



EQUINE STUDBOOKS ASSOCIATION

Representing Horse and Pony Studbooks of the UK

Chair: Celia Clarke (WBSUK), Vice-Chair: Natalie Meredith (AHS), Secretary: Jane Murray (New Forest), Treasurer: Sue McGeever (Rare breeds rep)

MINUTES OF 826 EQUINE STUDBOOKS ASSOCIATION MEETING NO 11

2.00 pm to 4.30 pm. Thursday 13 April 2023, via Zoom

Present

Committee: C Clarke (Chair WBSUK), N Meredith (AHS), C Burdock (SHB(GB)), S Lawrence (BSPA), S Shaw (NPS), J Murray (Minutes Secretary)

Observer: J Shenfield, Lady Anne Vestey, J Nixon MRCVS, G Dent (CPR),

Defra: F Adeke, A Greenham

Invited Observer: A Davis (HPA)

Studbooks: K Eaton (BHHS), A Hughes (Dales), K Wilkinson (Fell), R Staines (Caspian), E Hore (CHAPS), M McBryde (BAPSH), J Harris (Eriskay), K Swanson (AHS), R Clarke (Donkey BS), A Whiteway (Shire), L Sheldrake (SPSS), P Cole (SPSS), T Brown (Dartmoor), M Davies (WPCS), H Sanderson (NPS), L Lodge (BSPA), S Cookson-King (BHS), J Robinson

Apologies for absence

S Attew (Trakehner), A Thorne (AHPUK), V Brown (Dartmoor), E-M Broomer (AES), B Smathers (Caspian), K Sands (APHUK), P Moon (Donkey BS), D Bailey (Defra), R Davis (Defra), A Betteridge (TGCA), S Gillingham (Connemara), R Palmer (USAUK), E Brimble (Icelandic), F Glansdorp (Icelandic),

Minutes of the 2022 AGM were accepted

Matters Arising

- Caspian Society situation on the extension of breeding programme still not fully resolved.
- Horse Sport Ireland situation has been sorted out.
- Transfers of ownership in Wales: no data has been produced on the number of prosecutions by Trading Standards and there is a feeling that the law is not being upheld. Checks at the Royal Welsh show were successful but this is a piecemeal and labour intensive approach. PIO information is only as good as what has been notified to them.

Chair's Report

The report highlighted the Defra consultation on equine ID and the input made by 826ESA and the ongoing work through the liaison committee. 826ESA has featured in reports at the WBFSH General Assembly, is a Friend of the National Equine Forum and collaborates with the British Horse Foundation. Three new member societies have been added.

Accounts for 2022 were approved.

Zurich Insurance – cover has been updated and continues

Committee motions: there were no Committee motions put forward at this AGM

Members motions: there were no Members motions put forward at this AGM

Update on Equine ID Consultation

The Liaison Committee was not able to report anything, as although monthly meetings are being held with Defra Equine ID the information is regarded as sensitive. It was disappointing that no-one from Defra Equine ID was present who could make an input although the date had been made known well in advance. The Zootech team had been given less notice and had forwarded a link to the draft Border Target Operating Model on which feedback was requested.

Presentations by Jane Nixon MRCVS

- Biosecurity Update
- 'Is there a future for horse riding?', a presentation first given to the Worshipful Company of Saddlers, which covered the social licence to operate.
- British Equestrian – Equine Welfare and Ethics Advisory Group which looked at the increasing influence of social media.
- British Horse Foundation – Better Beginnings Conference October 2022. Purpose: address and improve equine sustainable welfare with a new approach.
- BHF Better Beginnings follow-up webinar December 2022: what we have learned. Better Beginnings ebook under production launching October 2023.

Discussion points on the above presentations

- The equestrian world has a collective responsibility.
- Youngstock obesity in the showring – has anyone tracked how many equines have failed to reach their mature performance capability?
- The need to track equine obesity over time (although there is a feeling that there is some improvement).
- Adjudication on body condition should have an educational brief.
- Judges' training – there is a need to break how people think horses should be produced.

December 2022 British Horse Council and 2023 National Equine Forum – presentations are on their website.

Any Other Business

Gene Editing

Natalie Meredith noted that the Arab Horse Society currently rules against it, and she asked Jane Nixon if it is of concern. JN responded that five years ago she would have given a different answer but with global warming and water shortages in many parts of the world there is a need to control diseases and opinions are rapidly changing. A possible topic for a future meeting.

FAnGR/UKGLE – A Greenham reported that new members are being recruited.

WPCS – now has some capacity to offer outsourcing of physical passport production.

CED/ER issues

- NPS has an issue with 2 passports with different UELNs but the same microchip.
- SHB(GB) – data uploaded legitimately to CED often gets bounced back.
- Lack of a proper answer from ER about Digital Stable notifications – many societies now have too many in pending status.
- An ER presence at these meetings would give an opportunity to address these everyday problems.

Meeting closed at 3.50 pm.