

AGM 2018

Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting
Sunday 8 April 2018 commencing at 2pm

Bulkington Community Centre, Bulkington Warwickshire CV12 9JB

Council Present:

Frances Neil - Chair (FN)
Ruth O'Reilly - Administration Director (ROR)
Lucy Adams - International Director (LA)
Sandra Loder - Youth Director (SL)
Leigh Cheetham - Breed Show & Events Director (LC)

Karen Coleman - Business Services & Minutes

Members Present:

Carin Herrick, Nick Ainley, Evelyn Dash, Paul Cheetham, Mick Carder, Mary Larcom, Michael Roberts, Jerry Naish, Patsy George, Alison Bucknell, Yvonne Newbiggin,, Gill Parker, Catherine Wright, Corinne Gregory-Allen, Jane Roberts,

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from the following members;

David Teideman, Jackie Teideman, David Deptford, Jane Wallace, Sandra Mitchell
Nick Verstage, Nikki Verstage, Jane Wallace, Pat Dyke, Sara Loveridge, Emma Crooks

2. Chair's Opening Remarks

Frances Neil welcomed those present and thanked all for their attendance. All Council members were introduced with a biography of their respective roles in the Association.

3. Minutes of the 2017 AGM

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed for accuracy. The error at the top of page 3 should read Adams.

4. **Matters Arising**

No matters were raised.

The minutes of 2017 Annual General Meeting were approved.

Proposed: Lucy Adams

Seconded: Gill Parker

5. **2017 Accounts**

FN reported that our Accountant was unfortunately unable to attend to present the accounts due to an urgent family matter. Willis Cooper had provided a commentary that FN read to those present.

“The accounts have been prepared for the year ended 31 December 2017. These cover the period 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017.

Total income in the period was £82,150, this is split as £78,604 for unrestricted funds, £3,294 for youth fund and £252 for the Futurity fund. Page 13 of the accounts gives a detailed breakdown of the income of the charity during the year. No gift aid income was received during 2017.

Unrestricted funds are funds where there is no restriction to how the funds are spent, restricted funds the funds are restricted to how they are spent.

Expenditure for the period in total was £85,754 with £83,630 being unrestricted funds costs, £861 youth costs and £1,263 futurity costs. Page 13 and page 14 of the accounts give a detailed breakdown of the costs incurred by the charity during the year. The main costs being the cost of the events held during the period.

Stock held at the year-end have significantly increased when compared to previous years as at £11,172 at the year end.

Cash at bank at the year-end totaled £25,807.

At the year end the fund totals carried forward were £25,572 for unrestricted funds, £9,867 for youth funds and £2,466 for the futurity funds. These are the funds carried forward into 2018 financial year.

During the year £7,300 was received for the charity ‘Voice for Tony’, £7,300 has then been donated to this charity during the year. This has been reflected through the unrestricted income and expenditure in the accounts.

Trustee expenses during the year totalled £1,975 which includes travel expenses of trustees to the meetings throughout the year.”

It was noted that the stock asset increase relates to office equipment, stationary and printing and a large rosette stock.

It should be noted that the total funds appear to be lesser than past years by comparison. The reason for this is the AQHA Business Funds has not been transferred to the UK in this accounting period. A cost saving decision to prevent international banking changes and

exchange rate costs. Funds spent on Judges and AQHA events where AQHA pay directly to those concerned.

FN requested discussion regarding accounts. Non-were forth coming. FN reminded those present that should they have questions at a later date to contact us and we will respond.

The Financial report was presented, and accounts were accepted

Proposed: Carin Herrick

Seconded: Michael Roberts

Michael Roberts raised a question from the floor regarding non-Council roles changes. FN confirmed that Tanya Rowe has stepped down from the Futurity Co-ordinator role and that we were seeking a new post holder. Council then updated the room on further new appointments, Zoe Saari, Membership, Fran Armitage, Breed Show Sponsorship and Deborah Flay, Event Support. It was noted that we still need more volunteers for financial and marketing management.

6. **Council Report for 2017**

The Council Report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members were encouraged to ask questions, voice opinions and engage with the Council Report content as they arose.

6.1 **Administration Report**

ROR reported that the new office is working well and the storage facility is a tremendous asset. It was noted that as an Association we could not continue operating in people's homes on the basis of liability and insurance even more so now that we also have volunteers undertaking office tasks. ROR went onto say that services continue to develop to keep abreast of new legislation in many areas and in particular passports to keep up to date with new EU law.

ROR reported that discussion had taken place regarding membership moving to January annual renewal for the following reasons;

- a) insure we know the annual income for the year ahead
- b) this makes it simpler for everyone in the longer term
- c) the membership know they are members ready for the show season

The discussion was open to the floor who supported this approach. Further suggestions were put forward including, the option to pay for membership for more than one year with the favored being 3-5 years.

