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| **MEETING DETAILS** | |
| **Meeting Title** | Follow-Up Meeting |
| **Date** | Wednesday, 24th February 2016 |
| **Time** | 19:00 – 20:30 |
| **Venue** | Conference Call |
| **Conference Call** | **Landline:** 0844 4 73 73 73 / **Mobile**: 8 73 73 |
| **PIN** | 336897 |

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| **ATTENDEES** | | |
| **Name** | **Present** | **Apologies** |
| Andrew McAllister SNR & Andrew McAllister JNR (AMCA / AMCA JR) |  | x |
| Andrew Polson (AP) | ✓ |  |
| Bruce & Andrea French (BF / AF) |  | x |
| David Hodge & Julian Walters (DH / JulianW) |  | x |
| Deborah Griffin (DG) |  | x |
| Emily Duncan (ED) |  | x |
| Finlay & Sarah Murray (FM / SM) |  | x |
| Heather Adams (HA) | ✓ |  |
| Heather McKay (HMC) |  | x |
| Heaton House (HH) |  | x |
| Jack & Jackie Simonini (JackS / JS) |  | x |
| Jamie Wood (JW) | ✓ |  |
| Jemma & Andrew Knowles-Brown (JKB / AKB) | ✓ |  |
| Jennifer McAllister (JMCA) | ✓ |  |
| Jim Kennedy (JK) |  | x |
| Kenneth & Eleanor Bone (KB / EB) |  | x |
| Matthew Slinger (MS) |  | x |
| Morven MacFarlane & Mark Bowen (MM & MB) | ✓ |  |
| Neil & Dorota Richardson (NR / DR) |  | x |
| Nicola Gornall (NG) |  | x |
| Norman Hannah & Mira Byrne (NH / MB) |  | x |
| Paul Furness - Church Farm (PF) |  | x |
| Raymond Irvine (RI) | ✓ |  |
| Renee Snouckaert (RS) | ✓ |  |
| Sheena & Eric Knight (SK / EK) |  | x |
| Sioned Pritchard (SP) |  | x |
| Steve Jones & Richard Pilkington (SJ / RP) | ✓ |  |
| Susan Mullen & Tim Dunne (SM / TD) |  | x |

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome
2. Minutes from inaugural meeting approved
3. Open Actions
4. Registering of mismarked lambs
5. AOB

| **OPEN Items** | | | | | |
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| **Action Ref** | **Title** | **Raised By** | **History** | **Action History** | **Action Owner** |
| 4.170216 | Society Rules Document | Agenda Item | 170216 - 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. | 240216 – JMCA to update website memberships to communicate that if you join half way through the year you will need to pay the renewal subscription at January 31st also.  170216 - 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 |
| 5.170216 | What about people who have not registered their sheep? | RI | 170216 - What about people who have not registered their sheep?  GrassRoots impose double fees upon registrations older than 5 months. | 240216 - Communicate via the society website and update society rules document that registrations over 5 months will incur double registration fees via Grassroots.  170216 - Communicate via the society website that registrations over 5 months will incur double registration fees  via Grassroots. | JMCA |
| 8.170216 | How do we deal with the situation where imported sheep do not have pedigree certificates? | RI | 170216 - 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. | 240216 – 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.  170216 - 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 |
| 9.170216 | Registering stock with specific letter going forward. | Agenda Item | 170216 – 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 members agree that we start on D. | 240216 - To be communicated to all members via website / email that going forward lambs are to be registered with the letter D.  170216 - Going forward, we will start with the letter D.  To be communicated to all members via website / email. | JMCA |
| 12.170216 | GrassRoots Flockbook Register | Agenda Item | 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. | 240216 – JMCA to email members for input.  170216 - 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. | JMCA |
| 13.170216 | VBSSUK Annual Show Carlisle | Agenda Item | **240216** - Mark Bowman– Send out an email to and gauge interest  SJ – happy to be involved  Subcommittee to be formed. JMCA to put list of shows together along with interested members. Subcommittee to manage each show.  170216 - 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. | **240216** - Send out an email to and gauge interest  Subcommittee to be formed. JMCA to put list of shows together along with interested members. Subcommittee to manage each show.  **170216** - 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) |
| 14.170216 | RHS | Agenda Item | **240216** – Subcommittee to be formed.  Morven would like to help and can provide sheep.  HMC would like to be involved.  JKB would like to be involved.  JW can assist also.  **170216** - We have the opportunity to have a society stand at the RHS in the NSA tent.  Interest expressed by HMC and JKB to be involved.  Subcommittee to be formed | **240216** – Subcommittee to be formed. |  |
