



## MINUTES

### For the Meeting of the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** **THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY**

Wednesday, 9 May 2018 at the Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London

Present: Mr John Hansson - Chairman  
Mr Sean Farrell - Vice-Chairman

Mrs Val Anderson	Mrs Lynda Ashmore
Dr Bruce Bennett	Dr Gillian Bennett
Dr Peter Collin	Mr Steve Crow
Mrs Hilary Dean	Mrs Rosemary Fisher
Mrs Doreen Goadby	Mr Thomas Goss
Mrs Shelagh Heavens	Mrs Jen Lacey
Mrs Helen Marriott-Power	Mrs Elaine Robinson
Mrs Lisa Robinson-Talboys	



In attendance: Mrs Sally Rainbow-Ockwell (IT Support)  
Ms Heather McIntyre (Acting Office Manager)

#### **BD3760 MEETING INTRODUCTION**

- 1. Apologies for absence.**
  - 1.1 Apologies for lateness were given on behalf of: the Vice-Chairman
- 2. Chairman's opening remarks**
  - 2.1 The meeting was opened at 11.24 and the Chairman welcomed those present.
  - 2.2 This Board Meeting followed that of 6 March as the one due to be held on 4 April had been cancelled due to the Chairman's absence. Some Board work had been completed by electronic circulation.
  - 2.3 The Chairman observed he had nothing specific to say and that it was important to get on with the meeting.

There was an objection that Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell was not a Board Member. It was noted that others had attended Board meetings in the past on an ex-officio basis and that IT business permeated much of GCCF business. A vote was taken which agreed (8-7) that SRO should go outside the room if the business did not include IT reference.

#### **BD3761 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- 1. The Minutes of the Board meeting of 6 March 2018**
  - 1.1 These had been circulated in advance of the meeting and some corrections had been made.
  - 1.2 They were approved with two abstentions (one due to absence).
  - 1.3 This was on the proposal of the proposal of HMP, 2nd PC.  
**Action: publication on the GCCF website & circulation with Council paperwork** JL/RF
- 2. Matters arising from the March minutes**
  - 2.1 BD3748.4 Microchip company discussions. SC had made contact to indicate GCCF's willingness to liaise on a project. There had been a brief acknowledgement, but no further communication.
  - 2.2 BD3754.9 The BAC and SMs had been contacted as agreed, but due to the timing of the release to SMs it had entered the public domain quickly which had caused a problem.  
**Action: care on the release of information - BACs to be the priority** HM
  - 2.3 BD3756.5 The club and BAC concerned had been notified of the Board's decision at the same time, but the club had made an instantaneous social media announcement ahead of the BAC clubs being contacted.  
**Action: note to go into correspondence to delay release if a similar circumstance occurred in future.** JL
- 3. Draft minutes of the March Finance Meeting**

Included for reference.  
(SH had an observation that would be discussed at the next FC meeting)
- 4. Minutes (28.3.18) and draft minutes (3.5.18) of the HR Committee meetings**

These had been circulated to inform the Board and were for information only.

#### **BD3762 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 1. Unregistered interests declared for the business of this meeting.**
  - 1.1 There was a brief discussion on the type of interest to be declared, and it was observed that club/BAC/show interests should be registered, but if there was no financial involvement then it was unnecessary to withdraw from discussion on the item
  - 1.2 It would be expected that new (or returning) Board members would register all of their interests in July, and that it was an appropriate time for other Board members to be sure their interests list was updated.  
**Action: to provide the appropriate paperwork for the next meeting** HM

SRO returned to the meeting.

1. **Presentation of the 2017 accounts**

1.1 Monahans had completed the examination of the annual accounts.

1.2 It was agreed that 2017 had been a very good year for the company with a £22,250 profit shown after all expenditure and support of the Supreme Show. This amount had increased the reserves held to £463,904 from £441,384.

1.3 It was noted that the Chairman's name and some Board titles needed amendment.

1.4 An accounting convention was observed that indicated depreciation as a negative to profit rather than as an expense.

1.5 It was requested that the term 'honorary' should be replaced by 'business gifts'. A note needed to be attached to indicate a Director was one of three recipients, but this was not remuneration for the work as a Director.

