

# THE DEXTER CATTLE SOCIETY

## MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2009

At The Blonde Society Building, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire

Starting at 10.00am

**Present:**

Michael Bancroft, Mark Bowles, Jo Kemp, Carol Neilson (Chairman), Martyn Ryder

Tim Sparrow (joined the meeting at 11.15am) and Silke Warneke

In Attendance: Sue Archer (Breed Secretary) taking notes

Beryl Rutherford was available as required on the phone for decision taking

Mrs Carol Neilson welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that Council are keeping in touch with news of Mervyn Mountjoy and wished him a speedy recovery.

	Action by
<b>1. Apologies</b> none	
<b>2. Declaration of conflict of interest in agenda items</b> Nothing declared	
<b>3. Minutes</b> Minutes of Teleconference 22nd December 2008 Signed as previously agreed	CWN
<b>4. Minutes</b> Minutes of Meeting 23rd January 2009 Signed as previously agreed	CWN
<b>5. Minutes</b> Minutes of Teleconference 19th February 2009 Signed as previously agreed	CWN
<b>6. Minutes</b> Minutes of Teleconference 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2009 Previously circulated and approved by everyone present and signed.	CWN
<b>7. Matters arising</b> A confidential minute was taken on Herd DNA from previous minutes	CWN/SA

<b>ACTION POINTS</b>	
<p><b>1. Financial report</b> <i>Martyn Ryder circulated a financial report and expressed concerns over the levels of membership and the cost of providing service to membership. This will need to be looked into with funding or sponsorship once the results of the membership survey are known.</i></p> <p><b>AGM Costings 10.10.09</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The AGM is to be kindly hosted by Mr Ian Emmerson, County Durham with hire of the venue being FOC, microphone and IT cover FOC, teas and coffee supplied all day FOC. The meals will obviously be paid for by the members attending. The lunch will cost approx £10 and evening buffet £3.</i></li> <li><i>A huge thank you was extended to Ian for his generosity in supplying this venue for the 2009 AGM.</i></li> <li><i>The Northern Group will be arranging the programme for the weekend and should be able to announce the full detail including accommodation available by the end of April.</i></li> </ul>	<p>MR</p> <p>MR</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>MR</p>

<p><b>Fundraising</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Martyn Ryder is to provide a paper on fundraising for the Council.</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundraising was discussed in depth and some very good ideas are to be looked into for the next meeting.</i></li> <li>• <i>Once the survey results are known the Council will know more about the membership requirements and will be better placed to know where to channel Society resources.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Membership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>On 18<sup>th</sup> March the current 2009 membership is 1191 members including 43 resignations and 46 new members.</i></li> <li>• <i>There are 214 members who will become lapsed on 19<sup>th</sup> March. Sue and Elaine are to phone these people to find out if they intend to rejoin or if there are any problems that can be resolved.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Trustee overnight accommodation</b></p> <p><i>The BDDZ will be paying for Silke Warneke's accommodation when attending Council meetings involves an overnight stay.</i></p>	<p>MR</p> <p>SA</p> <p>SW</p>
<p><b>2. CIO model articles/constitution</b></p> <p><i>Martyn Ryder reported on what has been achieved so far and what will happen next. The office should have a copy of this ongoing CIO and it will be circulated to all Council members as soon as possible. It will provide better governance of the Society. He explained he is awaiting more feedback.</i></p> <p><i>Martyn was thanked for his ongoing work with this vital document.</i></p>	<p>MR</p>
<p><b>3. Membership Survey</b></p> <p><i>Tim Sparrow outlined the latest update for the Membership Survey. He has already circulated pilot papers to UK council members and will shortly be circulating the translated pilot papers to Germany. The BDDZ is very willing to pay for this translation. All pilot papers need to be sent back to Tim as soon as possible. Tim was thanked for his ongoing work with this.</i></p>	<p>TS</p> <p>TS/SW</p>
<p><b>4. Staff Appraisal, Society protocols and Trustee Training</b></p> <p>a. <i>Carol Neilson reported that full, frank and confidential appraisals had been concluded with staff members requiring some ongoing personal development training. Both members of staff enjoy their roles and the different challenges that each day brings. The Council thanked CWN for taking the Society forward with this matter. The Council extended sincere thanks to Sue and Elaine for the smooth running of the office.</i></p> <p>b. <i>A formal strategy for remuneration review needs to be put in place</i></p> <p>c. <b>Society protocols:</b> <i>a disk containing details of the Steering Committee work during 2007/2008 and various protocols has been received from Clive Taylor and is now safely held in the Society office.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mike Bancroft queried Health and Safety issues regarding ages of bull inspectors, judges and field officers. Do we have insurance to cover any members over 70 years old?</i></li> </ul>	<p>CWN</p> <p>CWN/MR</p> <p>CWN</p> <p>SA/MBan</p>