| 15.170216 | Other show opportunities for the Society | Agenda Item | **240216** – We have lots of different show opportunities available to us but realistically due to funds and availability we can’t do them all.  We will concentrate on certain shows and members who would like to be involved can put themselves forward for the subcommittees.  SJ – We are all aware of the pressure on agriculture and are aware of all of the shows that we can attend. There is so much interest in this breed that we need to mindful that there are other options open to us other than agricultural shows and we should also look outwith agriculture.  Agreed that we will concentrate on Carlisle, RHS, 3 Counties, Scot Sheep Peebles.  **170216** - 3 Counties – We have been offered a place FOC.  Nantwich will have blacknose classes also and are keen to have us there.  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. | **240216** – List of shows to be pulled together along with interested members for each and subcommittees to be formed.  Carlisle (SJ, JMCA, RI, JW)  RHS (JKB, MM, HMC, JW, JMCA, RI)  3 Counties (HA, RS, JW)  Scot Sheep Peebles (MM, JKB) | All Members |
| 16.170216 | Workshops | Agenda Item | 170216 – JMCA to pick up with HMC how best to work this.  AKB – Fibre Evaluation workshop  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. | 170216 – JMCA to pick up with HMC how to work this. | HMC/JMCA |
| 19.170216 | Membership Subscriptions and Renewals | Agenda Item | 170216 - Agreed as part of the CMofA document.  Subscriptions will be renewed 31st January annually going forward. | **240216 –** Relevant documents updated. Website to be updated.  **170216** - Relevant documents to be updated with agreed date.  Website to be updated to communicate subscription dates. | JMCA |
| 22.170216 | Management Committee | AKB | 240216 – As a limited company has been formed it is unclear if we are to follow the management committee as it is documented in the limited company documents that have been sent to us or if they relate to the limited company alone.  We are unsure if this is only relevant to limited company, a guideline or a legal document.  If we can operate the society under a society management committee proposal is the following:  **MANAGEMENT** Subject to the overall direction of general meetings of members, the management of the Society's affairs shall be conducted by a Management Committee ("the Committee") will be of up to 9 members, there shall be 4 officers, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, who will be chosen by the committee from amongst themselves.  For the first 5 years the 3 founding directors shall automatically have a place on the committee.  One third of these members to retire annually in rotation but be eligible for re-election at the AGM.  The officers shall retire annually but may be re-elected.  They shall be full voting members of the Committee provided they are unpaid.  A quorum for a committee meeting is half the membership of the committee.  The Committee may appoint sub-committees, co-opt additional members, and appoint officers in the event of a vacancy occurring before an AGM.  We need to agree the Management Committee and the election process. | **240216 –** JW to send electronic copy of Ltd documents to JMCA, RI and AKB and check with accountant for advice.  JMCA to raise with SJ as he has been involved in founding societies previously and see if he knows anything around this.  Ongoing and to be continued on the next call.  **170216** - To be discussed on the follow up call | JW/JMCA/RI  ~~All Members~~ |
| 27.170216 | Need to communicate to members around key items for show preparation i.e. shearing should be twice yearly | JW | 170216 - 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. | 240216 - Publish on website and email to all members.  170216 - Publish on website and email to all members. | JW / JMCA |
| 28.170216 | Change the wording of the memberships to distinguish more clearly between what each membership entitles you to. | RS | 170216 - 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. | 240216 - Membership entitlement breakdown to be reworded to clearly show what each membership involves.  170216 - Membership entitlement breakdown to be reworded to clearly show what each membership involves. | JMCA |
| 1.240216 | No mention of tail docking in the breed standard – what is the status around this? | RS | 240216 - JMCA - Lambs are docked in Switzerland within the first 10 days. The tail is docked in with the top of the black markings.  JW – As above. JW docks his lambs.  RI – We dock all lambs within the first week.  RS – Her sheep do not have their tails docked.  AKB – Can be docked or not docked – if done by the Swiss then adopt. | 240216 – Add note in to the breed standards to inform where tails are docked they must be docked in line with where the black markings begin. | JMCA |