ROR stated that in future Business Services will have a presence at each show on the Saturday.

That, during 2017 / 2018 much time-consuming work had been undertaken on new policies in particular the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and the related personal and corporate liabilities. Specifically, individual contracts with all volunteers and service providers.

YN queried changes to insurance policies, FN responded as the responsible person. FN stated that this year a full review of the Association insurance had been undertaken. This had proved a difficulty and lengthy process. Western riding is now considered a dangerous sport where it hadn't been previously. Further, director liability had to be included along with cover for all types of liability across a number of separate areas of risk. As such our premium has significantly increase as so much has changed and our premium has increased form £630 pa to £2,500 pa.

6.2 Futurity Report

LA reported that the futurity rules were reviewed following the 2017 Breed Show and onboarding competitor comments. The new rules are valid from 1 April 2018. It was noted that the rules are available on the website.

From floor, JN mentioned that people were not happy last year with the futurity and maturity on one day of the Breed Show. It was noted that this was aimed at making this a special day of presentations and that this element was a success however it didn't work for competitors. JN noted that she feels that competitors will be pleased that comments have been heard and considered.

Members asked if the 2018 schedule was available. LC stated that she is still working on this again in response to comment from 2017 show. It was noted that very positive comments were received regarding the organization and presentations in 2017.

6.3 Youth Report

SL reported a busy year for the youth team. That, sponsorship had been late in coming but that in recent months major sponsors and donations had been forthcoming and that this has been boosted by My Donate and Easy Fundraising. It was anticipated that we will continue to culture the links to keep the fundraising going forward for the Euro Cup 2019.

SL stated that there were twelve youth applicants at the YWC introduction day in 2016 and that twelve became five at YWC selection. This was largely due to a fall out over the next year through injury or younger applicants not feeling ready for such a big step. There has been immense support from Mary Larcom and Charlene Carter and there has been phenomenal improvements in all members of the Youth who have grown in ability and confidence.

SL noted that the final training session will be at Fenland 2 where there will also be an Amateur Clinic before the team fly out to Texas on 26 June 2018.

The safeguarding is complete, training undertaken and parental consent received from those parents not attending.

SL went onto name the major sponsors and their support;

- Shires provided rugs, clothing, boot bags and grooming bags
- Ariat provided team shirts, polo shirts, jeans and boots
- Team Rider provided
- UVEX provided hard hats
- EquiSafe wished to provide hi-vis items. Whilst these were not required for YWC they will be diverted for GOAR.

Thanks, were extended to all those who have provided accommodation and support during the events.

Gill Parker inquired if the youth team could or would go to the Euro Cup. SL stated that if parents wished to fund this it was an option.

JN said she liked the alternate year funding. Youth / Amateur. Sharing costs was briefly discussed and how this could be made to happen in future. One for the future discussion – those present agreed..

6.4 International Report

LA reported that the Euro Cup will most likely be held in a new venue in the Netherland next year and that the finer details will be confirmed next week. The organisers are hoping to keep the entry fees as low as possible. The venue has permanent stables and accommodation. It was noted that the 2017 Euro Cup was exceedingly well supported in the UK with regular updates and photographs on our FB page in real time and that our squad achieved a number of successes.

LA reported following her attendance at FEQHA and AQHA Convention. It was recognised that if we do not attend we do not get information or are able to participate. Both event timetables had busy agendas, and it is anticipated that next year Convention will be an extra two days for European members.

LA stated that welfare is a hot topic in the USA and they are looking at placing welfare stewards outside of the USA for all events and this will include drug testing. A task force is working on how this can be implemented.

Ralph Huffhines, AQHA President presented AQHA-UK Affiliate awards for five, ten, twenty, thirty and forty years as an International Affiliate. It was agreed that these should be mounted and displayed to recognise our long affiliation with AQHA and the longest in Europe.

It was noted that there had been a good attendance in Europe during 2017. FN thanked all those who represented the UK and that had excellent support via the live streaming and those who travelled to cheer the team on. The UK riders and horses did really well.

FN noted that FEQHA only put on 11 shows and we had 21 last year.

LA noted that the funding for the Horsemanship Camp is no longer available. A new Educational Market Place funding is available for which we must bid. We can choose what we bid for and in future this could be something different alternatively we may wish to continue the Horsemanship Camp.

6.5 Welfare Report

There were no welfare cases reported to Council during 2017.

FN reported that AQHAUK are now a part of the British Equestrian Federation, through affiliation to the Showing Council. Our membership provides a wider forum and we link to the BEF rider safety, safeguarding and welfare policies. We are learning from them but they are also looking with interest and learning from us and how we care for our horses and riders.

