SUMMARY OF THE TRUSTEES BOARD MEETING
HELD TUESDAY 2nd MAY 2019 AT SPEIR HOUSE, TELFORD
FOR ISSUE TO CLUB SECRETARIES & HYB COORDINATORS

Present: -

Chairman: Andrew Birkle (AB)
Trustees: Carl Smith (CS), David Jones (DJ), David Yates (DY), Edward Griffiths (EG), Jane Targett (JT), Mark Nutsford (MN), Michael Smale (MS), Peter Prior (PP), Peter Waring (PW), Sandy Pirie (SP), Stephen Brough (SB), Stephen Hill (SH), Wallace Gregg (WG)

In attendance: Sue Cope (SC), Melanie Harmitt (MH)

Apologies: Iwan Morgan (IM) & Aled Jones (AJ)
Minute Taker: Hannah Williams (HW)

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES
1.1 Andrew Birkle welcomed all present.
1.2 Apologies received from Iwan Morgan & Aled Jones
1.3 Andrew Birkle asked the board if they would allow proxy votes for the Lifetime Achievement. The room agreed to allow proxy voting.

2.0 ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS
2.1 Members for election were proposed and accepted.

3.0 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
3.1 The board were asked to vote on the nominations for the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award.
3.2 The trustees voted via a paper ballot.
3.3 The votes were cast and counted, and the successful candidate was announced as David Hastings Snr.

4.0 MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK AMENDS
4.1 The board approved amends for the membership handbook including new rules surrounding;
4.1.1 BVD testing requirements for Holstein UK events – All animals in attendance at these events will need to show proof of BVD negative status.
4.1.2 Weekend Rally Teams – Clubs will be allowed to borrow one member from another club to be part of the Field 2 Foto team as either the handler for the clipping or as part of the wash team only.
4.1.3 Judging of the Premier Herd Competition – Final round of judging to take place at a time convenient to both the judge and farm.
4.1.4 Additional Holstein class at the All Breeds All Britain calf show

4.2 The membership handbook will now be updated and a new edition will be released at the AGM in July.

5.0 JULY TRUSTEE MEETINGS
5.1 The board agreed there would be a trustee training meeting on Monday 1st July.
5.2 The board agreed there would be an election meeting on Thursday 4th July.
5.3 The board agreed that the 2020 trustee meeting dates would be confirmed at the July training meeting.

6.0 TAGGING SERVICE UPDATE
6.1 The board agreed the finalised terms and conditions for the tagging service.
6.2 Tissue samples will legally be the property of Holstein UK but members will have access to their herd samples as and when requested.
6.3 The full terms and conditions will be placed on the website and a link to them pointed from the membership handbook.

7.0 AFFILIATED CLUBS UPDATE
7.1 Most clubs have now responded to the communication regarding club affiliation.
7.2 Trustees to chase any clubs outstanding.

8.0 ANNUAL REPORT & 2018 FULL YEAR FINAL ACCOUNTS
The board approved the accounts for publication in the Annual Report.

It was reported that the auditors had met with the finance committee and were very pleased with how positive the accounts were in comparison to previous years.

The Annual Report will be posted to arrive with members a minimum of 30 days prior to the AGM.

**Q1 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS**

The 2019 Q1 figures were reviewed by the board.

It was reported that the Q1 figures were again very positive including the cash position.

It was pointed out that the investment portfolio had recovered and was now in a much more positive position than it was at year end. The board were reminded that the Investment Portfolio is out of the control of the operational business and does fluctuate annually.

The board congratulated Sue Cope and the management team again for the continued good performance.

**APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

It was reported that the finance committee had seen presentations from both the current auditors Cox, Costello & Horne and a potential new company Whittingham Riddell LLP.

The finance committee recommended to the board the appointment of Whittingham Riddell LLP for the 2019/20 financial year.

The board agreed to put forward the appointment of the new auditors Whittingham Riddell LLP at the AGM in July. The appointment of new auditors will be a demonstration of good governance and ensure ongoing challenge.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**FINANCE**

The board were advised that all objections to the alternative planning application at Scotsbridge House had now been removed.

The next step is the agreement of the affordable housing contribution between Millen Homes and Three Rivers District Council; a decision is expected in mid-June.

**OPERATIONS**

The board reviewed the proposed change to the Holstein UK auction rules to include confirmation of the rules surrounding online sales of embryos. The board agreed to the changes. The proposed changes will be circulated to auctioneers for comment.

The board reviewed and agreed the proposed changes to the criteria of Holstein UK production awards to both make the awards fit for purpose and make the process more automated. The new criteria will be documented in the Members Handbook following the AGM.

**SHOW & SALE**

The board reviewed and agreed the proposed change to the All Britain awards to add an additional Red & White Class.

The board discussed the recent European Holstein Show in Libramont and congratulated the team for all their efforts in enabling a team to attend. Planning has now begun on the proposed 2022 event to be held in Italy.

The committee reported on the new format for the Regional Judging conference being held in May which included the addition of mentors allowing small group discussions as well as videoing of attendee reasons.

**SCIENCE**

The committee reported on the recent meeting with Marco Winters and Gwyn Jones from AHDB.

The board reviewed and agreed that the LD GPLI test would be removed due to the new price decrease achieved on the HD GPLI chip.

The board agreed the inclusion of linear rear teat length scoring which would now be actioned and a start date agreed.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The retiring board members were thanked for their service as trustees on the board.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Holstein UK Board Meeting will take place on Thursday 1st August 2019 in Speir House, Telford.