| 2.240216 | Perhaps need to clarify around black markings knees/hocks and what is acceptable. | RS | 240216 – There is a misconception around how much black is enough on black on knees/hocks. This should be documented in the breed standards for guidance. | 240216 – Breed standards to be amended to demonstrate how much black is acceptable on knees/hocks. | JMCA |
| 3. 240216 | Is it an option to have a sale following the annual show? | RS | 240216 - RS – Thinks that this would be a good idea. Will generate more interest and attract more people.  RI – Thinks that this is a good idea. Only sheep shown should be available for sale.  JW – Thinks that private sale is probably the best way forward at the moment.  SJ – This should be discussed as an option. Would be beneficial to mart/breeder. | 240216 – JW to take away and discuss with H&H around the possibility of a sale following the show. | JW |
| 4. 240216 | Send a mail out to all members with different role requirements to see who wants to be involved. | MB | 240216 – Would be a good idea to send an email to all members communicating the different roles needed within the society and see if anyone puts themselves forward and wants to be involved. | 240216 – Send email to all members with roles/help required. | JMCA |
| 5. 240216 | Accountant required | JMCA/AKB/JW | 240216 – Due to being a limited company, we require an accountant to prepare the relevant accounts etc.  AKB – Ideally we want this done for free if possible. Is there capability within the society to manage this? | 260216 – Send email to members to see if anyone has the relevant qualifications to manage the society accounts. | JMCA |
| 6.240216 | Help with website admin | JMCA | 240216 – Does anyone have experience with website admin where they could help with the updates to the website etc.? | 240216 – Send an email to see if anyone is interested in helping with the housekeeping for the society website. | JMCA |
| 7. 240216 | Rules around MV and Non MV need to be documented for the Society Rules | JMCA | 260216 – Rules need to be documented around MV/Non MV stock for society shows/sales. | 260216 - Rules to be documented around MV/Non MV stock for society shows/sales. | JMCA |
| 8. 240216 | Would it be of interest to set up an online chat group; facebook, whatsapp… | JMCA | 240216 – RS – This would be an excellent idea.  AKB – Would this be open to anyone or members alone? JMCA –members only.  All agree Facebook group would be best. | 240216 – Facebook chat group to be created and members added. | JMCA |

| **CLOSED Items** | | | | | |
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| **Action Ref** | **Title** | **Raised By** | **History** | **Actions** | **Action Owner** |
| 10.170216 | Are VB going to have a specific identifier for their tags? | AF | 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. | **170216 – CLOSED.** No action at this time. Can be revisited at a later date if required. |  |
| 11.170216 | 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. | **170216 – CLOSED.** | All Members |
| 12.240217 | Registering of mismarked lambs | SJ | AKB – if no black on the knees then yes ok should not be registered. However, how far do you go?  If grading systems in place then should be able to track and identify this via figures which will be recorded.  JW – have to be careful how this is communicated. A lot of sheep may then be left registered. Should be left up to the breeder.  RS – The ratio of perfectness has to be understood. Recent visit to Visp demonstrated this - that specific markings are not always perfect – black on knee can be very small for example.  SJ – We can have the understanding what perfection looks like but can’t discriminate at this point.  All agreed that it is the breeder’s preference if they register the sheep. Grading will be assessed at annual show and recorded in GrassRoots. | **240216 – CLOSED.** | All members |
| 1.170216 | Constitution and Memorandum | Agenda Item | 170216 - AKB – Need to consistently refer to Blacknose as Blacknose throughout the document. | **240216 – CLOSED.** Amend document so that Blacknose is referred to throughout the document consistently. | JMCA |
| 2.170216 |  |  | AKB – Section 8: Nominations. Remove ‘at the meeting’. Agreed by all members present. | **240216 – CLOSED.** Removed ‘at the meeting’ text from document. | JMCA |
| 3.170216 |  |  | RS – Breed Standard.  Wool staple length needs clarification. This needs to be a guideline: (5-6 months growth – sheep should be shorn twice yearly). | **240216 – CLOSED.** Add text to clarify that this is based on 5-6 months growth and sheep are to be clipped twice yearly. | JMCA |