We are also supporting hat tagging for hard hats. As part of BEF we are able to link with British Reining on welfare and safeguarding across western disciplines.

6.6 Breed Show Report

LC reported that the 40th anniversary show at Bodiam went very well and all in all it was a good show. LC thanked Jane Wallace for her help and advice for a completely new team. Competitor and spectator feedback was good. There were 76 horses and 448 entries. Numbers were slightly down as expected due to some regular competitors attending Americana.

The Gill Parker horse head trophies were well received in the English classes and the garlands donated by Jayne Lerwill added to the bling. The bull riding evening entertainment was also well received.

This was the first visit to the UK for judges Jim Searles and Debbie. Both said they were impressed by the standards in the UK going onto say that our competitors are very friendly and support of each other well.

FN thanked LC and her team for all her hard work and proud of their achievements in putting on an excellent show. LC wished to thank her team and in particular Jane Muir and Mick Carder for their support.

LC reported that work on the 2018 show had begun and that this would be held at Oakridge from 20 September to 23 September. That the one-day championship show was well received in 2017 and added prestige to winning. LC requested further feedback from those present.

The following suggestions were put forward from the floor

JN - Showcase from 5pm

GP - Look at how sponsors can be integrated into the show as they are lost the proceedings

JW - Breaks between classes are needed

GP – Suggested key pieces of music for awards that is recognized as such by those present to give these times in the show prominence

All – A permanent presentation area so photographs can be taken even in wet weather

The option of using a European photography was discussed due to the impressive portfolios coming out of Europe. LC agreed to look into this further. It was generally felt that competitors would support the any additional costs. Live stream and video were also discussed, and YN is seeking quotations.

It was agreed to survey members for their views in the next newsletter.

6.7 Hall of Fame Nominations

ROR stated that as none were received in 2017 Council has chosen to award three inductees into the Hall of Fame 2018.

The inductees for 2018 are;

Henry Deptford

David Teideman

AQHA UK's first Equine inductee: Gill Parkers' Tawnys Dunit

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Awards and Hall of Fame Evening would be held at Fenland Show 2. FN agreed to make arrangements with to David & Sarah Deptford.

ROR reminded those present that the new round of Hall of Fame nominations commences on 1 Dec 2018

FN thanked Jane Roberts for managing the Get On And Ride Scheme and Sue Thompson for achieving her 1000 buckle

**The Council Report was presented and accepted
Proposed: Jerry Naish**

Seconded: Jane Carley

7. Program for 2018

The AGM report detailed plans for 2018 and much of this year will focus on consolidating all the changes and finishing what we started. Going forward it is about sustainability, streamlining and rewarding people for enjoying their horses and their membership.

There is still much to do for GDRP and the Youth World Cup is very soon. We hope to engage more volunteers and want to increase membership. The website is now well used and payments through the website have increased activity and members are benefitting from the sales pages.

FN extended her thanks to LA for all she has been doing at FEQHA and Convention, ROR for policies website and journal and to KC for everything she does to provide our Business Services. FN thanked those present for having confidence in what Council are doing on their behalf.

JN thanked Council on behalf of all present and applause were received.

9. Announcement of Council

FN informed the meeting that those currently on Council would be remaining. That David Deptford had stepped down. Two further nominations had been received from Alison Bucknall who had been co-opted in January and Nick Ainley, a new nomination.

Alison Bucknell was proposed
Moved: Mary Larcom
Seconded: Carin Herrick

Nick Ainley was proposed
Moved: Paul Cheetham
Seconded: Jerry Naish

10. Closure of the AGM for 2017

Frances Neil thanked everyone for their attendance and invited them to the informal open forum discussion at 5pm when refreshments were available.

The Chair closed the AGM for 2017 at 16.20

Approval of the minutes

Signature _____
Frances Neil
AQHA-UK Chair

Date _____

Post AGM Meeting of Council

Frances Neil - Chair
Ruth O'Reilly - Administration Director
Lucy Adams - International Director
Sandra Loder - Youth Director
Leigh Cheetham - Breed Show & Events Director
Alison Bucknell - Director
Nick Ainley - Director

Karen Coleman - Business Services

FN welcomed AB and NA to Council.

The areas of responsibility were discussed,

FN to continue as Chair and Insurance

SL to remain as Youth Director

LC to remain Breed Show and Events Director supported by Yvonne Newbiggin - Sponsorship

Debbie Flay - Event Support

ROR to remain as Administration Director

AB and NA to discuss roles and work for Council at next meeting.

Date and time of the meeting 23 May 2018 at Bodiam.