

THE DEXTER CATTLE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 7th April 2009

TELECONFERENCE CALL

STARTING AT 5.30PM

Present:

Michael Bancroft, Mark Bowles, Carol Neilson, Beryl Rutherford, Martyn Ryder Tim Sparrow and Silke Warneke

In Attendance: Sue Archer (Breed Secretary) taking notes

	Action by
<p>1. Apologies Jo Kemp. Silke Warneke asked that her apologies be recorded if she is unable to get to join the meeting (SW joined the teleconference at 6.20pm)</p>	
<p>2. Declaration of conflict of interest in agenda items Nothing declared</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of Meeting 18th March 2009 Michael Bancroft proposed that the minutes were correct. The Minutes will be signed at the next face to face meeting</p> <p>Confidential Minute Mark Bowles suggested that the confidential minute include the ear tag numbers of the cattle involved. This detail will be included to aid clarification in the matter. The confidential minute will be signed at the next face to face meeting</p>	<p>CWN</p> <p>SA</p>
<p>4. Matters arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the insurance policies that are held at present by the Dexter Cattle Society need to be looked at in detail. It was felt that judges, field officers and society inspectors should have some form of cover. Martyn Ryder to approach the brokers to find a suitable solution. • Sue Archer asked to be included in the Council email circulation list. • Jo Kemp is approaching various printers at present to quote for the bulletin. • Martyn Ryder will produce a fundraising article for the bulletin. • Mark Bowles queried the size of the next bulletin. • Tim Sparrow suggested that the survey responses from members will alert council to the needs of the membership. 	<p>MR/SA</p>
<p>5. Discussion paper 'Reduction of Council from 12 to 9 members' Carol Neilson explained that this had been discussed at the last Council meeting and that a discussion paper had been circulated. The principal is probably right but the cost of putting this mailing out to the membership would be in the region of £750 and doubts were expressed whether this is best use of Society funds at this time. Martyn Ryder urged that cost savings were needed for 2009.</p> <p>Martyn Ryder suggested that instead a well written article should be put into the next bulletin explaining the proposal for a smaller council. Most members of council would agree that a smaller council makes for more efficient progress in the projects that are currently in hand. Martyn Ryder stated that there is evidence on one UK Charity Governance website that shows a smaller number of trustees are more effective.</p> <p>Beryl Rutherford stated that the Trustees of the Society now take on a greater workload, and we need enough to do the work.</p>	<p>CWN</p> <p>MR</p>

<p>Tim Sparrow commented that different people have different needs.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The results from the survey will help the Council better understand what members want from their Society All prospective Trustees of the Society need to be made aware that the current role is far more onerous and that a serious amount of time is committed to Society work. What would it mean if we don't reduce the Council size? By 2010 the Society will have byelaws in place and be in a better position to address what is needed. <p>Carol Neilson suggested that the Council should remain with 12 members and the two members that are standing down this time would be eligible to stand for re-election. It was agreed that the Council would campaign seriously for prospective new members, and make more effort to clarify what is required in terms of skills and commitment.</p> <p>A 'Role of Trustees' paper to be put together by Tim Sparrow.</p> <p>The idea of trying to reduce the number of members on Council this year is outweighed by other factors.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The actual expense involved with the extra mailing to members because the survey paperwork will be mailed out separately as it is confidential. The bulletin mailing with the AGM nomination papers etc included will be the second mailing. There are other factors to be taken into consideration and how it would appear to the membership: the Council has to be careful with Society finances. The survey results will indicate what members actually require. <p>Mark Bowles indicated that he was aggressively against the idea of not reducing the Council for this years AGM.</p> <p>A proposal was put that the reduction in Trustee numbers be revisited 2010. A vote was held: Tim Sparrow – yes Mike Bancroft – yes Mark Bowles – no Martyn Ryder – yes Beryl Rutherford – yes Carol Neilson - yes The proposal to reduce the Council from 12 to 9 will be revisited in 2010.</p>	<p>TS</p> <p>CWN</p> <p>TS</p> <p>CWN</p>
<p>6. Financial Report Martyn Ryder reported that the current account at the Nat West as at close of business on 6th April 2009 was £54,406.71</p> <p>There was then discussion on the income and expenditure of the Society. Martyn Ryder urged financial caution for 2009 and confirmed that he would be circulating a report to the Council before the next meeting.</p> <p>Martyn was thanked for his work with the Society finances</p>	<p>MR/SA</p>
<p>7. Membership Survey Tim Sparrow reported that the results from the pilot survey were very encouraging with everyone's input in the correct boxes etc. The pilot was performed to ensure the smooth running of the system not the content. He had received sensible responses in the comments box and is very confident that the actual format will work well.</p> <p>He explained that the next step is to get the quotes for the printing and asked the Council if the timing of the circulation to membership could be left in the hands of the secretary and himself. The return envelope has an independent address.</p> <p>Tim was thanked for his work in developing the survey for the membership.</p>	<p>TS/SA</p>

<p>8. Any other business</p> <p>a. Mark Bowles reported on the Judges meeting held on Saturday 4th April 2009 at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire. There was some discussion on this and it was felt that Mark had acted as the facilitator for the event, providing the judges with a forum for discussion. The judges voted to put Steve Adcock on the disciplinary panel with Carolann Raybould as the reserve.</p> <p>Council thanked Mark for his time in organising and chairing the meeting. Mark Bowles thanked Sue Archer for her time and note taking. Carol Neilson added that it was very good practice to document the Society events.</p> <p>Mark Bowles queried the whereabouts of the notes of previous Judges meetings and added that several judges were going to forward copies to the office for the archive purposes. Silke Warneke stated that some office paperwork appeared to have been shredded. Mark Bowles asked for clarification which documents Silke Warneke was referring to.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 6.30pm and Carol Neilson thanked everyone for their time and effort in moving the Society forward.</p>	
---	--

ACTION POINTS	
1. Financial report Fundraising Insurance Membership	MR/SA
2. CIO model articles/constitution	MR
3. Membership Survey	TS
4. Bulletin	JK
5. Society Protocols Role of Trustees Rotation of Trustees Nomination of President of the Society	CWN/TS
6. Health and safety issues	MBan/SA
7. Merchandise Merchandise sub committee Promotional leaflets	MR/SA
8. Office IT report	SA
9. Genetics project meeting	JK
10. Smallholder bull and chondro articles	MBan/BR

Signed

Date