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| **MEETING DETAILS** | | |
| **Meeting Title** | | Inaugural Society Meeting |
| **Date** | | Wednesday, 17th February 2016 |
| **Time** | | 19:00 – 20:30 |
| **Venue** | | Conference Call |
| **Audio Number** | | **Landline:** 0844 4 73 73 73 / **Mobile**: 8 73 73 |
| **Conference Code** | | 336897 |
| **Attendees** | | |
| Andrew Polson | AP | |
| Andrea French | AF | |
| Heather Adams | HA | |
| Heather McKay | HMC | |
| Jamie Wood | JW | |
| Jemma & Andrew Knowles-Brown | JKB & AKB | |
| Jennifer McAllister | JMCA | |
| Raymond Irvine | RI | |
| Renee Snouckaert | RS | |
| **Apologies** | | |
| Emily Duncan | | |
| Jim Kennedy | | |
| Steve Jones & Richard Pilkington | | |
| David Hodge & Julian Walters | | |
| Susan Mullen & Tim Dunne | | |
| Sheena & Eric Knight | | |
| Jack & Jackie Simonini | | |
| Andrew McAllister | | |
| Morven & Mark Bowen | | |
| Nicola Gornall | | |
| Deborah Griffin | | |
| Finlay & Sarah Murray | | |
| Heaton House | | |
| Kenneth & Eleanor Bone | | |
| Neil & Dorota Richardson | | |
| Norman Hannah & Mira Byrne | | |
| Sioned Pritchard | | |

| **Agenda Number** | **Agenda Item** | **Minutes** | **Actions** | **Action Owner** | **Status** |
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| 1 | Welcome | Welcome to all members and thank you for attending our first society meeting. Thanks for all support and feedback to date. |  |  | **CLOSED** |
| 2 | Constitution and Memorandum | AKB – Need to consistently refer to Blacknose as Blacknose throughout the document. | Amend document so that Blacknose is referred to throughout the document consistently. | JMCA | **OPEN** |
|  |  | AKB – Section 8: Nominations. Remove ‘at the meeting’. Agreed by all members present. | Remove ‘at the meeting’ text from document. | JMCA | **OPEN** |
|  |  | RS – Breed Standard.  Wool staple length needs clarification. This needs to be a guideline: (5-6 months growth – sheep should be shorn twice yearly). | Add text to clarify that this is based on 5-6 months growth and sheep are to be clipped twice yearly. | JMCA | **OPEN** |
| 3 | Society Rules Document | AKB - Memberships – What shall we do in terms of people joining later in the year after 31st January subscription date?  All agree that no matter which date in the year a subscription is purchased, members must pay the annual subscription which is renewed on 31st January. | We need to give clarification around this via the website that if you join half way through the year you will need to pay the renewal subscription at January 31st also. | JMCA | **OPEN** |
|  |  | What about people who have not registered their sheep?  GrassRoots impose double fees upon registrations older than 5 months. | Communicate via the society website that registrations over 5 months will incur double registration fees via Grassroots. | JMCA | **OPEN** |
|  |  | JW - What do we do in the event where parents cannot be identified. | JW to address with Libby from GrassRoots to ensure that two generations are given at the time of registration. | JW | **OPEN** |
|  |  | RI - What will happen with sheep that have been imported from other origins i.e. Austria, Germany.  Some people feel that we should be an exclusive Swiss imported/bred society.  RS – Believes that it is healthy to have a mix in terms of breeding and gene pool availability.  HMC – How do we differentiate between sheep from different countries  AF – Believes that we should keep the breed as pure as possible and stick to Swiss imports/breeding within the UK and support this within the Society.  JMCA – Think should adopt in a further discussion as it will not be resolved during this call. This topic needs particular focus and discussion in order to bottom out how we proceed. Agreed by all members present. | To be picked up on next call as cannot reach a decision point at this time with so many questions around the subject which will need to be addressed.  Ongoing – requires particular focus to close all parts down on this subject. | All Members | **OPEN** |
|  |  | How do we deal with the situation where imported sheep do not have pedigree certificates?  AKB – We should notify via the society website that if people are buying sheep which are not registered with GrassRoots then they will need to wait for 2 generations before they are able to register their sheep on GrassRoots. | Need to communicate via the society website that if people are buying sheep which are not registered with GrassRoots then they will need to wait for 2 generations before they are able to register their sheep on GrassRoots. | JMCA | **OPEN** |
| 4 | Registering stock with specific letter going forward. | RI – We should use a letter for each year. RI proposes B.  JW – Supports the proposal of a specific letter.  AKB – To avoid confusion should we start with D perhaps  AF – From previous experience it is down to the individual.  All agree that we start on D. | Going forward, we will start with the letter D.  To be communicated to all members via website / email. | JMCA | **OPEN** |
|  |  | AF - Are VB going to have a specific identifier for their tags.  JW – In order to have our own UID we have to be registered with DEFRA. We can do this when we are established as a society for more than one year.  AF prefers not to as it means an additional tag – this is the general feel amongst those present. | No action at this time. Can be revisited at a later date if required. |  | **CLOSED** |
| 5 | Website and Registering/Logging In – Any issues? | No issues reported but all made aware to report  anything at all to the society mailbox where it will be picked up and resolved by web support. |  | All Members | **CLOSED** |
| 6 | GrassRoots Flockbook Register | All members to read document covering what data recording capability is available via GrassRoots.  All members to feed any suggestions to the society mailbox to be put forward to GrassRoots as to how we implement. | Can be picked up on the next call.  Collate list from members what data would be beneficial to record via registry and propose to Grassroots. | All Members | **OPEN** |
