

The Arab Horse Society
Minutes of the Council meeting held on 9 February 2012 at Windsor House, Ramsbury

Present: Joanne Lowe (JL)(Chairman), Natalie Meredith (NM), Teresa Sheward (TS), Sally Wigglesworth (SW), Jayne Armstrong (JA), Anne Brown (AB) (co-opted), Jane Fraser Brown (JFB).

In attendance:

1.0 Apologies for absence:

1.1 Apologies were received from Annette Dixon (AD), Madeleine Sutherland (MS), Sue Bundy (SB) (co-opted), Diana Whittome (DW) and Sue Jones (SJ).

2.0 To approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting 13 November 2012

2.1 The minutes of the meeting were approved as a correct record subject to an amendment in 6.3 where the date should have read 12 October not 15 July as stated. JA proposed acceptance of the minutes and TS seconded. All Council agreed.

3.0 Matters arising from the last minutes

3.1 TS advised that the new phone system has been installed and is working well.

3.2 SW advised the renewal went ahead with SEIB and all policies are now renewed for 2012.

4.0 Financial Reports & Budgets

4.1 TS presented the draft AR & A for 2011, the auditors had completed their review the previous week and were satisfied that the accounts were a true and fair reflection of AHS business. They were reviewed by Council and suggested changes were agreed. TS to liaise with Auditors to make changes. All Council to ensure TS has any further amendments by close of business Friday 10th February. Subject to the amends the R & A were approved by all of Council.

4.2 Each Committee had submitted budgets which when amalgamated forecast a small loss. Each budget was reviewed.

5.0 AGM & Elections

5.1 JL advised Council that there are 14 candidates seeking election to the six vacancies.

5.2 The AGM mailing will start w/c 19th March with all having left by 22 March. The scrutineer is a member of the British Driving Society and we will make a small donation to the Society for their work.

6.0 Byelaws

6.1 SW presented the revised Byelaws and explained that these had been updated for Council to agree. Byelaws are to provide rules and guidance around specific areas to assist the running of the Society.

6.2 The changes to the Byelaws were approved. Proposed by JL and seconded by JA. All Council agreed.

7.0 **Privacy Policy**

- 7.1 SW presented a drafted privacy policy (an amalgamation of several previous policies) which is a requirement under The Data Protection Act 1998. The privacy policy will be placed on the home page of the website so members can view if required.

The policy was accepted, with all Council in agreement.

8.0 **Committee Reports**

8.1 S & E

The meeting minutes of the Shows and Events were reviewed and approved.

8.2 PR & M and magazine

SW said having listened to members' feedback, two membership welcome packs had now been put together. A junior pack that consisted of a mixture of the millennium guide, back issues of magazines, pedigree notepads and cards and a badge (junior membership is free of charge); a member pack that includes the Peter Upton Book The Classic Arabian, various information on showing, insurance, AR & A, current magazine and a back issue, AHS branded notelets, badge, keyring and car sticker.

JA has been developing a purchase facility on the website. This will enable us to sell the stud directory, magazines, books, clothing etc. The payment of funds would be directed to the secure Paypal environment. It was agreed that this would be a good way to proceed subject to SW checking the impact of the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulation.

8.3 SB & R

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 25 January were reviewed and approved subject to SB & R approval. NM highlighted the following:

- AB has been asked to organise an Olympic Year Special Parade at the Dubai Race Day, Newbury in September. This will be arranged through the PPS but AB hopes to secure full reimbursement of travelling costs for all horses paraded. This is excellent publicity for the breed as 18-20K attend this event;
- The Breeders and Owners Directory – Olympic edition will be going to print shortly.
- Part breeds. The percentage updating project is continuing but the project is taking longer than expected but our commitment will continue until it is completed.

9.0 **Welfare**

- 9.1 SW advised that she had placed two articles onto the welfare page – both by the National Welfare Council - one on rehoming and the other on cutting costs without compromising welfare.

- 9.2 JFB confirmed that a donation of £250 had been made to the registered charity "Society for the protection of Horses". It had been extremely well received and is to be used specifically to support, Pure, Part and Anglo Arabs.

JFB reported that there was a significant increase in Welfare cases and she was receiving many calls and trying to offer as much advice and guidance where possible. She had also been working closely with SB&R and together they had helped resolve a number of cases.

10.0 AOB

- 10.1 AD had circulated an update of the recent ECAHO meeting held in Jordan.
- 10.2 JL to write to MP to thank her for efforts during her term as Honorary President.
- 10.3 Sambist has been selected as the first Arabian in the world to have his "Genome" identified – a process by Cornell's University geneticists to identify all of his genes origins. Previously this has only been done on a thoroughbred.
- 10.4 The BEF futurity has indicated that going forward they will only accept young stock from BEF graded stallions. This test is less comprehensive than the NaSta Performance grading. Marian Eydmann to pursue whether progeny of AHS premium stallions can be accepted. PPS to consider whether a change should be made to our grading process and transfer to BEF.
- 10.5 In August the World Endurance Championships are to be held in Euston Park near Newmarket. An excellent opportunity to promote the Society. AB to investigate the possibility of a promotional stand.
- 10.6 WAHO trophy entries to be submitted to AD by 31 March for discussion at the first Council meeting after the AGM.