1.6 There were no further queries and it was agreed the accounts should be presented at the June Council meeting.

**Action: contact with Monahans to make the adjustments and the presentation.**

JH

2. **Management accounts on 2018 business**

2.1 The bookkeeper had passed on the income and expenditure information for the first three months of 2018. The figures for March had been sent the previous evening, therefore the information had to be tabled on the day which gave the Board no opportunity for consideration or comparison.

2.2 It was also noted that the figures were not presented in the same way as the previous OM, although he had been making use of the same data.

2.3 It was noted that the expenditure was high (when compared to the budget forecast) in several areas though overall it was 23.5% of the predicted amount for the year.

2.4 Income was more of concern. There was not the same detail that the Board was accustomed to, but it was indicated that although transfers were as predicted, registrations were low.

2.5 Overall there was a deficit for the quarter, which there had not been the previous year.

**Action: to go to FC for further discussion when it was hoped greater detail could be provided**

FC

3. **Volume figures & transaction graphs for core business**

3.1 These were not available as they were not readily accessible on the computer. It was disappointing not to have registration (prefix/non-prefix/imports/HHPs) designated.

3.2 It was agreed that the bookkeeper would be asked to produce figures in greater detail, and more closely aligned to what the Board was used to.

3.3 It was also pointed out that the data would be there to produce the graphs as this was derived directly from Phoenix. It was hoped that Leon could advise.

**Action: liaison between the bookkeeper, HM, SC and Leon at the Office or via Skype, suggested date 15 May.**

SC

4. **Bank account access and protocols report**

4.1 There had been little progress made in gaining access to the accounts. Mandates had been signed, but one had been returned for correction and others were waiting process. Board members who were authorised to sign cheques had no online access. Financial processes were dependent upon the bookkeeper's access.

4.2 It was decided that a list of accounts and those with access should be presented in table format. It was hoped access progress could then be more easily tracked and a more structured approach formulated.

**Action: extraction from the minutes of the accounts held and those with access to them.**

JL

4.3 The AOM had a GCCF debit card for expenses incurred in the Office that was given for use to others under supervision. There was concern that there were no known limits on transactions and no clear protocol for use by Office staff.

**Action: discussion with the bank on limit and protocol to be reported at the next FC meeting.**

HM

5. **Investment account update**

5.1 Mrs Fisher reported that the roll over on the Aldermore was completed. 1.49% was being paid on £76,000.

5.2 She had no access to Cambridge and Counties. It was believed savings for the WCC in 2121 were continuing to be paid into this account.

**Action: as at 4.2**

JL

1. **Staff & Office update**

1.1 Detail was given of staff absences (long/short term sickness) and holiday. This had left those remaining under a considerable amount of pressure to cope with the workload as two or three were trying to cope with what was normally covered by six or seven.

1.2 The use of temporary paid help and/or volunteers was queried. The AOM explained that in both cases she would be taken from the work she had to complete in order to give basic training. Apart from the occasional times when a large amount of envelopes had to be stuffed much of the work involved supplying answers to quite complex questions from customers by phone and email, and a fair amount of knowledge was required to use the system to find answers. If casual and/or volunteer help had to refer to FT staff members they were of little benefit.

1.3 She preferred to wait until new staff could be appointed and take assistance from those Directors who could attend regularly (RF, DG) and SRO who were all familiar with Office practice. JL gave support and advice remotely and dealt with some document drafting and correspondence.

1.4 It was queried whether the staff member who was long term sick had received a gift. It was confirmed that she had. (HR 3/5/18 2.7)

INFO

2. **The appointment of new staff members**

2.1 HR had scheduled 17/5/18 for full day interviews. All applicants had been invited, but it was expected some would not attend. The interviewing panel were: JH, SRO (group & personality testing) and the AOM who had drafted interview questions for objective scoring.

2.2 It was expected that a new CSA would be appointed (on a probationary term) and a temporary appointment of six months would be made to cover continued absence.

