



GENERAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY
Meeting of Full Council



Wednesday 21 February 2018 at the Conway Hall, Holborn, London

		PRESENTED BY	ACTION BY
C2189	WELCOME TO THE DELEGATES AND IN MEMORIAM	Chairman	
	At 1.10pm the Chairman welcomed delegates and thanked them for making the journey, which wasn't always easy. Coral Allam, Val Booth, Paula Budden, Alexander Hepburn, Joye Jones, Sharon Keenan, Elaine Richardson, Lyn Spencer-Mills, Val Shepherd and Nancy Webster were remembered in a moment of silence.		
C2190	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Chairman	
	The Chairman gave apologies on behalf of the President, Shirley Bullock, who had sent good wishes for a successful meeting, and Vice-President, Eric Wickham-Ruffle, who had sent a note to say how impressed he was by the professionalism of the meetings. Delegate apologies were as recorded on the attendance sheet.		
C2191	CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS	Chairman	
	1.1 The Chairman took the opportunity to remind delegates it would be another busy meeting, and said it would be appreciated if points made in discussions were not repeated.		
C2192	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING		
1.	The Minutes of the Council meeting of 4 October 2017	Chairman	
1.1	The draft minutes had been circulated with the Council paperwork. Also, following Board discussion and amendment at the November meeting, they had been published on the GCCF website, and delegates were emailed with a direct link. No requests for amendments had been received.		
1.2	There was a proposal to accept them from Mrs Prowse which was seconded.		
	Majority approval	0 against	4 abstentions
	Action: the approved minutes to go onto the website		JL/RF
2.	Matters arising, and delegate questions on ongoing business not covered by an agenda item		
	C2176.2 Notification of a Club status change		
2.1	The Board had accepted the Central Longhair & Semi-Longhair Cat Club's request to become an all-breed rather than a specialist club. Its name would include 'and All-Breed'.		
2.2	It was noted that the agenda had the correct date on the title page but was headed inside with the date of the previous meeting. The Committee Secretary apologised. An amendment had been made on the website.		
C2193	MINUTES OF MEETINGS FOR INFORMATION ONLY	Chairman	
1.	Board of Directors: 24 August 2017, 17 November 2017. No queries or comments		
2.	Finance Committee: 20 September 2017	No queries or comments.	INFO
C2194	BYELAW REVISION	Chairman	
1.	(9:4 MEETING NOTIFICATION)		
1.1	This had been proposed to give delegates time to consider any amendments proposed, and allow for any checks to be made against a recording of the proceedings to ensure the accuracy of the final minute record. (The OM confirmed that this meeting was not being recorded but it was intended that future ones would be.)		
1.2	At least twenty-eight days' notice in writing shall be given by the Council Office to the Honorary Officers and to all delegates of all Council Meetings and of the business to be transacted thereat, but in the case of Special meetings called under this Byelaw fourteen days' notice only shall be required. <u>This business shall include any proposed substantive amendments (those requiring more than one sentence of addition and/or deletion) to the minutes of the previous Council meeting, or any query on meeting procedure, for the consideration of all who attended.</u>		
	Unanimous approval	0 against	0 abstentions
2.	Increase in fines: amendment to Byelaw 12 4 (c) (ii)		
2.1	This had been proposed by the Disciplinary Committee as it has been many years since the fixed level of the fine was set, and it was felt that if there were a wider range of financial penalty options the gravity of some cases could be better reflected.		
2.2	It was confirmed that DC had complete discretion on the amount of the fine and/or cost imposed.		

2.2 Imposition of a fine not exceeding £500 ~~£500~~ **£1000** payable in such a manner and at such a time or times as the Committee may order.

Majority approval 2 against 6 abstentions

Action: Byelaws to be updated

Office

C2195

RULE CHANGES

1. Revision of the vaccination rule - Section 1:10bii

- 1.1 The purpose was to ensure that cats of all ages were protected by vaccination when they moved from one home to another. It was confirmed that the rule concerned the sale of cat and kittens from a breeder or owner and not welfare or rescue situations.
- 1.2 It had come to attention of IC that contracts were sometimes misused with buyers being obliged to sign at the time of a kitten collection or delivery. Therefore, the option to do this was closed and if a breeder had an emergency situation where unvaccinated cats and kittens went to a new home the Office could be informed so that a record could be made.
- 1.3 An amendment was proposed to substitute 'contacted' with 'informed' and remove the last five words.

Majority approval 4 against 13 abstentions

1.4 The rule change was then agreed as:

All **cats** and kittens must be fully vaccinated against infectious enteritis (FPV), FHV and FCV ('cat flu') at least one week prior to sale and/or leaving for a new home, ~~unless it is agreed otherwise in writing and signed by both parties.~~

Note: In the event of an emergency that requires a cat or kitten to be re-homed that is not fully vaccinated the GCCF office should be informed as soon as possible.

