

**VBSSUK Committee Meeting**

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| **Location** | Conference Call |
| **Date** | Thursday 14th March 2019 |
| **Time** | 19:30 |
| **Conf Call Details** | Landline 0844 473 7373 / Mobile 87373 / PIN 336897 |
| **Meeting Chairperson** | Jenni McAllister |
| **Attendees** | Jenni McAllister (JMCA)Raymond Irvine (RI)Jamie Wood (JW)Jemma Knowles-Brown (JKB)Emily Duncan (ED)Elaine Boyle (EB) |
| **Apologies** | Lesley Lawman (LL)Marc Thomas (MT)Additional Attendees (Optional):Andrew Knowles-Brown (AKB) |

1. **Minutes from the previous meeting**

Minutes confirmed as true and accurate record

1. **Open Actions**

Refer to Open Actions

1. **Correspondence**

None yet. Consider relevance of item in future agenda’s?? JMCA.

1. **Blacknose Beauties**

There has been a good response from people offering to help organise the BB show in August. It was agreed that JMCA would circulate some dates on group chat to see availability and it is hoped that the meetings would start next week or week after. **Action**

1. **Next Committee Meeting**

 It was agreed that the next Committee Meeting would be scheduled for 13th June 2019.

1. **Any Other Business**

Breeder Map

JMCA thanked ED for her work on producing the breeders map.

Blacknose Beauties – Additional Classes

Discussion took place about having the following classes in the Blacknose Beauties in August – ‘Ewe and Lamb’, Spittis and Wethers. It was agreed to bring these forward to the BB Committee agenda. **Action**

DEFRA Affiliation

Discussion took place regarding seeking DEFRA affiliation. JW to touch base with AG. Work has been done on this previously in conjunction with GSC Grays and an application has been produced, passed to DEFRA committee member for review and recommendations have been made. We need to demonstrate that VBSSUK is established, processes are in place and there is momentum. The issue is that the other society gained affiliation from before their society went ‘live’. There is no precedence of two breed societies although the Dutch Spotted society are in the same position where two groups have been set up in parallel. However it is known that there is much animosity and DEFRA are aware of this, therefore will not entertain an application. We need to maintain professionalism at all times and not be involved in any negativity toward the other society. **Action**

MV Testing

It was discussed that as a society we should be proactive in promoting MV testing, as feedback from SAC veterinary services is that not many of the blacknose breed are being tested for MV. It was agreed that JW would discuss with SAC veterinary services about getting a publication relating to MV testing for breeders on the site. JKB is to publish link on Facebook members forum. It was agreed that care is needed regarding wording of publication, which can be discussed through chat group. MV testing to be discussed at the BB committee agenda. **Action**

Laptop

JMCA suggested that it would be useful to purchase a society laptop. This was agreed. **Action**

Graded Points on Grassroots Pedigrees

JMCA suggested that it might be useful to have the grading scores available against each BLACKNOSE animal. It was agreed that this was a good idea – JMCA to contact Libby at Grassroots. **Action**