2.3 The post of financial controller had received two responses and neither applicant was really suitable. An internet match generated by the website had been supplied with the details and was considering an application. It was agreed that an experienced person looking for part-time work of this nature could possibly be found via the local newspaper.

2.4 Alternatives discussed briefly were an extension to the bookkeeper's hours and a GCCF Treasurer.

INFO

2.5 The progress the HR Group had made with organising these appointments, and the temporary appointment of an AOM and IC/DC Secretary (three month periods) was questioned for transparency in governance. The response was that the staffing situation was critical and the HR remit allowed for 'action as appropriate'. There was greater risk in letting things drift. It was agreed that more information to the Board would have been ideal, but in this case the Chairman had had to go abroad and the committee secretary was preparing minutes to be issued within a week of the meeting.

**Action: review of HR and other committee remits at the July Board meeting**

JL

3. **Redundancy request**

3.1 In the event of a financial controller being appointed the post of cash officer would be covered. There were now very few cheques received. The staff member concerned was not interested in the new post, but had asked that redundancy be considered. However, for this to be viable she would need a discretionary amount above the legal requirement.

3.2 There was some sympathy expressed for this request, as she had worked for GCCF for 14 years, and had longer hours until recently, but the amount was an additional 75% (HR 5.18/3.3)

3.3 If she continued to work there would be transference to a CSA role.

**Action: To return to a future agenda if a financial controller is appointed.**

JL

4. **Storage room/archiving**

4.1 The room below the Office contained many records from previous decades. The AOM reported they needed to sort them into what was worth preserving and rubbish.

4.2 it was suggested that the county archivist should be contacted in the first instance to give advice on how this should be done, and whether any of the records were of the type to be stored by them.

**Action: contact with an historian/archivist who could visit without cost**

HM

BD3765

**BUSINESS MATTERS**

1. **Business Plan**

1.1 The Chairman thanked Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell for completing the 2018 Business Plan. It had been circulated the previous day and so it wasn't expected that Board members would have had much time to read comment.

1.2 It was noted that SC had also contributed.

1.3 There was concern that the economic context (p7) had been copied from Price Waterhouse without consent. SRO responded that this was information in the BP from the Vice-Chairman that she had edited slightly. If necessary permission could be sought and acknowledgement given

**Action: to be checked**

SRO

1.4 It was thought that as well as there being a reduction in the number of judges due to retirement (p12) it should also be mentioned that the Show Managers available was falling for the same reason.

1.5 SRO asked that Board members should feed back their comments to her ahead of Council, particularly with reference to the Goal Delivery Plan (p4) and any offers to take ownership of a project.

**Action: feedback to be given**

All

2. **General Data Protection Regulation Update**

2.1 The GDPR summary and guidelines for clubs prepared in the Office were almost complete and would be circulated to the Board shortly.

2.2 There was discussion on whether exhibitor addresses supplied to SMs could be passed to GCCF without the express permission of the exhibitor. It was considered that as GCCF held the data in most cases (the exception being unregistered pets) this would not be problem.

2.3 SRO was planning to take advice on the publication of the suspension list and promised to check on what information SMs could send to be sure the existing rules were a fit with GDPR compliance.

**Action: checks to be made**

SRO

3. **The GCCF partnerships**

3.1 The Chairman mentioned that he had a meeting shortly at the NEC to confirm what space was needed for the Supreme, to be sure only what was required was paid for.

3.2 Afterwards meetings with both Agria and RC were planned.

3.3 Agria had sent a message during the course of the meeting confirming the amounts paid over the previous five months. There were some adjustments because of their new computer system, but it wasn't clear whether the final amount to be paid was outstanding.

4. **Canine & Feline Sector Group**
  - 4.1 SC reported that the Sector Group had had a meeting recently with Lord Gardner (minister responsible) who had confirmed the amended Animal Welfare Act had passed through parliament and was awaiting Royal Assent. It was planned that it would be in use from 1 October, although there had been warnings that the Local Authority officers had not received sufficient training.
  - 4.2 There was nothing specifically relating to cat breeding, as their sale was classified a 'pet vending'. Cat shows were not covered by the act all.
  - 4.3 There was still no definition of what was commercial breeding. The only definition was SC's own of 'intention to make a profit'.
  - 4.4 It would be for breeders to determine whether they were commercial and needed to apply for a licence. However, the need to keep financial records remained to show as proof to the local authority and/or HMRC.

