



## EQUINE STUDBOOKS ASSOCIATION

Representing Horse and Pony Studbooks of the UK

Chair: Celia Clarke (WBSUK), Vice-Chair: Natalie Meredith (AHS), Secretary: Jane Murray (NFPBCS), Treasurer: Lorraine Amor (CHAPSUK)

### MEETING NUMBER 4

WEDNESDAY 23 OCTOBER 2019, 11 AM

HELD AT THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY HEADQUARTERS,  
STONELEIGH PARK, KENILWORTH CV8 2LG

### 1 PRESENT AT THE MEETING AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

| Name              | Organisation        | Name                                | Organisation                |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Present           |                     | Present                             |                             |
|                   |                     |                                     |                             |
| Celia Clarke      | WBSUK               | Lady Anne Vestey                    | Welfare                     |
| Natalie Meredith  | AHS                 | Sue Dawson                          | BHS                         |
| Jane Murray       | New Forest/Dartmoor | Roger Truelove                      | NASTA                       |
| Catherine Burdock | SHBGB               | Jane Nixon                          | Veterinary Surgeon, Speaker |
| Lorraine Amor     | CHAPS               | Simon Waterfield                    | Defra                       |
|                   |                     |                                     |                             |
| Eva-Maria Broomer | AES / BB            | <b><i>Apologies for Absence</i></b> | <b><i>Organisation</i></b>  |
| Karin Swanson     | AHS                 | <i>John Shenfield</i>               | <i>Consultant</i>           |
| Karen Coleman     | AQHAUK              | <i>Carol Foster-Gill</i>            | <i>CHAPS</i>                |
| Mary McBryde      | BAPSH               | <i>Geth Tillin</i>                  | <i>BCPS</i>                 |
| Kate Eaton        | BHHS                | <i>Gina Dent</i>                    | <i>CPR</i>                  |
| Sandra Lawrence   | BSPA                | <i>Tom &amp; Viv Brown</i>          | <i>Dartmoor</i>             |
| Ruth Staines      | Caspian             | <i>Barbara Smathers</i>             | <i>Caspian</i>              |
| Jo Ashby          | Dales               | <i>Jill Graham</i>                  | <i>Dales</i>                |
| Judith Harris     | Eriskay             | <i>Carol Morse</i>                  | <i>Donkey BS</i>            |
| Heather Abrahall  | NPS                 | <i>Sandra Mansell</i>               | <i>Exmoor</i>               |
| Sacha Shaw        | NPS / TBF /BB       | <i>Michael Goddard</i>              | <i>Fell</i>                 |
| Angela Whiteway   | Shire               | <i>Michaela Green</i>               | <i>FHAGBI</i>               |
| Philippa Cole     | SPSS                | <i>Freija Glasdorp</i>              | <i>Icelandic</i>            |
| Meirion Davies    | WPCS                | <i>Tiki Adorian</i>                 | <i>IMHPS</i>                |
| Heather Chaplin   | Irish Draught       | <i>Lucy Sheldrake</i>               | <i>SPSS</i>                 |
|                   |                     | <i>Andrea Betteridge</i>            | <i>TGCA</i>                 |
|                   |                     | <i>Simon Cooper</i>                 | <i>Weatherbys/ISBC</i>      |
|                   |                     | <i>Susan Attew</i>                  | <i>TBF</i>                  |

## **2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

On the proposal by Catherine Burdock, seconded by Angela Whiteway, the minutes of Meeting Number 3 held on 12 April 2019 were unanimously approved as a correct record.

## **3 MATTERS ARISING**

### **3.1 Signed Protocols**

There has been a good response but still more need to be returned. SPSS felt uneasy about the phrase 'approach any PIO' but it was pointed out that this is stated in MPOS and the protocol is an interactive agreement between societies.

## **4 CHAIR'S REPORT**

### **4.1 Brexit**

Celia Clarke referred to the current uncertainties surrounding EU recognition of stud books post Brexit. It seemed that there were two possibilities. If the UK left with no deal, then every stud book would lose recognition. It was for this reason that the Zootech forms had been completed, enabling third country status. Alternatively, if the UK leaves with a deal, then we would enter a transition period until December 2020, and nothing would change, pending further negotiations.

