Members are reminded that they can receive copies of approved Council Minutes on application to The Arab Horse Society at Windsor House, The Square, Ramsbury, Nr. Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 2PE.
The request for the minutes must be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope or an email request to membership@arabhorsesociety.org

SUMMARY MINUTES OF
THE ARAB HORSE SOCIETY COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held at Windsor House
On 4th September 2014 at 11.30 a.m.

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Present:	Mrs. J. Bridges (Chairman)	Mr. A. McLeod (Hon. Treasurer)
	Mrs. J-M Crozier (Vice Chairman)	Mrs. E. Mann
	Mr. A. Hallworth	Miss M. Pollard
	Mrs. J. Lowe	Mrs D. Whittome
		Mrs. J. Woodward

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA There were no declarations of interest. The Chairman mentioned that Mrs. Dixon had not yet signed the Declaration of Trustees' Interests form following her appointment as a Director of Diamond Quest.
APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Dixon and Mrs. Meredith.
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 11th JUNE 2014 The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 11th June 2014 were approved and passed unanimously.
MATTERS ARISING FROM THE COUNCIL MINUTES The Chairman confirmed that it was agreed that she would contact Weatherbys.
COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS Shows & Events Committee - Minutes of 26th June 2014 The Minutes of the Shows & Events Committee held on 26th June were approved unanimously.
Shows & Events Committee - Minutes of 20th August 2014 Mrs C. Sussex was approved as a new In Hand Judge.
Mrs Lowe felt that it was essential to define 'show organising team'. She also felt strongly that a) a horse qualifying for HOYS should immediately lose its novice status and b) disagreed with the removal of the rule concerning forelocks. After discussion, a majority of Council agreed with her on points a) and b) above.
Mr McLeod said he had raised the enforcement of certain AHS showing rules with Mrs. Dixon but he was unhappy with her written response. It was unanimously agreed that all judges and stewards should enforce AHS rules on the day if an infringement had occurred. If a subsequent complaint was received, then that would be dealt with in the appropriate manner.
Council felt it was a pity that the winner of the prestigious Lady Anne Lytton Trophy had not been presented with it at the National Championship Show for 2013.
The UK Anglo & Part Bred In Hand competition which used to be very well supported needed reinvigorating and should be enhanced and given more publicity.
Minutes of the Marathon Committee meeting held on 14th April 2014 The Marathon would take place on 26th October.

Public Relations and Membership Minutes of 13th June 2014 and 26th August 2014
Council agreed that this Committee would in future be called the General Purposes Committee. An appointment had been made with a website provider to discuss the Society' website. After the meeting has taken place it would be possible to estimate the cost of this. The company also provided a show programme which might be considered if the Weatherbys' programme became too expensive to maintain. Maintenance of the website would also be possible and would be at a reasonable monthly charge.
Mrs. Crozier reported that advertising income raised by Val Cridge, Maggie Court and Susan Murphy for the 2015 Yearbook was just over £3,000 which was unprecedented.
Stud Book & Registration Committee - Minutes of 13th August 2014 Mr. McLeod reported that the sets of stud books at £70 at the Show had been so successful he thought it could be continued, with a price of Volume 21 at £20 if members bought Volume 22 at the full price.
The Chairman was very concerned that the Society had a considerable number of outstanding registration issues, some of which were very old. This meant that the Society was extremely vulnerable if it was not complying with DEFRA rules. Mrs Lowe said the Committee was chasing up those members who were in this category. Council was unanimous that a final deadline had to be imposed and that the Society MUST not be put in a position where it was condoning breaking the law or itself in breach. The Chairman wanted progress on all outstanding cases to be reported to Council.
WAHO Conference. Originally, £1,000 had been allocated in the budget for Mrs. Phizackalea but she would not now be attending. The Committee had therefore nominated Anne Brown and Caroline Sussex as delegates. It was agreed to pay the conference fees of $400 dollars each for the two delegates.
The Chairman said she had been under the impression that part of the changes to the premium Scheme, which had been agreed in Council, was that any visiting mare could be put to a Premium stallion but this was not what had been published in the Summer News. Council agreed that ANY visiting mare could benefit from the revised scheme (i.e. free foal registration).
Council confirmed that a standard lease agreement should be made available to members on the website as soon as possible.
Mrs. Lowe reported on the Part Bred percentages project. Council remained concerned about the open-endedness and cost of this work in the light of the budget restrictions on the Committee and its projected loss.
Financial Report from the Hon. Treasurer Mr. McLeod presented his detailed report and identified several matters of concern. All budgets needed to be submitted by November for approval at the 3rd December Council meeting. The situation last year was unacceptable when some budgets were not approved until January.
The AHS Marquee at Malvern took £6,400 however Financial Control systems at the Show had to be improved for next year. The hotel bill for the judges, stewards and officials came to £8,000 including VAT. There was a bar bill of £566 charged to the Society despite the fact that only rooms and food should have been paid for. This bar bill was unacceptable and should not have been allowed and this had to be made clear to all concerned for 2015.
The main financial concern was the Stud Book and Registration Committee budget.
Windsor House – maintenance costs had been higher than budgeted for due to unpredicted problems such as the boiler replacement, garage roof repair and flood.
Mr. McLeod reviewed the budgets and issues of concern especially the support costs for Windsor House which would probably need considerably more maintenance.
PROPERTY / PREMISES A long and detailed discussion took place on the future of Windsor House and the possibility of moving offices. This is minuted separately.
WEATHERBYS The Chairman reported that she had been invited and intended to visit Weatherbys.
Mrs. Meredith's paper was still outstanding and it was agreed that this should be prepared before the next meeting of Council on October 1st. Mr. McLeod reported that Weatherbys had been asked how much it would cost to upgrade the Society's computer system.

