

## SUMMARY OF THE TRUSTEES BOARD MEETING

HELD TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019 AT SPEIR HOUSE TELFORD

FOR ISSUE TO CLUB SECRETARIES & HYB COORDINATORS

**Present: -**

**Chairman:** Carl Smith (Acting Chairman)

**Trustees:** Aled Jones (AJ), David Jones (DJ), David Yates (DY), Edward Griffiths (EG), Iwan Morgan (IM), Mark Nutsford (MN), Michael Smale (MS), Peter Prior (PP), Peter Waring (PW), Stephen Brough (SB), Stephen Hill (SH), Wallace Gregg (WG), Sandy Pirie (SP)

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

**Apologies:** Andrew Birkle (AB), Jane Targett (JT)

**Minute Taker:** Hannah Williams (HW)

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- Sue Cope informed the room that Andrew Birkle was not able to be present for the meeting and would be joining via the conference phone.
- Sue Cope passed to Melanie Harmitt to explain how the meeting would proceed with the absence of the chairman.
- Melanie Harmitt explained that the trustees needed to choose someone from the room to take on the role as acting chairperson for the day.
- There were 2 options;
  1. As it had been agreed previously that the chairmen of the committees were able to act as vice chairpersons if required, the board could choose one of the vice chairpersons present to chair this board meeting.
  2. The trustees could decide to elect any board members present in the room to chair the meeting.
- Melanie Harmitt asked the board to make a proposal.
- The room agreed that they would like to choose from one of the current committee chairpersons to chair the meeting.
- Wallace Gregg proposed Carl Smith should Chair the meeting, Iwan Morgan seconded.
- The room agreed with the proposal

**Carl Smith proceeded to Chair the meeting**

### 1.0 ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS

1.1 Members for election were proposed and accepted.

### 2.0 PRESIDENT ELECT

2.1 The board were asked to vote on the nominations for the 2020 Holstein UK President.

2.2 The trustees voted via a paper ballot

2.3 The votes were cast and counted and the successful candidate was announced as Mr R J Clare (Hawksmoor).

2.4 Sue Cope informed the board that Zoe Hargrave would let all the unsuccessful nominees know the outcome.

2.5 Mark Nutsford, as the area trustee, agreed he would let Mr Clare know personally.

### 3.0 TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

3.1 The board were asked to review the nominations for the trustees due to be elected in July 2019

3.2 Peter Prior proposed all the nominated trustees, Aled Jones seconded them.

3.3 The new and reappointed trustees were confirmed as follows;

- East Midlands – Matthew Winter (Corringham)
- Far Western – Michael Smale (Glebewin)
- Lancashire – Joh Hartley (Roughwood)
- North Western – Jane Whittaker (Knowlesmere)
- North Midlands – Stephen Hill (Hydaways)

### 4.0 AFFILIATED CLUBS

4.1 Melanie Harmitt informed the board that a communication had now been sent to all clubs re the affiliation process along with supporting documents.

4.2 A number of trustees expressed their concern that some clubs did not seem to have received the communication.

4.3 Melanie Harmitt confirmed she would issue the communication again to be sure all clubs had received along with a clear explanation of the consequences of not being an affiliated club, i.e. they would not be able to compete at Holstein UK / HYB Club events.

## **5.0 ACCEPTANCE OF THE CHANGE OF PREMIER HERD RULES**

5.1 Sue Cope confirmed that the name of the competition had been changed to the “Premier Herd Competition”

5.2 Sue Cope explained that the proposal was to change the ruling so the final round of judging could be done at any time of day convenient to the judge and farm rather than at a set time each day.

5.3 The amend was discussed by the board.

5.4 The new ruling was accepted by the board

5.5 Sue Cope confirmed that the rules would be amended in the membership handbook to reflect the change

## **6.0 NEW HQ OPTIONS**

6.1 Sue Cope explained the operational difficulties with the current HQ at Speir House due to lack of space.

6.2 The board agreed for the management team to look at expanding the current site or relocating to a suitable site within the local area

## **7.0 INVESTMENT OPTIONS**

7.1 Barclays & Close Brothers presented to the board on investment options for the future

## **8.0 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS**

8.1 The 2018 Q4 and 2018 year end figures were reviewed by the board

8.2 It was reported that the both of the above were very positive and the group had seen over a £1.2 million turnaround from the same position at the end of 2017.

8.3 The board congratulated Sue Cope and the management team for this achievement.

## **9.0 COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **9.1 FINANCE**

9.11 The revised plans for the Scotsbridge House planning application were reviewed and agreed

### **9.2 OPERATIONS**

9.21 The board reviewed the proposed rule change surrounding parentage testing. To reflect the change from DNA parentage checking Male, ET and calves selected for a Random DNA test from using microsatellite DNA parentage tests, to using genomic parentage test, it was proposed that Holstein UK changes the rules in the Holstein UK Membership Handbook to clarify how members can register and parentage check their calves. The board agreed the proposal.

9.22 The board discussed the auction sale rules and agreed they require a full review and requested a paper for discussion at the May board meeting.

9.23 Sue Cope explained that the operations committee had discussed the current pedigree certificate and the requirements to update the content to meet the new requirements for export for live animals, semen and embryos.

### **9.3 SHOW & SALE**

9.31 The board reviewed the policy paper surrounding BVD testing at Holstein UK shows & events. The board agreed that with immediate effect the following rule should be included for attendance at both UK Dairy Day & the All Breeds All Britain Calf Show; *“Any animal exhibiting needs to have had (at any point in the animals life) an individual tissue or blood sample taken and analysed for BVD antigen and tested negative”*.

9.32 The board agreed that a review of the All Britain Awards with particular reference to the entry process and class configuration should be done ready for the May board meeting.

### **9.4 SCIENCE**

9.41 The board discussed the processes required for the new Genomic parentage testing proposal, to be done via genomic parentage (if possible) and the parentage check to be done via SRUC system where possible. The board agreed the proposal.

## **10.0 OTHER BUSINESS**

10.1 Sue Cope stated she had received a letter from SDCA to say that they had decided that following the 2019 AGM they will ask the local Holstein club member to sit on their board rather than a board member from HUK.

## **11.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

11.1 The next Holstein UK Board Meeting will take place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 in Speir House, Telford.