



EQUINE STUDBOOKS ASSOCIATION

Representing Horse and Pony Studbooks of the UK

Chair: Celia Clarke (WBSUK), Vice-Chair: Catherine Burdock (SHBGB), Secretary: Natalie Meredith (AHS), Treasurer: Lorraine Amor (CHAPSUK)

Meeting of the 826 ESA held at British Horse Society Headquarters, Abbey Park, Kenilworth Warwickshire CV8 2XZ at 11.00 am on 12th October 2018 at

1 Present at the meeting and Apologies for absence

Name	Organisation	Apologies for Absence	Organisation
Present			
Natalie Meredith	AHS	Auriole Thorne	APHCUK
Lorraine Amor	CHAPS	Kim Sands	APHCUK
Jane Murray	NF	Geth Tillin	BCPS
Sasha Shaw	NPS	Gemma Stanford	BHS
John Shenfield	Observer	Sandra Lawrence	BSPA
Anne Vestey	Observer	Rowena McDermott	BPHS
Catherine Burdock	SHBGB	Jo Everett	BPS
Celia Clarke	WBSUK	Ruth Staines	Caspian
Jane Nixon	Veterinary Surgeon	Jo Ashby	Dales
Gina Dent	Central Prefix Register	Carol Morse	DBS
Eva-Maria Broomer	AES	Sandra Mansell	Exmoors
Karen Swanson	AHS	Michael Goddard	FPS
Karen Coleman	AQHAUK	Mel Williamson	IMHPS
Sue Dawson	BHS	Roger Truelove	NASTA
Mary McBryde	BAPSH	Zoe McCrum	NIHB
Kate Eaton	BHHS	Jayne Stuart	NPS
Barbara Smathers	Caspian	Philippa Cole	SPSS
Tom Brown	Dartmoors/Exmoors	Susan Attew	TrakUK
Judith Harris	Eriskays	Peter Morgan	WPCS
Gill Wright	NF	Colin Thomas	WPCS
Jayne Stuart	NPS		
Lucy Sheldrake	SPSS		
Andrea Betteridge	TGCA		
Simon Cooper	Weatherbys/ISBC		
John Shenfield	Consultant		
Anne Vestey	Welfare		
Sacha Shaw	NPS		
Colin Thomas			

2 **Minutes of the previous meeting.**

3 **Matters arising from the Minutes for the last meeting not covered by Agenda items below**
Celia Clarke (CC) stated that there were no members of the 826 ESA from Scotland as they were now separate to the rest of the UK, although were on the Central Equine Database (CED).

Correction to P. 2 Re: 41,000 Central Prefix Register Registrations.

4 **Chairs' report, including update on memberships.**

CC was surprised to learn that the responses from PIO's to the recent DEFRA consultations had been very poor (under 10 Studbooks had replied) and urged members to always respond as it was extremely important that our views/concerns to regulations were documented. The 826 will also respond but the individual PIO must also respond.

There are 35 member organisations signed up to the ESA which is a good cross section of the equestrian studbooks. There is a gap of course with studbooks based in Scotland where the devolved authorities are making their views known to DEFRA. CC will write and point out that DEFRA speaks for the whole of the UK and any queries are referred back to DEFRA.

The Observers which are non studbook participants were invited to be part of the 826 ESA because of their expertise and include Central Prefix Register, National Stallion Association, Lady Vestey, John Shenfield and Jane Nixon. There are still other PIO's to be contacted in the hope that they will join shortly.

CC said that the British Horse Council is now the body with which DEFRA consults on equine matters and there are various issues on which the 826 ESA (2 seats) can comment in front of all the other organisations present as DEFRA does not look outside the box and recognise the relevance of issues such as crossing the borders and high horse health status. Currently, all the existing studbooks must be recognised with the EU before EU exit and that the pedigree documents for these horses will not be accepted unless permission is gained and those horses being imported may well be subjected to a tax in future. CC requested that any areas of concern to PIO's are emailed to her.

The WHIRDEC meeting on 1st. December in Budapest which will be attended by CC, JS and E-MB where most of the world studbook heads discuss the EU Regulations clause by clause. The concerns of this committee will be raised and it is hoped there will be some clarification..

5 **Treasurers report**

Subscriptions received so far equalled £870.00 + £30 received today. The only outgoings so far was £387.00 cost for today's meeting. It was agreed that in future everyone would bring their own sandwiches.

6 **Equine Legislation Monitoring Sub-Committee, DEFRA report and CED update**

Met briefly on 9th July to discuss the draft MOPS/Zootechnics. CC relayed that since the British Horse Council meeting in June, DEFRA has been aware of PIO concerns as how effective, accurate and useful MOPS would be and has repeatedly raised questions. A letter was sent to The Equine Identification Team and Tristan Crago at DEFRA on the 27th September detailing many of the inconsistencies and the compliance concerns. (Subsequently we learn that these draft MOPS stand)

The majority of the room had responded to the Draft MOPS. Acknowledgements were few and far between.

Main concerns highlighted –

- anyone could change details on the CED i.e. a transfer of ownership. This is a major concern now and has already happened in several cases highlighted.
- Passport must be issued in country of birth by original breed society, nowhere else
- Data on the CED could be used for commercial reasons was a potential concern.
- Time in which to reply to DEFRA and how to immediately adhere to the content of the MOPS.
- Time in which to update CED

It was felt from members that the Draft document was not legal and difficulties would arise from these MOPS within the studbook organisations having to amend computer programs. A broad ranging discussion took place and it was apparent that there are conflicting guidelines within these MOPS.