**Action: a new notice to be prepared for the website** **SC**

  - 4.5 The kitten check list was ready for use to advise those obtaining a kitten. **INFO**
5. **Assistance with HMRC**
  - 5.1 HMP reported that she was aware of someone with financial expertise within GCCF who was prepared to help any breeder experiencing difficulties with HMRC. He had already been successful in rescuing some who were having problems.
  - 5.2 It was agreed that the name should be kept on record at the Office to be passed to those with major problems.

#### **BD3766 IT INFORMATION**

1. **Approach to 2018 IT strategy with reference to the Business Plan projects**
  - 1.1 SRO noted that this was difficult as the Business Plan projects and ownership of them were still to be finalised. **INFO**
2. **IT staffing proposals**
  - 2.1 Leon still had work to do covering glitches on the system and the major project of installing an effective search engine on the GCCF website. His ability to sort out system problems quickly and effectively gave the staff a sense of security. It was agreed he would most probably be retained for the year as per budget. **INFO**
3. **Update on STAR**
  - 3.1 30 shows had been completed or were in process.
  - 3.2 SRO reported there had been marked progress since the beginning. Anyone involved now who had been concerned with the first would see a definite improvement.
  - 3.3 There were different levels of the service provided. SMs could opt for a selection of providers for different aspects of the show according to need and preference.
  - 3.4 The reason for non-use were queried with Board SMs who had decide to stick with their current provision. A liking for the current provision and concern on not knowing what the costs would be once the service had to be paid for, were two responses given
  - 3.5 It was agreed that the services were yet to be properly costed.

**Action: costing of services that could be provided** **SRO**
4. **Website report**
  - 4.1 Mrs Fisher reported there had been no problems with the website.
  - 4.2 It was expected to migrate the YES information to the same platform, but the user of this area would not be aware of any difference. The security used would remain unchanged.
  - 4.3 JL had revised the explanation of the different registers, making it up to date and without critical comment on cats on the reference register. It had been liked by those who suggested it. **INFO**
5. **The SOP APP project**
  - 5.1 Mrs Fisher reported that apart from the Exotic all of the SOPs were reset in the standard format.
  - 5.2 Contact had been made with BACs, but so far only six had made a response.
  - 5.3 As most of the exhibitors and public in a show hall would be carrying phones there did not seem any reason why judges should not use the APP via their mobile if they so wished. **INFO**

#### **BD3767 PREFIXES FOR APPROVAL**

- 1.2 \*GB was not liked for the end of one and it was agreed that the applicant with the name ending with a hyphen should be made aware that there would be a space after it. **HM**
- Action: applicants to be informed.**
- 1.3 It was noted that there were not so many prefixes as usual as a tranche had been approved in early April. It was agreed that in future prefixes would be presented by circulation rather than at a meeting. **HM**
- Action: regular circulation**
- (SRO left the room)

#### **BD3768 REPORTS FROM JUDGE TRAINING & BAC REVIEW GROUPS**

1. **Report on Judge Training**
  - 1.1 Peter Collin reported that feedback was awaited from the three separate groups who were working the projects: fast-track scheme, revision to judge training, revision to the stewarding scheme
  - 1.2 Claire Lewis had requested to join the group dealing with judge training as she had time to commit. It was agreed that she should be invited. **INFO**
2. **Report from the BAC Review Group**
  - 2.1 There had been some feedback on the information sent from the January meeting to BACs, but not many had contributed yet.

- 2.2 There had been no rejection of the need for merging so that judges in multi-breed sections could be trained by group rather than individual lists, but all had commented that the structures suggested seemed too complex.
- 2.3 Alternatives had been suggested, but had served to highlight the main problem. A group could consider judge progress with a small number of representatives of each breed concerned providing input from breed clubs, but it could not act also as a BAC for each breed as did the PER LH, British SH, Burmese and others that catered for the single breed Grand Groups.
- 2.4 The Rex JAC had been quoted as an example, but it was able to work because several of the clubs involved catered for more than one of the breeds. This enabled the decision making process on breed matters to function in a way that single representation from two clubs would not. Nearly all present could have no input.