RESOURCES - Staff contracts were being reviewed.
MALVERN SHOW REVIEW 2014 AND 2015 SHOW Mrs. Armstrong's report on the show was noted and Council thanked the show team for putting on a wonderful show which everyone enjoyed. It was agreed that for the 2015 show costs needed to be reduced considerably, particularly with regard to hotel accommodation for officials.
Mrs Armstrong had indicated that she had spent considerable time at financial loss organising the 2014 Show. For 2015, Council invited Mrs. Crozier to put together a team. Mrs. Woodward kindly volunteered to do the sponsorship for the Show.
CONDUCT OF MEMBERS AND JUDGES The Chairman said the Rules for Showing, Rules for Judges, etc. had proven weak, ambiguous and inappropriate and there were no sanctions for rule breaches. Various misdemeanours by judges had recently been discussed and Council was unanimous that the Rules needed to be more robust. The Chairman would be co-ordinating this and would report at the next meeting. What was now required were updated Rules for Showing, Rules for Judges, new Conduct of Members, defined Disciplinary measures and a strong Appeals system.
The Chairman had recently circulated a standard Child Protection Policy. The Social Media and Internet Policy was already agreed and was on the website and Council unanimously approved the Child Protection Policy. Mrs. Crozier emphasised that every other breed society had sanctions to remove judges which the AHS at present did not.
Mrs. Crozier introduced a discussion on the appointment of judges. The Shows & Events Committee had been asked to make the process more flexible which has been done.
YEARLING FUTURITY The draft rules would be considered by the Shows & Events Committee for presentation to Council.
ECAHO REPORT & AHS OBJECTIVES WITHIN ECAHO
Mrs. Lowe reported that there will be a Judges', DCs' and Ringmasters' Workshop on 24th October in Brussels. There is to be a Show Commission meeting in Aachen in September. Council felt it was important that Mrs. Dixon, as the Society's ECAHO representative, should liaise more with Council to reflect and pass on Council's input to ECAHO. Several members of Council felt strongly that they were not kept informed properly as to what ECAHO was doing and also that the Society's voice was not being heard.
WELFARE There was one current welfare case which was proceeding slowly through the courts.
CORRESPONDENCE The Chairman reported she had received a letter from The Pensions Regulator addressed to Mrs. Lowe about automatic enrolment of pensions and a letter from NFU Insurance on the same subject. Mrs. Lowe had handed over a file on this subject at the meeting.