**VBSSUK Committee Meeting 22nd November 2018**

**Attendees:** Jenni McAllister -JMC

Raymond Irvine -RI

Jemma Knowles-Brown JKB

Emily Duncan - ED

Elaine Boyle- EB

Lesley Lawman - LL

**Additional Attendees:**

Andrew Knowles-Brown - AKB

**Absent:**

Jamie Wood - JW

1. Apologies

AKB discussed what to do if JW does not come on the call and if we can put him in a role. AKB says you can but need to have discussed with him previously about a role.

No apologies given previously

1. Minutes from the previous meeting

JMC welcomed everyone. No minutes as first committee meeting.

1. Matters arising from the previous meeting

None as yet.

1. Correspondence

None yet.

1. Committee Roles JMC asked if ok to add an additional role, AKB says fine, the committee as a committee can decide on roles on the call.

**Chairperson**

JMC asked if we should remove VC as not sure if it is needed. AKB says it is good to have in case the chairman can’t make it, a stopgap in case the Chairman can’t be there to answer a question. We don’t have to fill it though, up to the committee. JMC asked if the Chairman could appoint someone if needs be, or if the Chairman can’t the committee can appoint one.

AKB suggested RI as Chairperson, RI says he doesn’t know what he is talking about. RI is worried he doesn’t have the time to follow through the calls etc. AKB says the Secretary does most of the work, being the hardest role to fill. He said the Chairperson is the figurehead. RI asked if he would have to chair meetings as he doesn’t want to, AKB said he could delegate. The Chairperson’s role is to make sure the company is going in the right direction. RI says ok! JMC asked the committee if everyone is happy, they are (except RI!) AKB says start like this and see how it goes, moving on, more people might be getting onto the committee.

Vice Chairperson

AKB suggest JW but as he is not on the call, it is difficult. ED suggested JMC but AKB suggested that JMC be better as secretary continuing as she is doing.

JMC suggested JW as VC. If he doesn’t want to do it, then the role will remain vacant. EN suggested we use JW, it gives him a role and it doesn’t matter if he doesn’t do anything. Everyone agrees.

Secretary

Everyone suggested JMC, she does it all now. AKB suggested getting someone to shadow her to help with the workload and learn how to do it. If other roles are filled, they could help JMC. We could also add more roles to help JMC. JMC is more than happy to hand over next year and so if anyone is interested in helping. EB would be interested in helping and shadowing throughout the year. AKB asked if everyone is happy, everyone is happy with JMC as Secretary with EB as shadow.

Treasurer

Mark Thomas from Wales is a bookkeeper and JMC has approached him about doing our accounts for a free membership, which he is happy to do. Unless anyone else wants to nominate, is everyone happy for him to do it. Everyone happy.

Social Media and Advertising

JMC – updating FB, Instagram and Website. Advertising on Social Media and linking in with our PR person (if used). JMC nominates EMD as she has being doing the role for the last year. Everyone agrees.

Enquiries Housekeeper

JMC mentioned we get a lot of emails with enquires and FB messages, we need someone to respond. LL asked what the role entails as she would like a role but as she is new to the breed she is concerned she might not know enough. JMC said we could draft replies and we must reply in an impartial way. We get a couple of messages a day, it is not a huge task but it is important to keep up to date with them and we want to keep a positive feedback. JMC said often, she gives information and gives them a link to the breeders as to not point them in the direction of a breeder in particular. EB asked if this role could be part of shadowing the secretary. JMC said she would like to spread the role. LL says she is happy for EB to do the role and she can think of another role. RI happy for EB to do, everyone else agrees.

Publications

JMC says we need to think more about the members and doing a general husbandry leaflet, a newsletter after BB, Breeder Focus each month, we can then look to see what this will cost. JMC thinks JKB will be good for this role. It shouldn’t be too much work, just engaging with the breeders and getting different ideas from breeders. Everyone agrees.

Committee Members

LL

JMC says thanks to everyone and to AKB for coming on to the call to help with this.