**Action: further meetings for each group to be arranged**

**PC/JH**

## **BD3769 OTHER SHOW MATTERS**

1. **2017/2018 Show changes - for report** None
  
2. **2017/2018 Show Changes - for approval**  
Oicat CC 31 March 2018, sharing with Cambridge CC, Buck, Berks & Oxon and 3 other breed shows.  
Approval confirmed by Board circulation.
3. **2017/2018 Show Licence Details Still Awaited** None
  
4. **2018-19 show changes for report**
  - 4.1 Oriental LH Breed Club - 4 August. Confirmation of share with the Blue Pointed Siamese CC & venue to be Droitwich Spa High School, Briar Mill, Droitwich Spa WR9 0AA.
  - 4.2 Red, Cream & Tortoiseshell Society - 9 February 2019 date change requested to 24/11/2018 with a change of SM from Mrs J Wilkinson to Mr & Mrs S McEwan.
  - 4.3 Chinchilla, Silver Tabby and Smoke CS Society - 9 February 2019 date change requested to 24/11/2018 with a change of SM from Mrs S Kirk to Mr & Mrs S McEwan.
  - 4.4 Seal Point Siamese CC - 6 October 2018 date change requested to 10 November 2018.
  - 4.5 Edinburgh & East of Scotland CC - 13 October 2018. Venue change requested to the Academy Park Sports Centre, Edinburgh.
  - 4.6 North of Britain LH & SLH - 2 February 2019 (sharing with the Siberian CC). Date change requested to 9 February 2019 (Siberian CC already agreed for this date).
  - 4.7 Colourpoint, Rex-coated & AOV - 24 November 2017 have an SM change from Mrs J Cooper to Mrs June Gillies.
  - 4.8 Chocolate Point Siamese CS - 4 May 2019. Venue change requested to the Exeter Hall, Kidlington, Oxfordshire, with additional breeds Orientals including Oriental LH.

**Action: all of the above were circulated to the Board & agreed. Check to be made that the clubs were informed.** **HM**
  
5. **2018-19 show changes for approval**
  - 5.1 United Chinchilla Association - 26 January 2019. The date change to 16 February, and the inclusion of bicouleurs were already approved. A query on Asian in associated colours to include self and tortie had been brought forward. It was agreed that there could be no further extension of the breeds allowed.
  - 5.2 Midshires Siamese CA - 4 May 2019. Date change requested for 19 January 2019 to share with SHCS and six breed clubs at the Sky Blue Sports Connexion Leisure Club, Coventry with SM Mrs L Ashmore.
  - 5.3 Asian CA - 13 April 2019. Date change requested to 27 April 2019.

**Action: the clubs to be informed of the Board decisions** **JL**
  
6. **Late show licence applications**
  - 6.1 Croydon CC - 9 February at the Rivermead Leisure Complex, Reading, with SM Ms Sue Deane.
  - 6.2 Southern Counties CC - 9 February at the Rivermead Leisure Complex, Reading, with SM Ms Sue Deane
  - 6.3 Northern Ireland CC - 9 March at the Sixmile Leisure Centre, Newtownabbey, with SM Mrs Pat Hartin, and ASM Mrs A S Gibson. **JL**
  
7. **YES! Scheme update and letter re 'Safeguarding'**
  - 7.1 A letter had been received from a qualified person whose profession was child welfare and the safeguarding of children. She was particularly concerned with the use of mobile devices for checking an SOP APP as most enabled photography and this was a risk if children were being mentored by the judges using them.
  - 7.2 It was recognised that there was a small risk, but that this was mitigated by the fact that the show hall was a public space. There would be many present with mobiles. All mentors were instructed never to leave the show hall with young person.
  - 7.3 Mrs Ashmore reported that the request for parents to leave contact details was being updated to include the instruction that they should remain contactable, following an incident when neither parent had a phone switched on.
  - 7.4 It was agreed that the comments would be passed to the organisers of YES for consideration and that GCCF should have the link to a recommended document on the website.

