

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HACKNEY HORSE SOCIETY HELD at Ardingly in the Hackney Tent on 6th June 2016 commencing 5.40p.m.

Present: Mrs B Stockton (Chairman) Mr R Connolly (Treasurer), Ms S Barraclough, R Carter, J Chicken, M Cooper, J Cresswell, G Docking, G Dudley, A McNinch, M Neachell, Miss P Peters, R Robertson, A Ward, E Ward, Miss S Wormald, Mrs D Hicketts (Secretary)

1. Apologies: Mr M Hardy and Mr R Bass
2. MINUTES of the last meeting held 1st March 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman proposed by Mr Cooper, seconded by Mr Chicken, unanimous.
3. Matters Arising
 - i. BDS/HHS Joint Show
Mr Cresswell reported the BDS had not been in touch at all. Mr Docking reported the BDS show was having problems with sponsors for their show and they were still building their show. Council felt there was no reason to continue to pursue a joint show and to remove it from the agenda.
 - ii. RSPCA Case
Mrs Hicketts reported at the moment she did not have to attend court as the defence were accepting her evidence.
 - iii. New Class for Breed Show
Mrs Stockton said she had a couple of ideas for new classes. They were a 4 year old novice class for horse and pony, this would mean all animals competing would be on a level playing field and one for more entertainment and fun being a long reigning class. Mr James wondered about a showmans class but it was felt there was not enough time to run this type of class. Council asked for firm suggestions to be brought to the next meeting with the rules of the class etc to be announced.
Action Mrs Stockton, Mr Docking, Mr Connolly to bring new classes and rules for classes to next meeting
 - iv. Novice Private Drive
A suggestion came forward from Ms Moore for a Novice Private Drive class and she said she would sponsor if one was introduced. Mr Docking said the BDS classes were struggling for entries and he felt there would not be enough forward. He suggested an award for the highest placed novice driver in each class, this council thought would be a good idea. Mr Docking proposed for an award for the highest placed novice driver who has never won first place in any harness class in each private driving class, seconded Mr Cooper, unanimous.
Action Secretary to include in schedule
 - v. Acknowledgement of Achievements for Sire and Dam in other disciplines
Council felt this was not something which could be pursued. It was already difficult to get anyone to apply for the performance award so to police something like this would be extremely difficult and would not be something which would be suitable to pursue,
 - vi. Mr Ambrose
Mrs Stockton reported she had not heard from Mr Ambrose since sending her last two letters although he did reply to the letter asking him if he wanted to judge at Ardingly. Mr Dudley said he thought he was not well. Mrs Hicketts reminded Council that the judges list was sent to all affiliated shows and to that end the Society was saying all on the list were eligible and fit to judge. Mr James said he would go and speak to Mr Ambrose if council wished him to see if he could persuade Mr Ambrose to resign. Mr A Ward proposed for Mr James to visit Mr Ambrose to persuade him to resign and report back at the next meeting, seconded Mr Dudley with 10 for and 3 against the proposal was carried.
Action Mr James to visit Mr Ambrose
4. Annual National Breed Show
Mrs Stockton thought the show had gone very well for the first day.
Mr Dudley said he did not think the new cups presented in the ring were very nice and could we go back to the medals. Mrs Hicketts stated the reason for the change was the cost as the Society could not afford to continue with the medals. Both Mr Connolly and Mr Dudley said they would source some new medals and inform Council at the next meeting the cost bringing samples.
Action Messrs Connolly and Dudley to source new trophy and bring sample to meeting
5. President
Mrs Stockton reported that she had spoken to senior members of Council and everyone had received the memorandum regarding Mr Osborne becoming the Society's president from January 2017 for two years. She

said there had been no objections raised so she proposed Mr Osborne is the President from January 2017 for two years seconded by Mr Chicken, unanimous.

6. Probationary System

Mrs Stockton said that both Mr and Mrs Walsh were struggling to fit in their probationary as they could not give too many shows as they wished to still exhibit to support the shows. Also they wanted to be able to attend a show to do their probationary but for their family to show in the classes they were not judging in. Mr Dudley said that if they wanted to become judges then they must put themselves out and it would be no different if they passed and were on the panel they still would not be able to exhibit. Council were adamant that a probationary judge's family could not show at the show the probationary judge was attending.

7. Dinner Dance

Mrs Stockton informed Council that the Dinner Dance would take place at Orsett Hall this year as it was a more upmarket venue to last year and there was potential to have 300 in attendance. She said there seemed to be some bad feeling from various quarters towards this year's function but she hoped we could move on from it as the only thing which was important was for the members to have a good time. Mrs Stockton mentioned that the Dinner Dance had been opened up to members of the BDS as they were not holding a function of their own this year.

8. New Members and Prefixes

Council agreed to the following new members:

Miss N Buxton, Beaworthy, Devon, Miss D Collins, Brewood, Staffs, Mr N Danagher, Holsworthy, Devon, Mr M F Geven, Haarsteeg, Holland, Mr K Kimenai, Waspik, Holland, Ms R Kuijpers, Sint Hubert, Holland

There were no new prefixes

9. Any Other Business

Mrs Stockton said that at the judge's seminar they asked Amateur classification to be discussed as they felt the rules were not clear. Also they felt any stud owner, producer or trainer or someone who regularly drives for another person should not be classed as an Amateur. Council felt this subject had been discussed at length at other Council meetings and the rules to stay as is.

Mr Connolly informed Council that he could get someone to upgrade the website and to manage it and it should not cost more than £50 per year. Mr James proposed for Mr Connolly to arrange for this and to confirm at the next Council meeting, seconded by Mr Docking, unanimous.

Action Mr Connolly to organise website

Mr Connolly informed Council that to date he has been unable to organise a meeting with the owner of Houghton Hall. He has been told that the cars will be allowed to be parked in another area so it will open up more places for lorries. He also said he had asked for longer catering hours and more people to serve. For this year the cost was still at a reduced rate of £800. Mr Docking said for a long time the venue had been promising a lot without delivering. Council were of the opinion for other venues to be looked into in case there was a requirement to move.

Mr McNinch asked if there were any separate rules for Novice classes or were they the same as for Open classes, it was confirmed they were the same.

Mr Lambertus had contacted the Society to request to become a judge. Council were happy for him to go through his probationary.

Action Secretary to confirm to Mr Lambertus

Mr Ward said the judge at Bury Farm did not follow the Amateur rules. Council felt it would be best to highlight to any judge if they had not followed any of the class rules. Mr Docking proposed for Mrs Stockton to speak with the judge to clarify any points, seconded by Miss Wormald, unanimous.

Action Mrs Stockton to speak with judge

Date of Next Meeting September 2016 actual date to be arranged

Meeting closed 6.45 p.m.