

**JACOB SHEEP SOCIETY  
NORTHERN REGION**

**Minutes of the Autumn Meeting held at The Fox and Hounds Langthorpe,  
Boroughbridge on Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**Present:** Gavin Haworth (Regional Council Member), Rebecca Haworth, Geoff Wood, Sheila Dickinson, Tom Saxby, Richard Saxby, Mandy Ellis, Peter Ellis, Simon Baguley, Lynn Baguley, Pat Black, Trevor Black, Eric Sleightholme, Denis Lowther, Kathleen Lowther, Leigh Wilson, Florence Verity, Ron Verity, Emma Chester, Barbara Pigott, Stroma Bedell, Freda Fozzard, John Fozzard, Paul Metcalfe, Kate Metcalfe, Clive Richardson, Betty Palmer, Wendy Atkinson, John Atkinson, Howard Walsh.

1. **Welcome & Apologies:** Gavin Haworth welcomed everyone to the first meeting that he was chairing in his capacity as the Regional Council member for the Northern Region. He also thanked Jane, the owner of the Fox and Hounds for providing the meeting room. Lunch was arranged for 12.30pm for those who wished to stay.

GH also said that a talk was to be given after lunch by Jonathan Stockton of Kingsway Veterinary Group, Skipton.

Apologies were received from Mary Rudd, Mr & Mrs Simpson, Carol Hannah, Beryl Thompson, Ross Sleightholme, Stephanie Sleightholme.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:**

The minutes of the previous meeting held at The Fox and Hounds Langthorpe, Boroughbridge on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2011 were approved as a correct record. Proposed by Betty Palmer seconded by Simon Baguley.

3. **Matters Arising:**

a) It was confirmed that the Northern Region had responsibility for the silver tray which was originally bought by the Region in approximately 1986 and was presented at the Great Yorkshire Show each year. GH thanked Kathleen and Denis Lowther for arranging for it to be valued and insured. It was valued at £2500 and whoever won the tray each year would be responsible for any damage or loss whilst in their keeping.

b) The question of de-registration of rams and ewes had been raised by HW at Council but the answer was that this could not take place

c) Cost of accommodation at the Great Yorkshire Show – HW had written to the Show committee expressing our concerns regarding the costs, but it had been confirmed that the GYS was not prepared to reduce the cost. Indeed the charge had been increased by £10 and bookings were over-subscribed.

c) It was noted that the age requirement details on the judges' information form was only applicable for new judges.

**4. Correspondence:**

GH had been approached by Ian Watkins from Skipton looking for ewes for sale and Trevor Black had been approached by Jim Pilkington looking for a two horn tup. Anyone with surplus stock should speak to GH who had the contact details.

**5. Election of Organising Committee:**

A number of people had volunteered to help GH regarding Regional activities – Denis Lowther (Regional Field Officer), John and Fred Fozzard (Breed Promotion), Pat Black (minutes) Trevor Black, Richard and Thomas Saxby, Betty Palmer, Geoff Wood, Leigh Wilson. The purpose of a committee would be to help organise regional events such as the show and sale, open days and flock competition, help organise sponsorship etc Proposed by Simon Baguley seconded by Howard Walsh.

**6. Review of the AGM Weekend:**

HW and his team of helpers were thanked for the excellent organisation of the AGM weekend. Much positive feedback had been received. Special thanks were given to the people who had agreed to host visits – it was recognised that a tremendous amount of work had gone into getting ready for these visits

Geoff Wood and Sheila Dickinson – Moorhouse flock

Steven and Amy Harrison – Meathop flock

Mark Southens – Pennybridge flock

Ian Flemming – Elliswood flock

Ian Grisedale – flock of Herdwicks and Rough Fells

Clive Richardson proposed a vote of thanks for the excellent auction conducted by GH after the AGM dinner.

**7. Great Yorkshire Show:**

GH said that there had been an excellent turn out of sheep and he congratulated Clive Richardson for achieving the Reserve Champion. Hopefully next year we will be able to keep the Championship trophy in the Northern Region. GH thanked Emma and Claire for organising the food for the GYS party and it was agreed that this should go ahead again in 2012. Attendees would be expected to make a contribution towards the cost of buying the food.

**8. Review of the Skipton Sale Update:**

a) GH acknowledged that catalogues had been received late but the closing date for entries had been late, further exacerbated by the Bank Holiday. The closing date for 2012 will not only allow sufficient time for entries but it will be brought forward in order to allow plenty of time for receipt of catalogues before the sale. The sale had been a success and was continuing to improve, however it was important to support the sale through regular vendors who could attract more buyers. The averages were good and there was a strong demand for shearling ewes. GH thanked the Inspectors who were under instruction from the Field Officer to be very thorough and he also thanked Barbara Webster for carrying out the judging. GH congratulated Jackie Lewis for achieving the Championship with a gimmer lamb and also Pat and Trevor Black for achieving Reserve Championship and highest price on the day with a tup lamb.

b) Denis Lowther felt that although GH and RH had done an excellent job, they should take the opportunity to delegate more tasks. GH said that he would be looking to the committee to help in this respect so that more helpers were available. He had asked for volunteers in previous years without success except for HW. DL felt that the inspection of sheep could be more time effective and suggested that sheep should be presented to the inspectors on arrival rather than the inspectors looking at sheep in the pens. JF volunteered to help with off loading for inspection if required.

**9. Appointment of Judge, Inspectors and Adjudicator for Skipton Show and Sale 2012:**

- a) The date for the 2012 Show and Sale was likely to be Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September (to be confirmed).
- b) Lengthy discussions took place regarding who might be able to judge and inspect in 2012. After putting various names to the meeting and following a show of hands it was agreed that Arwel Jones be invited to judge with Wynn Harris as reserve judge (therefore he would be judge for 2013). Wynn Harris and David Tuffney would be asked to inspect. Clive Richardson agreed to act as Inspection Adjudicator.

**10. Open Day 2012:**

Richard and Thomas Saxby from near Skipton and Leigh Wilson from Northumberland had kindly offered to host an Open Day. It was agreed that the 2012 event would be at the Saxby's and the 2013 event at Leigh's premises. Hopefully the 2012 Open Day would be held in May but the actual date would be subject to the Saxby's' farming commitments. The Saxby's to liaise with GH. Various activities were discussed, including an auction and a judging competition in order to explore what judges are looking for. TB suggested asking newer members what they wanted such as possibly washing, trimming, and practice showing.

**11. Fund Raising to cover Regional operating costs:**

The Region incurred various costs as a result of its activities and fund raising was acceptable providing it was undertaken to further the promotion of the Jacob Sheep. Strict rules were laid down by the Charity Commissioners and some organisation had been investigated by the Commissioners because of potential breach of rules. Some ideas for fund raising were sponsorship for Skipton Show and Sale, raffles, auctions with a percentage of revenue to the vendor and a percentage to the Region, sponsorship of a newsletter with featured flock sponsorship/advertising. Travelling costs for Inspectors at Shows and Sales was to be discussed at Council and GH intended to speak to Jerry Strong regarding acceptable fund raising activities.

**12. Flock Assessment 2012:**

GH thanked JF for his organisation last year. It was intended to aim for a Flock Assessment in October again. Decisions would need to be made regarding a specific date and also who the judges would be. GH would be asking the committee to help with this.

### **13. Breed Promotion:**

- a) GH thanked JF and FF for taking on responsibility for Breed Promotion also helped by LW.
- b) JF said that Note-lets and mugs would be available for sale and consideration was being given to the production of a lambing book which would include sections on methods, equipment and dates. New members would receive one free of charge. Other members would be charged if they required one (approximately 38p). The promotion Committee also wanted to strengthen the emphasis on selling Jacob lamb by the possible production of a free flyer
- c) Woolfest would be held on 22 and 23 June 2012 – woollen items were needed for the display (contact JF or Dianne Hall).
- d) Charlecote Park in the Central Region was likely to be hosting a Jacob Day possibly 16 June – date to be confirmed. As the Park has one of the oldest Jacob flocks with very good quality animals it would be worth a visit
- e) Sheep photographs for the display stand were still required – could be e mailed to GH.
- f) The statement from Council that payment by cheque could no longer be made was to be reassessed at the next Council meeting.

### **14. Any Other Business:**

- a) GH intended to organise a Christmas lunch at the Fox and Hounds for 4th December subject to numbers – interest to be collated after the meeting.
- b) GH said that everyone appeared to be receiving the newsletter but if anyone felt that they had not received a copy to let him know. Also let GH know if anyone would like the newsletter e mailed.
- c) GH informed members that the Council meeting was being held on the following Thursday. The minutes would be placed on the website and he would feedback anything of relevance.
- d) JF pointed out that the last JSS Journal made reference to Northern England rather than Northern Region and queried why. GH to investigate.
- e) BP had been collating show results for the Journal and wished to point out that reference to DL being the judge at the Great Yorkshire Show was an editorial error and not hers.
- f) Becky still had a lot of pedigree certificates from Skipton Sale. Anyone who still had not collected their certificates should contact her.

### **15. Date of next Meeting:**

The Ordinary Meeting and the AGM to be held on 19 February subject to tying in with the date for the Council Meeting. GH to confirm together with venue.

The talk by Jonathan Stockton of Kingsway Veterinary Group, Skipton after lunch was very interesting and informative covering the main issues regarding sponging and worm resistance. A number of questions from the floor followed his talk. GH thanked Jonathan on behalf of the Region and presented him with a bottle of wine.