| 6.170216 | What do we do in the event where parents cannot be identified? | JW |  | **240216 – CLOSED.** JW spoke to Libby at GrassRoots she will not register any lambs without the sire.  Any lambs to be registered, sire documents must be provided.  **170216 -** JW to address with Libby from GrassRoots to ensure that two generations are given at the time of registration. | JW |
| 7.170216 | What will happen with sheep that have been imported from other origins i.e. Austria, Germany. | RI | SJ – From being involved with other breeds over the years, due to where we’re at with this breed we cannot discriminate around this and only allow Swiss imports. Could result in other societies being formed and become unable to manage it.  We will quickly establish a British standard based on the Swiss model.  We have to focus on the quality of the breed.  Keep it open and control the quality and encourage  JW – If they have the pedigree paper then that should suffice.  RI – Agreed  JMCA – Agreed. All origin information and pedigree will be recorded within Grassroots. People will have the ability to know where the stock has originated from.  AKB – with Blackface you have different types… looking at the Swiss type, and different standards etc. May need to take in to consideration if there are differences in the standards.  JW – judging according to the breed standard will cover any differences.  HMC – Other sheep should be allowed to register but there should be denotation/differentiation when advertising semen stock and embryos if they are from pure imports, Dutch, German, British bred etc. Just so people make an active decision on what they want to buy.  170216 - 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.  members present. | **240216 – CLOSED.** All members agree origin not to be a restriction for registration.  **170216 -** 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 |
| 17.170216 | Document Sharing | Agenda Item | 170216 - 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. | **240216 – CLOSED.** Documents can be accessed by members by logging in to the society website and can be found under The Society\Member’s Documents.  **170216 -** Link to document repository to be sent out to all members. | JMCA |
| 18.170216 | Website Uploads (Upcoming events, For Sale, Wanted, News, Breeder Contact Info) | Agenda Item | 170216 - 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. | **240216 – CLOSED.** Reminded everyone on the call to send details, photos, breeder info where required to the society mailbox and will be uploaded on to website.  **170216 -** All members to send required details, photos, text etc to the society mailbox where it will be uploaded to the website. | All Members/JMCA |
| 20.170216 | Member Welcome Packs: Tie/Address Confirmation | Agenda Item | 170216 - Just a reminder to everyone to reply to society mailbox with tie colour preference and confirmation of address if haven’t already done so. | **240216 – CLOSED.** Reminder to everyone to send a note to the society mailbox.  **170216 -** Tie colour preference and confirmation of address to be emailed to society mailbox. | All Members |
| 23.170216 | Are blacknose of non-Swiss origin allowed to be registered via the Society?  RS for example has blacknose which have Austrian and German ancestry. | RS | 170216 - 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. | **240216 – CLOSED**. Refer to action 7.170216.  **170216 -** To be picked up and discussed further at the next call as to how this will be tackled. | All Members |
| 24.170216 | In light of potentially 80 sheep being imported to the UK from Germany, the next call needs to be organised sooner rather than later to bottom out actions raised around sheep being imported out with Switzerland with potentially no pedigree certificates. | HMC | 170216 - Agreed by all present.  Agreed that the call will take place same time in one week at the same time. | **240216 – CLOSED.** Call scheduled and has taken place.  **170216 -** JMCA to circulate invite to all members for Wednesday, 24th February at 19:00. | JMCA |
| 25.170216 | Is the VB Annual Show only open to MV | HA | 170216 - 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. | **240216 – CLOSED.** Typo in document corrected. | JMCA |
| 26.170216 | Sub committees to be formed for shows | AKB | 170216 - We will form a list of shows which the society can attend throughout the year and form subcommittees accordingly. | **240216 – CLOSED.** Refer to open actions 13.170216, 14. 170216 and 15. 170216. | All Members |
| 21.170216 | Communication that going forward the society will use the Letter D for 2016 stock be shown on the website | AKB |  | **240216 – CLOSED.**  Tracked under action 9.170216.  **170216 -** Communication to be published on the society website and emailed to members. | JMCA |