<p><b>11. Native Breeds Update</b>  <i>Sue Archer read out an email from Andrew Sheppy reporting that at the present time a decision cannot be made until the next FAnGR meeting is held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2009.</i></p>	SA/AS
<p><b>12. Genetics project meeting</b>  <i>Jo Kemp reported that an updated PowerPoint presentation is to be circulated and a teleconference arranged.</i></p>	JK
<p><b>13. President, Rotation Trustees and Co-opting</b></p> <p><b>President</b>  <i>The nomination papers for President are to be mailed out with the AGM papers (This will include an explanation of the role and what is expected of him or her)</i></p> <p><b>Rotation of Trustees</b>  <i>Carol Neilson circulated a discussion paper on the rotation of Trustees. After discussion the Council accepted in principal that 1/3<sup>d</sup> of the Trustees should retire each year. This Council have to decide on how to operate the rolling system</i></p> <p><i>This brought up the discussion on the future size of Council. MR stated that a smaller working group is more efficient.</i>  <i>MBan proposed that the number of Council members is reduced from 12 to 9 this was seconded by MB.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>MR contacted BR by phone and asked her opinion which was that this had been rejected at two EGM's already.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>After further discussion a vote was held</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>For: CWN, JK, SW, MB, TS, MR and Mban</i></li> <li>• <i>Against: BR</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The motion was carried and a postal vote will be investigated as the Council did not want to waste time, effort and Society funding on holding another EGM for this. A paper will be put together outlining the positives and negatives of this alteration to Council and be circulated.</i></p> <p><b>Co-opting</b>  <i>After discussion the council has decided not to co-opt this year but to offer individual pieces of work to volunteer members.</i></p>	<p>CWN/SA</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>CWN/MR</p> <p>CWN/SA</p> <p>CWN</p>
<p><b>14. Show Dates booklet</b>  <i>To be posted to members with the next bulletin</i></p>	MB/SA
<p><b>15. Smallholder bull</b>  <i>MBan and BR are to put a paper together for further discussion at the next meeting</i>  <i>MBan has investigated the original paperwork for the articles from previous bulletins on the bulldog gene. He is to contact original authors and credit them before publishing this for all new members or interested parties.</i></p>	<p>MBan/BR</p> <p>MBan</p>
<p><b>16. Dexter Cattle Society trademark (Dexter Belt)</b>  <i>Sue Archer reported that the trade mark registration is due for renewal 19<sup>th</sup> April 2009. The cost will be 430.00 for a further 10 year period. After discussion it was proposed by MBan that the Society should go ahead with this renewal. Seconded by JK and all present in favour.</i></p>	SA