1. Blacknose Beauties

Date is confirmed for next year, 23rd and 24th August, unfortunately we couldn’t get the weekend before. JMC would like to form a committee for it. We usually start in April but suggested we start a bit earlier. AKB says we are forming a sub committee, suggested the original committee continue and we find some others to come and join to get an understanding of what is going on. Even if they don’t have a huge role, it is good to get others up to speed with what is going on and how the show is run. Sub committees can change each year, but this is best to carry on with new people coming on too. JMC said to EB and LL that the rest of us are on the committee, we have conference calls once a month from April. We are trying to keep to the same format but learn better each year and get it more efficient. AKB says have it all written down what has to be done when. ED and JMC say we need to update the jot form. JMC says everything is on Google drive and that is how we share the documents, then can download things on to the members bit of the website or public bit of the website. JMC asked if anyone has any questions. 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 doesn’t echo so much. JMC said Marita was clearer than Linda. We might try and test it out before the show starts. JMC also approached the mart about arriving earlier on the day of the show, it would help registration. EB said it might be difficult or people from far away to get there on time. JMC said that some exhibitors have come in the night before, we just have to check with H&H re timings, it shouldn’t be a problem. Even if we just do registration earlier it might help. We can discuss this on a sub committee.

AOB? No

1. Next Committee Meeting – Date to be schedules

JMC asked AKB how often we need the meeting, he says it depends on what business we have. We might need more before BB but usually 3 or 4 times a year. JMC suggested Feb. AKB suggested one this time of year, one in June and one in between, Feb. ED away week of 16th Feb. AKB suggested a meeting post the AGM to appoint roles, so October. Technically new positions are not fulfilled until the first meeting after the AGM. JMC asked who attends the first meeting, AKB says it is whoever is put forward to the role at the AGM. AKB says we also need to discuss if people stand down after 1, 2 or 3 years. At each AGM the 7 committee members get voted on, so you can reappoint or change. It can be the same person voted on every year, but all get decided at the AGM. Because this is a new committee, we can’t have all members going for three years and standing down at the same time. JMC will pick names out of a hat to see who will stand down after three years (3 people), two years (2 people) and 1 year (2 people), in this way people will not all be standing down at the same time. All people can be reappointed. The Rules of the club say that every AGM a third of the committee stand down by rotation.

JMC has picked names out of the hat, she allocated all numbers, 1-7. She went to a random number generating website, JMC – 1 year, RI, 1 year, JW 3 year, ED 2, JKB 2 EB 3 and LL 3 years. So next year JMC and RI stand down, if anymore stand for the committee, we can vote, if there are four people and JMC and RI are not picked for the committee, then we can co-opt them onto the committee, they wouldn’t have a vote. The people next voted on, will be voted on for three year and all roles will be for three years from then on. JMC asked if the AGM will be held at BB again, AKB suggested we must as everyone is there and you are more likely to get members turning up and will hopefully be willing to be involved. AKB suggested next year, to have this meeting in October. JMC asked if anyone has any other queries.

LL suggested using a Whatsapp for arranging meeting. RI doesn’t have it but can get it. Next meeting scheduled for Thurs 28th February 2019.

1. AOB

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 doesn’t want people to think it is too Scottish, we want everyone to think it is for the whole of the UK. JMC asked if RI was going to action this. Should be good advertising. EB says people in NI need to register with the Society but they have asked about showing.

JMC said three shows are asking for judges. AKB suggested that people shadow the Swiss Judges to follow how they do it, train up some judges. JMC 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. Lets pick it up at the BB sub committee.

JMC – renewals coming up in January, £130 for new member, £100 for renewing. First year 25 members, next 44, now 56 members. BB gets good exposure and so hopefully that will entice members.

Online Shop – ED to speak to Web designers suggested on last call by JW.

JMC said a German called Katarina will update the translation on the scorecard.

International members – JMC 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 doesn’t matter what country there are. You would have to decide how involved they would be. Another membership called International and others. Lets pick up at the next meeting. It would need to be set up on the website. EB – she has a lot of requests about wool and do we have a contact. JMC suggested Holly Waterman but she only likes clean fleeces. Other than that just selling through FB. JMC suggests we look collectively about approaching a woollen mill and get it processed in bulk and getting the end product, which we can then sell. JMC has spoken to a weaver but it needs to get processed and has been a bit of a hassle. JMC has a woollen mill near then and a friend sends their wool there and gets rugs made. If anyone can find out and we can discuss at the next meeting.

End of Meeting.