### **4.2 British Horse Council meeting report**

Items covered had included – the structure of BHC; Scottish CED, which seems to be actively discouraging Scottish stud books from being members of 826ESA; the Digital Stable; the Horse Welfare Board; biosecurity and horse health; updates on equine ID and Zootech; the updates on EU Exit were now out of date.

### **4.3 Eriskay Pony Society**

The EPS is now a PIO in its own right and has been granted the status of a mother stud book.

### **4.4 Membership of 826ESA**

No change – 33 members to date.

## **5 TREASURER'S REPORT**

£2677.99 in bank, with £30 due. £1295 from the old account has now been paid in. Report approved on NPS proposal with SPSS second.

## **6 PRESENTATION BY JANE NIXON: UPDATE ON BIOSECURITY ISSUES**

The BEF Horse Health Steering Group had met on 30 September. The single purpose of the group is to promote equine biosecurity. All farriers now have a 'biosecurity pack'.

**Equine Influenza outbreak:** 225 outbreaks up to 22 August, peaking in June and July. Many cases were linked to new arrivals from Europe and the biggest problem had been caused by Appleby Horse Fair. There had been difficult meetings with show societies in June, but the relationship has improved. Vaccination reduces viral spread from a horse. Unvaccinated incubators with no clinical signs are the real danger. 40% of the equine population is now estimated to be vaccinated, but this is still not enough. British Dressage is mandating 6-monthly boosters from 1 December 2019.

**The Biosecurity Problem:** the majority of horse owners do not understand the problem. EI has been a wake-up call for exotic diseases, for which we have a naïve population with

no resistance. Endemic diseases are EI and EHV, and the main Emerging diseases are African Horse Sickness (AHS) and West Nile Virus (WNV), which may be linked to global warming leading to a rise in insect-borne viral infections. WNV affects the central nervous system and there is no treatment; it is now being seen in Germany, France and Italy. AHS is even more serious and is highly fatal, with 90% of cases dying within a week of heart failure. JN's message was: do not let weak biosecurity bring GB equestrianism to its knees in 2020. The general discussion identified a particular issue with the import of Spanish dressage horses, many of which are never registered with a PIO/CED.

## **7 PRESENTATION BY SIMON WATERFIELD, Defra EQUINE ID TEAM LEADER: EU EXIT AND THE MOVEMENT OF EQUINES**

The government is continuing to work for a EU Deal, but if it is not successful, then the following will apply:

### **No Deal – Movements from EU**

- Existing regime maintained as far as possible, including provision of the UK end (only) of the Tripartite Agreement with France and Ireland.
- Notification done using IV66 process.
- No UK veterinary border checks.
- But will require Customs checks – although there will be no tariffs.
- Movements from Third Countries to UK – notification via IPAFFS.

### **No Deal – Movements to EU**

- UK treated as a Third Country. Category A listing was obtained from EU on 11 October 2019.
- Loss of access to the EU end of the Tripartite Agreement.
- So all movements need Export Health Certificate issued by APHA/DAERA and signed off by OV/AVIs.
- Additional requirements include blood testing and residency (all) and isolation (some) pre-move.
- EU stud book approval is not expected before 31 October, therefore most equines will require supplementary Travel ID (to accompany passport).
- Equines need to enter via an appropriate EU BIPS (equine/ungulate). Pre-notification via TRACES.
- Also appropriate welfare-related transport documentation.

### **Discussion Points**

- Horses travelling both ways in a short space of time, eg Irish horses coming for inspection and showing. Defra would allow flexibility and it is hoped that EU will allow more flexibility.
- Quarantine facilities and biosecurity.
- Germinal products.
- Blood and hair samples for DNA analysis.
- Border Inspection Posts. There are no seaport BIPs in UK. Airport BIPs for live animals are at Heathrow, Stansted, Prestwick. The Netherlands does not have a seaport BIP. BIPs are commercial enterprises and so are market driven.