**Actions: the sender to be thanked & circulation for YES consideration** **JL/LA**

8. **Judge eligibility for the new structure**  
8.1 There was some discussion on the wording for the Olympian. It was thought it may not cover all circumstances when there was more than one breed at a breed show, or leave room for doubt on who was qualified.  
8.2 There was a suggestion that multi-breed shows could have their Olympian qualification designated on an individual basis, but no volunteer at the meeting to take on the task.  
8.2 A return to 50% for Grand Classes was suggested, but considered impractical, especially as a number of judges were qualified by what they were eligible to judge prior to 1 June 2018.  
**Action: the paper to be published and improvements made if queries were received** **JL/RF**
9. **USABCC-GCCF - update**  
9.1 The club had been informed that GCCF did not combine with clubs to hold shows, and could not make an exemption. There had been no further comment. **INFO**
10. **Countersignatures**  
10.1 It was agreed that the countersignature of a judge for a Foreign Imperial could stand although both he and the judge doing the class had awarded Imperial certificates previously. The exhibitor had not entered under either, but under a third (different) judge who was not present, and therefore should not be penalised.  
10.2. It was decided that if other judges eligible for the Imperial class in a multi-breed section were not present at a show to provide a countersignature, the most highly qualified judge for the breed (as determined by the SM) could be used as a substitute, and countersign if satisfied that the certificate should be awarded.  
**Action: SMs to be informed** **HM**
11. **Welfare concerns re breeding & showing**  
11.1 It was noted that the Animal Welfare Act was cited, but it was not applicable to the circumstances cited.  
11.2 It was concluded the breeding issues were covered by existing GCCF policies and those written for individual breeds by the relevant BAC, and improvements to show circumstances could be put to Council at any time via a club.  
**Action: a brief response to be made to the sender** **JL**
12. **Other show matters**  
12.1 Show matters would be reported to BACs or clubs in advance of website publication or circulation because of possible sensitivity (as BD376.2.2) The AOM noted this for the future.  
12.2 In response to a query it was confirmed that if a Show Manger was unable to attend the event s/he could retain the position and responsibility if available for contact on the day.  
12.3 Show matters would be circulated to the Board and come to a meeting only if issues were raised for discussion. **INFO**  
(SRO returned to the room)
- BD3770 DISCIPLINARY**
1. **Bye-Law Revision re relationships with other organisations for those with GCCF responsibilities**  
1.1 The amendment had been made to remove the vague term that was open to varied interpretation.  
1.2 It was noted that there was a lot of wording to set the changes required in context, but the intention was to clarify that a show manager was an official in another organisation, as with an officer or committee member. Also, that judges operated under a reciprocal agreement rather than requiring permission for each separate engagement with another organisation.  
1.3 It was proposed as an amendment that the term 'functionary' should be removed as this was obsolete and open to misinterpretation. This was agreed.  
1.4 It was agreed that the Bylaw changes should be put to June Council. 1 abstention.  
**Action: to be on the agenda for the June Council meeting** **JL**
2. **Correspondence re the Breeder Scheme suspension**  
2.1 The Breeder Scheme administrator had sent the appeal made by the breeder who was suspended, together with some comment on the circumstances provided by the breed club (of which she was not a member).  
2.2 It was confirmed that the decision made in March should stand. The breeder was not a member of a GCCF club that had full membership, and she was using the scheme's logo to support the advertising of others that she worked with who were not BS members.  
**Action: the BS member concerned to be informed** **Office (LC)**
3. **Reminders to judges on reports**  
3.1 A reminder at three weeks had been trialled and several judges had not liked it.  
3.2 Most judges had submitted reports by 4 weeks so an automatic reminder to those who had not (as was the current practice via personal contact) was thought by IC to be more acceptable. It also tied in better with the wording in the Fixed Penalty.  
3.3 This was agreed after discussion.  
3.4 It was noted that the letter would need some revision and the work would be necessary to reset the programming so that the letter was issued after four weeks.  
**Action: referral for IT changes** **SRO**