<p><b>17.Meeting dates</b>  <i>Teleconference meeting Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at 5.30pm</i>  <i>To discuss the legalities of the proposal to reduce the Council to 9 members. Meeting would be for one hour and be recorded.</i></p> <p><i>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2009 Council Meeting at 10.00am</i>  <i>Blonde Society Building, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire</i></p> <p><i>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2009 Council Meeting at 10.00am</i>  <i>Blonde Society Building, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire</i></p> <p><i>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2009 Society AGM</i></p> <p><i>Teleconference Meetings to be arranged as required</i></p>	<p>CWN/SA</p>
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<p><b>8. Correspondence</b></p> <p>a. A member had written into the Council. This was discussed and the Council decided that it is the members' responsibility to get the information to the office within the permitted period of time. SA to respond to member</p> <p>b. Information has been received from the National Beef Association for the Beef Event to be held at the three Counties Showground, Malvern, Worcestershire on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2009 The Council decided not to have a trade stand at this event</p> <p>c. The National Beef Association would very much like the Dexter Cattle Society to join them. SA to ask the Association what are the advantages for the Society becoming a member.</p> <p>d. RWAS Smallholder Event. SA to forward the information to Jacqui Parkes for the Welsh Group.</p> <p>e. RASE Licence for the new Dexter Cattle Society Office. This was circulated to all Council members for discussion. The chairman will sign this licence.</p> <p>f. Welsh Assembly Government meeting for pedigree societies. It was decided that the Dexter Cattle Society does not need to attend this meeting.</p> <p>g. The Newark and Nottinghamshire Show are offering free ground space within the Countryside area at the show on 9<sup>th</sup> &amp; 10<sup>th</sup> May. SA to ask Lisa Bell if their group are interested in taking up the offer.</p> <p>h. The Newbury and District Agricultural Show have offered free space again at the show to be held in September. SA commented that this offer was taken up last year but that more business was enjoyed within the cattle lines. It was decided to decline the offer this year.</p> <p>i. MB reported that an email has been received by Council from BR expressing concern that due to her disability she is being discriminated against at face to face meetings. Also that agenda items are not given enough time for email discussion prior to the meeting. This was discussed in detail and it was felt that the agenda papers could be circulated more efficiently. Skype or other electronic communication is to be looked into.</p>	<p>SA</p> <p>SA</p> <p>SA</p> <p>CWN/SA</p> <p>SA</p> <p>SA</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p><b>9. Registrations of Animals</b></p> <p>a. Papers were circulated to Council prior to the meeting. This confusing situation, which has arisen over a period of four years, was discussed in detail and it appears that the same animal was registered with two different registration numbers. It was decided by the council that on the basis of the evidence available, that the original animal should remain as a pedigree and that the second registration be annulled but that the offspring should remain as 'b' registered animals. SA to write to the member involved</p> <p>b. Papers were circulated to Council prior to the meeting. A new member has come to the Society with a late registration for a pedigree heifer calf. The heifer is at present going through the DNA process to prove sire parentage and the pedigree dam is now dead. The Council decided after discussion that the heifer would have to take the previous owners prefix as the heifer was born on their premises. The heifer would have to be Society inspected provided the DNA is correct. SA to write to the member involved</p>	<p>SA</p> <p>SA</p>

<p>c. Papers were circulated to Council prior to the meeting A new member has purchased pedigree cow with calf at foot (calf not birth notified) but with the AI certificate. He has had the DNA testing to prove parent verification; Chondro tested and is willing to pay over-age registration. The request is to register the heifer calf under the new members prefix as the calf was born on a non-members farm. The council discussed this and agreed to grant 'by special permission' to use his own prefix for the heifer calf. SA to write to the member involved</p>	SA
<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was queried whether the AGM 10.10.09 clashes with York Sale. The York sale will be held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October and Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2009</li> <li>Jo Kemp reported on the fact that the Pulmonary Hypoplasia and Anasarca (PHA) gene is present in low numbers in the Australian herd. If breeders do not mate a carrier animal to another carrier animal there will be not problem associated with this condition in their individual herds. PHA is due to a recessive gene. This unfortunately means that the animals that carry the gene show no outward sign of problem. The only way to know if an animal is a carrier it to have the animal tested for the genetic marker. PHA is the condition where the lungs do not develop as they are growing in utero. Affected calves are born dead with minimal or no lung tissue in the chest cavities and show a marked accumulation of their tissues throughout their bodies giving them a grossly enlarged appearance. Affected calves do tend to go full term and can result in caesarian or difficult manual birth due to their extra tissue growth.</li> <li>Carol Neilson circulated a discussion paper with a job description for Council (which explains that some expenses will be paid for) and job description for the Chairman of the Council. TS added that this information should be added to Trustees info.</li> </ul> <p>The meeting was closed formally at 3.55pm by CWN</p> <p>Carol Neilson and Martyn Ryder then contacted Beryl Rutherford giving her an in depth and detailed resume of the discussions and outcomes of the meeting in phone call lasting 45 minutes.</p>	<p>JK</p> <p>CWN/TS</p> <p>CWN/MR</p>

<b>ACTION POINTS</b>	
1. Financial report Fundraising, Insurance, membership	MR/SA
2. CIO model articles/constitution	MR
3. Membership survey	TS
4. Society Protocols	CWN
5. Judges training day report	MB/SA
6. Health and safety issues	Mban/SA
7. Merchandise and promotional leaflets	MR/SA
8. Merchandise sub committee	MR/SA
9. Office IT report	SA
10. Genetics project meeting	JK
11. President, rotation and roles of trustees	CWN
12. Smallholder bull and chondro articles	Mban/BR

Signed:

Date: