith and Mr. McLeod would continue to deal with the Agent.

12. COMMITTEE MINUTES

12.1 Shows and Events Committee. No Minutes presented, although there are Minutes available. Concern from the floor at the AGM regarding the eligibility of a UK judge already appointed to judge ECAHO classes at the National Show was discussed. Mrs Dixon will contact the judge concerned to ensure he is aware of the ECAHO rules regarding eligibility.

12.2 General Purposes No Minutes.

12.3 Stud Book & Registration No Minutes.

12.3 (i) Mrs. Meredith updated Council briefly that the move for SB & R staff and equipment + library and archives to Agriculture House went very well and that the staff are all happy with the new surroundings.

12.3 (ii) Racing: The relationship between the office and ARO is currently working well and it is hoped that any outstanding ownership transfers will now take place.

12.3 (iii) EU Legislation: The final version of the EU legislation that SB&R has been working on for the past two years has just come in and will be forwarded to Council shortly. DEFRA has just informed us that there is to be a preliminary meeting regarding the new Central Equine database, compulsory to be created by 2016 under EU legislation, to be held in London on the 27th May. On the question of cost raised by Mrs. Brown it was clarified that it will be compulsory to upload mandatory data to the new database however we already had a data upload facility via our stud book computer program from the days of the National Equine Database (NED) therefore it was hoped that there would be little or no additional expenditure required to comply.

12.3 (iv) PartBred Pedigrees. So far 2,863 horses have had their pedigrees checked and the amount of Arabian blood updated which include horses from WPCS and NPS.

13. REGISTRATIONS – THE FUTURE Mrs Bridges had circulated her proposed Terms of Reference for Mrs. Meredith's report but these were not discussed.

14. MEMBERSHIP QUERY

It was agreed by all that membership application from the member should be accepted.

15. WAHO TROPHY

After discussion, SILVERN PRINCE (1999 gr. Stallion by Prince Sadik out of Silvern Image) was chosen over EASTWORTH AHMOSHINI (1998 Gr. Mare by Moashiro out of Ahmalia) Council all agreed this had been a tough decision as they were both worthy horses. It was important that the information on the winner for last year and this year is sent to WAHO. Mrs..Dixon will notify the Owner.

16. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS Mrs. Brown had an issue with financing of the PPS payments. Council had previously decided that the owner should get free membership and free registration of the foal. Mrs. Brown felt that any members who had already paid their membership should be refunded that amount, however, it had previously been agreed in Council that there would be no refund. Taken forward to the SB & R Meeting on the 20th May.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11.15 a.m.at Agriculture House, Hungerford 27th May 2015