**BD3771 REGISTRATION, TRANSFER & SOP MATTERS**

1. **Extension of generations required for the Birman registration policy**
  - 1.1 The BAC had replied to the Board's suggestion mentioning exhibition with critique classes.
  - 1.2 A response had been made suggesting how the new rule could be included, but the BAC had not yet given an answer to this.
  - 1.3 A letter received from a breeder of silver Birmans suggested that her cats could 'progress' and it was noted that the BAC did not have the clause 'with no progression' for XLH within its policy. It was agreed that they should be advised to consider it.

**Action: to be referred back to the BAC with suggested revisions** **JL**
  
2. **Clarification of the Exotic registration policy**

The two clarifications had been made. Mandatory testing was set to start from the Council date (20.6.2018) and all cats imported onto the GCCF register would be covered by the requirements.

  - 2.2 This was approved.

**Action: the Exotic BAC to be informed this would be on the June council agenda.** **JL**
  
3. **Amendments to the LaPerm registration policy and a dispensation request**
  - 3.1 The intention of the policy was to permit cats with a non-acceptable outcross in the background to be allowed reference registration and thereby be given the breed name. Their progeny would then be able to progress as LaPerms.
  - 3.2 The inclusion of GCCF rule, section 1:12cii would then give these cats (and other reference register LaPerms) access to exhibition with critique classes and a move to the supplementary register if of a satisfactory phenotype, as determined by judges of the breed.
  - 3.3 It was agreed that this was acceptable.
  - 3.4 However, it was decided that a cat with a non-acceptable outcross should not be on exhibition prior to its registration as a LaPerm, which could only be after Council approval for the policy changes.

**Action: the BAC to be informed and the revised policy to be on the June Council agenda.** **JL**
  
4. **Amendments to the Asian registration policy and SOP**
  - 4.1 The amendments had been brought forward following deferment at the 2017 May Board meeting when they were included with various other revisions that were approved (BD3678.8).
  - 4.2 It was agreed that registration policy and SOP changes that introduced new colours of an existing breed were only part of what was required for this purpose. In this case, as the cats were designated as variants there should have been reference to the GCCF Variant Policy and a rationale provided for why this was not being followed.
  - 4.3 It was not accepted policy to have cats on the show bench of the same appearance as an existing breed, but referred to by a different name.

**Action: the BAC to be informed.** **JL**
  
5. **Amendments to the Australian Mist SOP**
  - 5.1 The revisions requested by the Board in January (BD3740.8) had been made. The SOP amendments were shown clearly and GEMS code had been included.
  - 5.2 It was agreed that the revised SOP was an improvement on the previous version and it was approved.

**Action: the BAC to be informed and the revised SOP to be on the June Council agenda.** **JL**
  
6. **Revised SOP for Chartreux**
  - 6.1 The Chartreux Breeder Group had made the three amendments requested by the Board in March (BD3756.3) and it was agreed the revised SOP should be approved.
  - 6.2 It would be presented to the June Council meeting.

**Action: the Breeder Group to be informed and the revised SOP to be on the June Council agenda.** **JL**
  
7. **Amendment to the British LH SOP**
  - 7.1 The only change was 'moderately' had been added to the description of the nose to modify 'short', with the rationale that it was safeguard against any extreme.
  - 7.2 This was agreed.

**Action: the Breeder Group to be informed and the revised SOP to be on the June Council agenda.** **JL**
  
8. **Amendments to the Certificate of Entirety**
  - 8.1 A change in the wording was agreed by the Board to allow stud owners to send their certificates as pdfs as well as paper documents.