| 7 | VBSSUK Annual Show – Proposal & Current Status | We have secured Saturday, 20th August with Carlisle market as a venue to hold inaugural VBSSUK Show.  Judges will be brought over from Switzerland in order to judge and grade all sheep.  We will adopt the same points system as in Switzerland. | Communicate all UK born lambs to be graded  Classes list to be formed  Prizes to be confirmed  Subcommittee to be formed  Advertising  Meeting with Carlisle | VBSSUK Annual Show subcommittee (to be formed) | **OPEN** |
| 8 | RHS | We have the opportunity to have a society stand at the RHS in the NSA tent.  Interest expressed by HMC and JKB. | HMC would like to be involved in RHS VBSSUK stand.  JKB would like to be involved also.  Subcommittee to be formed |  |  |
| 9 | Other show opportunities for the Society | 3 Counties – We have been offered a place FOC.  Nantwich will have blacknose classes.  JW – Additional events in the area but will need to align with members’ location/availability. | JW to forward details to society mailbox.  All members to forward details of upcoming events to society mailbox where they will be listed on the society website. We will decide which events we are able to attend and subcommittees formed accordingly.  RI to speak with NSA about other NSA events available to us. | All Members | **OPEN** |
| 10 | Workshops | Some members have expressed interest in the possibility of workshops/knowledge transfer days to cover various topics such has show prep, washing, clipping.  JMCA asked if HMC is happy to coordinate the workshops. | Subcommittee to be formed | HMC | **OPEN** |
| 11 | Document Sharing | Society documents will be uploaded on to the website in order to be available to all members. They will only be able to be accessed by member login. | Link to document repository to be sent out to all members. | JMCA | **OPEN** |
| 12 | Website Uploads (Upcoming events, For Sale, Wanted, News, Breeder Contact Info) | All members are welcomed to supply their breeder details, logos, upcoming events, stock/embryo/semen for sale, stock wanted to be uploaded on to the society website. | All members to send required details, photos, text etc to the society mailbox where it will be uploaded to the website. | All Members/JMCA | **OPEN** |
| 13 | Membership Subscriptions and Renewals | Agreed as part of the CMofA document.  Subscriptions will be renewed 31st January annually going forward. | Relevant documents to be updated with agreed date.  Website to be updated to communicate subscription dates. | JMCA | **OPEN** |
| 14 | Member Welcome Packs: Tie/Address Confirmation | Just a reminder to everyone to reply to society mailbox with tie colour preference and confirmation of address if haven’t already done so. | Tie colour preference and confirmation of address to be emailed to society mailbox. | All Members | **OPEN** |

| **AOB** | | | | | | |
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| **Ref** | **Item** | **Raised By** | **Minutes** | **Actions** | **Action Owner** | **Status** |
| 1/170216 | Communication that going forward the society will use the Letter D for 2016 stock be shown on the website | AKB |  | Communication to be published on the society website and emailed to members. | JMCA | **OPEN** |
| 2/170216 | Management Committee | AKB | We need to agree the Management Committee and the election process. | To be discussed on the follow up call | All Members | **OPEN** |
| 3/170216 | Are blacknose of non Swiss origin allowed to be registered via the Society.  RS for example has blacknose which have Austrian and German ancestory. | RS | JW – Not to be of major concern just at this time but something we need to be very aware of as now that swiss imports are not available. It is inevitable people will go anywhere where it is possible to import in to the UK.  JMCA – Subject does need particular attention to map out exactly how the society stands on this and the steps put in place to record it.  Again, not going to be closed off on this call and will need to be picked up at the next session. | To be picked up and discussed further at the next call as to how this will be tackled. | All Members | **OPEN** |
| 4/170216 | In light of potentially 80 sheep being imported to the UK from Germany, the next call needs to organised sooner rather than later to bottom out actions raised around sheep being imported outwith Switzerland with potentially no pedigree certificates. | HMC | Agreed by all present.  Agreed that the call will take place same time in one week at the same time. | JMCA to circulate invite to all members for Wednesday, 24th February at 19:00. | JMCA | **OPEN** |
| 5/170216 | Is the VB Annual Show only open to MV | HA | No. The VBSSUK Annual show is open to MV and non MV accredited stock.  Classes will be available for both.  Typo in previously distributed document which has now been rectified. | Rules around MV and Non MV stock at shows. | JMCA/RI/JW | **OPEN** |
| 6/170216 | Sub committees to be formed for shows | AKB | We will form a list of shows which the society can attend throughout the year and form subcommittees accordingly. | List of shows to be gathered  Subcommittees formed | All Members | **OPEN** |
| 7/170216 | Need to communicate to members around key items for show preparation i.e. shearing should be twice yearly | JW | As we propose to adopt the same showing times in the year as Switzerland, sheep need to be clipped at the correct times throughout the year. This needs to be communicated to all members. | Publish on website and email to all members. | JW / JMCA | **OPEN** |
| 8/170216 | Change the wording of the memberships to distinguish more clearly between what each membership entitles you to. | RS | It is not clear what the differences are between each memberships – due to the wording it would appear that there are no real differences between the membership levels and what they are entitled to. | Membership entitlement breakdown to be reworded to clearly show what each membership involves. | JMCA | **OPEN** |