**\*\*\*End of Meeting\*\*\***

**Open Actions**

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| **Item** | **Title** | **History** | **Action Owner** | **Status** |
| 02.221118 | Treasurer | 14/03 - Treasurer MT unable to attend but will forward update of accounts details to JMCA. The directors will have to sign an approval letter to add MT to the account, etc. the previous accountants need to be deactivated.22/11/18 - Treasurer role appointed to Marc Thomas. JW/JMCA to ensure MT has access to online banking, mailbox, cheque book etc. | JW/JMCA | Open |
| 05.221118 | Classes at other shows | 14/03/2019 - It was agreed that the society would concentrate on the four big shows – Balmoral, Royal Welsh, Highlands, Yorkshire shows. It was confirmed that the Royal Welsh will allow Blacknose to enter ‘Any Other Breed’ but if there were 10 entrants from at least 3 different breeders, the Blacknose could have their own class. It was discussed that the society would allocate prize money and a cup for the shows. Concerns raised regarding judging the shows – who would judge and how the wool would be judged as most breeders would want to prepare stock for the Carlisle show, and the wool would not be optimum length for the other shows. EB stated that the Balmoral would not allow Blacknose to be judged last year in ‘Rare Breed’ class (as not a UK Rare Breed) and they did not have an ‘Any Other Breed’ class. It was agreed that RI to contact 4 big shows to determine if a class could for be created for BLACKNOSE, society to provide a cup/prize for year ahead/ subsequent years. In addition, to discuss having a Valais Blacknose sheep society stand at the shows to promote society and membership.22/11/18 - RI would like to get classes at the big shows, Balmoral, Royal Welsh, Highland. AKB suggested finding out who would like to take sheep to which shows before approaching big shows. RI does not want people to think it is too Scottish; we want everyone to think it is for the whole of the UK.  | RI | Open |
| 06.221118 | Online Shop | 14/03/19 – ED stated that the set-up costs for the online shop, to sell ties, etc., is very expensive – alternative companies to be sought.22/11/18 - ED to speak to web designers suggested on last call by JW. | ED | Open |
| 08.221118 | Collective Wool Project | 14/03/19 – It was discussed that Holly Waterman from Wales, has taken most of the committee members fleeces but requests that they are clean, it may be worth contacting Holly to see if she would be interested in more fleeces. JW said that he had attended the Woolfest in Cumbria in the past and they seemed interested in samples of the fleece. JW to contact then regarding having a stand at the show in June. JW also stated that in Switzerland they are using the fleeces to produce outdoor jackets and they are very popular. JW has a contact with Montana clothing company and will ask if they would consider using the fleece. EB waiting on response from Ulster carpet manufacturers.22/11/18 - EB has many requests about wool and do we have a contact. JMCA suggested Holly Waterman but she only likes clean fleeces. Other than that just selling through FB. JMCA suggests we look collectively about approaching a woollen mill and get it processed in bulk and getting the product, which we can then sell. | ALL | Open |
| 01.140319 | Collective Wool Project |  14/03/2019 - JMcA to contact Holly Waterman regarding additional fleeces  | JMcA | Open |
| 02.140319 | Society – DEFRA Approval | 14/03/2019 - JW to discuss way forward with contact for society to gain DEFRA approval  |  JW | Open |
|  03.140319 |  MV Testing statement |  14/03/2019 - JW to liaise with contact in SAC veterinary services regarding a statement/ link to encourage members to MV test flock, link to be available on society page. JKB to publish link on Facebook member’s forum. JMcA to add to agenda item of BB committee meeting |  JW/JKB/JMcA | Open |
|  04.140319 |  Laptop | 14/03/2019 - It was agreed that JMcA could purchase a laptop for society business |  JMcA | Open |
|  05.140319 | Grading scores on Grassroots | 14/03/2019 - JMcA to contact Libby at Grassroots to discuss having grading marks available on Grassroots. | JMcA | Open |
| 06.140319 | BB Classes | 14/03/2019 - Add following items to BB agenda for discussion -‘Ewe and Lamb’, Spittis and Wethers classes | JMcA | Open |

**Closed Actions**

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| **Item** | **Title** | **History / Next Steps** | **Action Owner** | **Status** |
| 01.221118 | Vice Chairperson | 14/03/2019 - Vice Chairperson JW accepted role as VC.22/11/18 - JW voted in as VC. JW to accept/reject role. JMCA to email JW to communicate the appointment and obtain confirmation if JW wishes to accept or reject the role.14/03/19 – JW accepted role as VC. | JMCA | Closed |
| 03.221118 | Shadowing of Secretary | 14/03 - JMCA gave access to JKB and EB to mailbox. JMCA/EB to discuss standard responses and guides to meetings outside of this meeting. 22/11/18 - JMCA to provide access for EB to the mailbox and Facebook in order to be able to shadow secretary role. | JMCA | Closed |
| 07.221118 | International Members | 14/03/19 – it was agreed by committee that international members must own sheep in the UK to become members of the society.22/11/18 - JMCA has had a call from an American who co owns some sheep in the UK. There is a bit of work to include people from abroad. RI says it depends how many international members there are. It depends how much work vs. how many requests. AKB suggested a supporter member then it does not matter what country there are. You would have to decide how involved they would be. Another membership called International and others. | ALL | Closed |
| 09.221118 | Grading (Shadowing of Judges) | 22/11/18 - Close and pick up as part of Blacknose Beauties Committee22/11/18 - Suggested that someone shadow the Swiss Judges to follow how they do it, train up some judges. JMCA says in Switzerland people shadow, should be discussed with Daniel Steiner. We always want to keep the judges coming over from Switzerland. Someone else could show their sheep whilst they shadow. Let’s pick it up at the BB subcommittee.  | JMCA | Closed |
| 10.221118 | Scorecard Translation | 22/11/18 - Close and pick up as part of Blacknose Beauties Committee22/11/18 - Katharina Hare has kindly offered to translate items for us. We will approach her to tidy up the translation of the scorecard. | JMCA | Closed |
| 11.221118 | Entry Forms/ Jot Form | 22/11/18 - Close and pick up as part of Blacknose Beauties Committee22/11/18 - Entry forms need to be updated so that the data is easier to be extracted and manipulated for what we need to do with it for the catalogue etc. | JMCA | Closed |
| 12.221118 | PA system for Commentator | 22/11/18 - Close and pick up as part of Blacknose Beauties Committee22/11/18 - LL said what she thinks needs addressing is the microphone, as you can’t hear the commentary. AKB suggested finding a smaller PA system so that it does not echo so much. JMCA said Marita was clearer than Linda. We might try to test it out before the show starts. | JMCA | Closed |
| 04.221118 | Publications | 14/03/19 – Work progressing by JKB. Can pick up in group chat going forward. Close off.22/11/18 - Guides we can produce for members around general husbandry, tips for lambing time etc. | JKB | Closed |
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