



*Members are reminded that they are entitled to 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.*

**SUMMARY MINUTES
OF**

**THE ARAB HORSE SOCIETY COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held at Windsor House
On 30th October 2013 at 11 a.m.**

Present: Mrs. J. Bridges Mrs. N Meredith
Mrs A. Dixon Miss M. Pollard
Mr. A. Hallworth Mrs. C. Roebuck (Chairman)
Mr. A. McLeod Mrs. J. Woodward

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mrs. J. Lowe, Mrs. E. Mann and Mrs. D. Whittome.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs. Roebuck asked if any Director Trustee had any declarations of interest to make. None declared.

3. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES OF 4th SEPTEMBER 2013

Replace 'WAHO and ECAHO want foals to be registered in the country of birth' with 'WAHO and ECAHO require foals to be registered in the country of birth'.

Subject to this amendment, the minutes were approved by all present and signed as correct.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Council was briefed regarding the measures taken following receipt of the Member's letter. HOYS had informed the Society that unfortunately they had failed to order the sashes. The cost of producing the Yearbook is on target to break-even but postage is an additional cost.

An e-mail had been received from ECAHO explaining that national organisations could notify a change of representative at any time during the year.

5. COMMITTEE MINUTES

Shows & Events Meeting of 27th August 2013.

There is an inconsistency between the HOYS and the AHS Showing Rules.

Potential conflicts of interest arise because the majority of ridden judges also produce horses.

This was seen as a question of ethics.

A Council member will attend the meeting called by HOYS to discuss their rules.

A document on ring craft, attire and presentation should be produced to assist finalists to compete on level terms at HOYS and particularly in the Supreme Championship.

It was noted that the Star Series ridden competition organisers would not hold their final at Malvern.

Public Relations & Marketing

The fall in member numbers has been arrested although some AA & PB owners were not showing their horses at shows with ECAHO or HOYS classes.

There were no Welfare issues to report but donations up to £1,000 could be made to welfare charities who had supported the Society's welfare endeavours. .

Selling promotional items is not profitable and stock deteriorates between events. A sale would be organised to clear old stock and items would not be replaced.

Stud Book & Registration.

The owner of a clone has asked for the colt foal to be registered. AHS rules require the animal to be first registered in the country of birth which is the USA.

There has been a case of parentage verification failure which has been resolved.

A member has written regarding the Society's refusal to register offspring of unregistered stock.

It was clarified that horse outline drawings on registration documents require the vet to countersign the drawing. It is not necessary for the vet to be employed to do the drawing. Stud book Volume 22 will be issued as a CD rom as the print costs cannot be justified

6. MALVERN 2014

There has been no decision taken about the responsibilities for running the 2014 Show.

The option of reducing the three day show to a more compact two day event was discussed but the consequential potential loss of stabling income c £9,600 would be a concern and the 2014 contract is already signed.

7. DIAMOND AUCTION

Council had previously agreed by a majority (via e-mail) to refund the bid in respect of the 2012 Auction, to a member as the contract between the stallion owner and the mare owner had not been fulfilled. There were further issues with the 2013 Auction yet to be resolved.

Council was concerned that as a party to a three way contract over which they had little or no control, which offered the Society no legal protection and which involved potential financial liability was a business risk which potential for litigation and disputes. The Auction's compatibility with the Society's charitable objectives was also questioned. Further debate would be necessary.

8. 2014 BUDGETS

The Treasurer provided a detailed financial overview and a long discussion followed. Some remedial measures have already been put on place.

An investment of £250,000 @ 2 ½% matures in November. The 1% continuation which was offered was insufficient. Various alternatives had been investigated and agreed. The Society must be run on a break-even basis or make a small profit and hard decisions across all functions must be taken as it must stop running as a loss-making enterprise. A commercial view must become the norm and all options considered. Each committee must produce a surplus.

9. 2012 AGM MINUTES

The minutes were reviewed and agreed.

The Chairman circulated a document on the Rules for Natural Justice for Council to consider and develop a policy for members whose actions give cause for concern or complaint.

10. PATRONS

A proposal to invite a noteworthy person to become a patron of the Society was agreed unanimously. The Chairman will write a letter of invitation.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda items for the next meeting were agreed as:-

Premium Scheme(s). Diamond Auction. Budgets

A fair framework and policy for members whose actions give cause for concern.

12. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS AND AGM

Tuesday 10th December 2013 at 11 a.m. at Bromsgrove Golf Club

Wednesday 15th January 2014 at 11 a.m.

Wednesday 5th March at 11 a.m.

AGM Saturday 12th April at 10.30 a.m. at Bromsgrove Golf Club followed by a Council

The meeting closed at 4.50 p.m.