## **8 CED / EQUINE REGISTER AND MOPS UPDATES**

- It has become apparent that the Digital Stable is still not fully operational although the reasons for this are not clear.

- Some Arabian horses are still not appearing on CED, and NPS has encountered problems with overstamps.
- Passports issued in December. The introduction of the 30 November registration deadline date has had the unintended consequence of two statuses for passports issued in December, but there is no way to distinguish between them as there is no CED field to record the date of receipt of application. PIOs are urged to ensure that the date of receipt is recorded on their own database as prior to 30 November, even if the date of issue (printing) is in December, in case the FSA later queries the food chain status.
- Insurance company handling of passports of deceased equines. Only NFU has an established procedure for returning passports to the PIO and it would be very helpful if all insurance companies did the same.
- Simon Waterfield remarked that Defra will want to revisit PIOs, once Brexit is out of the way, with the aim of a more efficient operation. However, the aim is to maintain what is there for the time being, and there are no pre-conceived ideas and Defra is not aiming for a particular number of PIOs.
- Animal Health Law. Simon Waterfield commented that there are no equine specific delegated acts operative until April 2021. It is possible to have a smart card equine ID now, but only as an adjunct to the equine passport. Defra does not want to go out on a limb and has to bear in mind where the EU Commission is going.

## **9 WHIRDEC and WBFISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT**

Eva-Maria Broomer (EMB) gave the following reports:

### **WHIRDEC – points from delegated acts/drafts**

- The UELN is still not being mentioned in the latest documents. WHIRDEC will write to the EU Commission making it clear that the UELN is still wanted.
- The keeper/operator should be added to CED for disease control purposes. A better definition of 'habitually kept' is needed.
- The draft 2019/7068 does not mention temporary admissions into the EU.
- There is a danger in relying on the microchip only to identify unregistered animals. WHIRDEC will press the EU to keep the UELN, microchip and markings document in conjunction with DNA.
- There is no clear definition of a covering certificate. There are concerns about the fraudulent acquisition of semen.
- Zootechnical certificates – France says it is too difficult to issue them. They will have an impact on the rates of import duty to be paid, so they are important.
- Data sharing through EQUIS Horselink. Unfortunately the presenter had no knowledge of GDPR.

### **WBFISH**

- Linear Scoring Workshop to take place in France in March 2020.
- Semen Traceability. There are concerns about the fraudulent sale of semen and the extent to which it is a stud book problem. Biosecurity is important, but if the parentage is proven, then the stud book is bound the register the foal. This highlights the importance of good contracts between stallion owners and breeders.
- International Young Breeders Championship 2021.
- International Breeding Values for Stallions. Spain is taking a lead, with Germany, The Netherlands and Denmark on board. The same information cannot be offered for GB stallions so promotion opportunities are being lost. To calculate the value, information is needed on pedigree, performance record of offspring, linear

phenotyping of offspring. It is difficult getting performance data, but linear data could be fixed quite quickly. EMB is hoping to start a UK project, beginning with conformation.

## **10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **10.1 Exchange of Data post-Brexit**

The Caspian Society pointed to the Information Commissioner's note on this, which will make it harder to exchange data in both directions.

### **10.2 Animal Welfare Committee**

This is Defra's new expert group on Animal Welfare, and apart from one person involved with the JMB, has no real equine representation. Celia Clarke will follow this up.

### **10.3 Refusing to issue a passport to someone who has been fraudulent**

Checks which can be carried out include checking the identity of the vet on the RCVS website and DNA confirmation of the equine. Genuine fraud cases must be notified to Trading Standards.

### **10.4 Abandonment Notices**

The Arab Horse Society has noticed an increasing use of these, leading to the issue of replacement/duplicate passports.

## **11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Celia Clarke is now Chair of the Central Prefix Register and proposed holding the CPR AGM one hour prior to the next 826ESA meeting which incorporates the 2020 AGM. This was agreed. NPS offered their offices again.

CPR AGM, 10 am, Tuesday 31 March 2020.

**826ESA AGM and meeting 5, 11 am Tuesday 31 March 2020.**

Meeting closed at 3.05 pm.