7 British Horse Council meeting report. CC reported.

7.1 Current situation regarding the new Equine Identification Regulations SI

The PIO's are not in a position to be going through all the records and writing to all the people whose horse's passports have not got ad0 not contain Section 9 for example. When passports come in, they are updated to comply with Regulations. Suggestion was that DEFRA could write to all the horse owners on the CED without a microchip!

Concern from the PIO's regarding the date changes for registration of foals in Draft MOPS and the danger of the proposed tweaks. A united approach is vital and CC will include this issue in letter to DEFRA.

7.2 Zootechnics update. Unless there is a doc CC had missed, there has not yet been clarification yet from DEFRA. At the meeting, they were unclear. Within EU it is clear that the passport is to be one document including all zootechnic information + Certificate of Origin too.

- 7.3 Tripartite Agreement. It has gone and to be succeeded by 3H High Health Horse. Important that
- 7.4 Retrospective microchipping. Must be done by October 2020.
- 7.5 Passport production and ID registrations in other member states. A query was raised as to how the CED was going to have a comprehensive record of where horses are in this country when there is a significant number of horses registering their horses with the KWPN, Oldenburg or Westfalian who have no legal requirements yet to notify the CED of those horses that they are registering, microchipping and passporting in this country. Also there is an issue with horses imported from abroad who must be registered within 90 days and entered onto the CED. They cannot be tracked and the PIO cannot to be held responsible. Point of entry was mentioned as a place to start logging the horses into the country. CC suggested circulating a list of overseas studbooks and asked members present if they would complete as to which studbooks they could overstamp.
- 7.6 Recording of dead horses. CC stated that all members of the PIO's must be told that it is law to report dead horses. KS said that neither are dead horses showing for horses prior to UELN's. However, they have now added the UELN but with 826044 but have added a 'z' before the passport number but never informed the AHS so it was impossible to find these horses. When compulsory microchipping is law there is a concern that these horses may not be found on the CED. Also, SC said that CED has not built in imports and exports. It is a concern that the database is not accurate and missing a lot of horses. JN added that it the main focus of the CED was for biosecurity and disease tracking

7.7 Issues for discussion at next BHC meeting

Following on from the above, there was a diverse discussion: and shared issues.

JS was alarmed and suggested that we should also point out the problems with the administration of the Equine Register and the implications and costs to the PIO's and he personally was worried that there was a hidden agenda i.e. putting the PIO's into a position where they cannot fulfil their requirements and therefore regarded as 'not efficient'.

Also he stated that Local Authorities would only be able to give advice on enforcement issues. This is in contradiction of the information given out at the BHC Meeting where we were told that there could now be a civil action taken and money could be earned from the fines. Advisory approaches on breaches of the EU Regulations were all that could be made.

Lady Vestey kept the police in her area (Hampshire) up to date on the legislation and they have said their money would come in from spot fines (for not having a microchip) and if this works they could then enforce the legislation. If not, they will not action. Some of the PIO's present would not be complying with MOPS at the present time.

SC indicated that within the list of industries that Government negotiate with, Agriculture is 22nd. and horses generally, whilst a large part of British life, are a small part in terms of government thinking. He feels that a group like the 826 who has a collective plan and approach to DEFRA is deemed valuable. DEFRA is currently dealing with the Brexit and to send one letter is probably more meaningful than a whole raft of comments. They have hired a large number of extra people to deal with BREXIT.

CC suggested that following this meeting a letter should be written to DEFRA outlining the concerns of the 826 ESA. These include MOPS, overstepping, transfers of ownership via any other PIO already an issue. (Item 6), dates by which registration for a foal must be applied for needs clarification, retrospective microchipping, the Economic and business effect on PIO's while we are in a limbo awaiting the tweaks in the MOPS.

Until DEFRA issue us with a final MOPS document, many PIO's feel disinclined to continue regular data uploads to the CED until this section is removed from MOPS or at least reworded to identify the need for changes of ownership etc. to be done through the original PIO. This was voted for unanimously.

On a Questions raised CC stated that all derogations end on 30th March 2019. EU Regulations have to be fulfilled without any derogations by third countries in order to be accepted within the EU For the New Forest pony they are still allowed to microchip on the day of the sale but they may not leave the sale until the horse is passported.!

8 British Association of Equine Societies (BAES) and Central Prefix Register (CPR0 updates)

When there was a move to wind up the BHS Horse & Pony Breeds Committee a group formed the British Association of Equine Societies which ran for two or three years and has remained non-operational for a long time now. . It was thought that the BAES could be revived as there was a dormant bank account with £1,000. Gina Dent has located the account and it is safe and she is a signatory on this account. The 826 AES is the successor. It was suggested that a straight vote from the original members of the Association of Equine Societies present is taken to allow the transfer of funds to the 826 AES. Unanimous.

Vote AQHA. AHS.BHSS, Warmbloods, Coloured Horse & Pony Society, Dartmoors, Exmoors, NPS, NF, SHBGB (This needs to be checked as people talking and rustling!!.....)

Central Prefix Register. Gina Dent encouraged anyone not a member to join. There was a meeting before this meeting. Pat Campbell and Ivor Lloyd had retired.

9 British Breeding and Futurity report. I'm afraid I could not even hear this because of rustling papers...

Date of the next meeting