**Action: this information to be publicised on the GCCF website** **HM**

**BD3772 CLUB & BAC MATTERS**

1. **2017 club returns**
  1. Mrs Goadby reported that club returns had been coming in well. Some clubs who were unable to complete had sent an apology and explanation, as was required in the Byelaws. It seemed as though the reminder given to delegates at the February Council meeting had been effective, though there were still a substantial minority yet to send anything.
  2. At the time of the meeting four clubs had requested dispensation to continue sending a delegate although their numbers were not sufficient. Their details would be listed on the Council agenda and it was expected there would be more to be included on the supplementary agenda.
  3. Board members were given a list of the clubs to show those who were yet to make their returns and requested to give reminders to the committee if any were known to them.

**INFO**

2. **An application for Full GCCF Membership for the Suffolk Breed Club**
  - 2.1 An application for full GCCF membership had been received and it was confirmed the club satisfied the Byelaw requirements.
  - 2.2 Membership was necessary if the club was also to function as a BAC for the Suffolk which was necessary for the breed to be promoted to championship status.
  - 2.3 It was noted in the rules submitted that the committee quorum given was larger than that required for the AGM, and agreed that was not desirable. It was decided that the club should be contacted and if a suitable amendment was received the application should go forward to Council.

**Action: the club to be contacted for a rule amendment** **JL**
3. **Update on RACCS**
  - 3.1 FC had examined the club's accounts and agreed that lack of a balance sheet was contrary to the Byelaw requirements (FC772).
  - 3.2 The club would remain suspended until this was provided. Therefore it would not be able to send a delegate to Council or be granted a show licence. **INFO**
4. **Breeder Scheme - acceptance of membership for those in provisional clubs**
  - 4.1 It was agreed that if there was a breed club with full membership it should be expected that the applicant for the Breeder Scheme should be a member of this rather than a provisional club catering for the breed. An appeal could be made if membership had been refused.
  - 4.2 However, if the only club(s) for the breed had provisional status (as was usually the case for new breeds) then membership of such a club should satisfy the Breeder Scheme requirement.

**Action: some rewording of the BS terms and conditions to reflect this decision.** **JL**

#### **BD3773           EVENTS**

1. **The 2018 Supreme**
  - 1.1 A committee meeting had taken place on 13 March and the class allocation and judge invitations were now being put together. Most of the overseas judges had already accepted their invitations.
  - 1.2 The exact requirements for floor space were being negotiated with the NEC to be sure payment was only for what was needed.

**Action: minutes to be circulated** **JL**

  - 1.3 JH had made arrangements to visit Events City in Manchester to assess its suitability and compare costs with the NEC for future years. **INFO**
2. **The National Pet Show**
  - 2.1 Mrs Heavens had information from the NPS management that gave the floorplan detail, the marketing opportunities, and the theme for the year. This was described as the 'English Country Cat Garden'.
  - 2.2 The design of the Garden with trees, hedging and garden furniture was described. These features would be provided with a contribution of £600 towards the costs. The pens were to be decorated as potting sheds and GCCF would be responsible for the construction and the costs of these.
  - 2.3 It was confirmed that the Top Cat Show could be run alongside in the usual way.
  - 2.4 It was agreed that the terms were acceptable and the ideas should be explored further by Mrs Taylor and her team, on behalf of GCCF.

**Action: The details to be circulated, and Board comment passed on to the organisers** **SH**
3. **The WCC Show 2021**
  - 3.1 The Chairman reported on how well organised the WCC show in Italy had been. Each year there were improvements.
  - 3.2 It was suggested that a committee should be appointed to work to prepare the show in 2021.
  - 3.3 Warwick castle was suggested as an alternative to Cadbury World as an interesting place for an organised visit. It was agreed both should be investigated for suitability. **INFO**

#### **BD3774           ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1. The Acting OM reported she was investigating a new phone system for the Office as the present one no longer met the Office requirements. It was agreed that she could obtain specifications and costs (3 providers) and report these to the FC and/or the July Board meeting.
  2. There was a brief discussion on the necessity of continuing with assessment writing at shows. Most agreed there was no reason why written reports should not be published after the show as with other classes.
  3. The possibility of show codes for pedigree pets was suggested.
- Action: these matters to be on the July Board agenda** **JL**

The meeting finished at 5.25pm with business completed.

NEXT MEETING: **WEDNESDAY**, 18 July 2018, at 11.00 for 11.15am, at The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London