Majority approval 14 against 2 abstentions

2. Rule changes to remove the necessity for three generations of registered ancestors before a cat is eligible for competition in GCCF shows, to assist minority breeds **GC**

- 2.1 It was deemed important for some breeds to introduce new lines via unregistered cats (because of lack of a registering authority in the country of origin of foundation cats, or the necessity for a domestic cat as an approved outcross). If the offspring of such cats could be shown in competition, and therefore gain awards, it was thought more more likely that the new bloodline would be known about and used by other breeders. This could then encourage more interest and participation in breed development
- 2.2 However it was acknowledged that some BACs would have no interest in such a procedure and therefore it would require a registration policy change proposed by a BAC before consideration of implementation.
- 2.3

Section 1 12c) The Full and Supplementary registers are for:

- i) Cats with registered parents, grandparents and great grandparents or additional generations as required by the Registration Policy for that breed.
- ii) **If so stipulated by the approved Registration Policy for the breed, cats (and their progeny) with registered parents who conform sufficiently to the breed phenotype, as defined by the Standard of Points, may be re-allocated to the Supplementary Register from the Reference Register and so be eligible for competition in GCCF shows. The opinion of at least three Full Judges of the breed would be required in support from occasions when the cat is shown as an adult in exhibition with critique classes.**

Historical Notes:

- i) Only cats with registered parents, grandparents and great grandparents have been ~~were~~ eligible for Full and Supplementary registration (conferring eligibility for pedigree classes at shows from 1971-~~2018~~. **The importance of individuals with new bloodlines from foundation cats and/or approved outcrosses to assist breed development was then acknowledged to allow for clause ii) as above.**
- ii) The Experimental Register (EXP) was for cats of a preliminary status breed until October 2015 (conferring eligibility for assessment classes).

Majority approval 6 against 6 abstentions

Supplementary Register

14a) Cats will be placed on the Supplementary register when the preceding generations (minimum of 3 generations) defined by the Registration Policy for that breed conform to acceptable breeding policy for that breed.

Reference Register

17. The reference register shall be for the following groups of cats:

17a) Cats with unregistered parents, grandparents or great grandparents or additional generations as required by the registration for that breed.

Note: A BAC may provide in its Registration Policy for cats with registered parents to be re-allocated to the Supplementary Register if determined as suitable for competition at GCCF shows (as rule 12ii), if this requirement is considered as necessary for breed development.*

Majority approval 0 against 1 abstention

Action: Registration policies to be amended if there is interest in using this procedure.

BACs

3. To allow show management discretion to accept class upgrades for cats entered after the show's closing date. Chairman

- 3.1 The purpose was to enable show managers to provide an additional service for exhibitors
3.2 There was some discussion on whether show managers should be allowed discretion, but it was concluded that a precedent for this existed in other rules.
3.2 Section 2:7e and Section 4:11

'...unless it has attained the relevant qualifying status, on or before the closing date for entry, as stated in the schedule, or any extension published on the GGF website, **although upgrades after that date may be taken at the show manager's discretion.**

Majority approval 2 against 1 abstention

4. Exhibitors must request their addresses to be published and not be expected to opt out. Chairman

- 4.1 This was proposed in order to be compliant with the General Data Protection Regulations. All clubs would have to take note and decide whether to offer an optional listing in show catalogues or not.
4.2 Section 2:11 b

A list of the names and addresses of all exhibitors together with the numbers of the pens allotted to them. Note: an exhibit may request in writing that the address provided on the entry form shall be omitted from the catalogue, and the show management should ensure that this instruction is followed.

A list of the names of all exhibitors together with the numbers of the pens allotted to them. Note: Show management may offer to include additional details, such as postal and/or email addresses, entirely at its discretion. If this service is provided exhibitors must request inclusion of any such personal information with their show entry.

Unanimous approval 0 against 0 abstentions

- 4.3 This revision necessitated a change in the returns requirements. It was noted in Council that Olympian classes also needed to be mentioned.
4.4 Section 2:20c

The show management shall, within seven days of the closure of the show, send to the GCCF Office one fully marked, certified, copy of the catalogue, together with the details of any addresses that have been omitted from it by exhibitor request (Rule Section 2:11b) **a list of the names and addresses of all exhibitors. (This list will not be necessary if GCCF show processing has been used.)** The catalogue should be complete with Open **Breed**, Grand, Imperial Grand **Olympian**, Assessment **and Overall Best In Show where offered** class results. All Open **Breed**, Grand, Imperial Grand, **Olympian**, Assessment **and Overall Best In Show where offered** class judge changes must be marked.

Unanimous approval 0 against 0 abstentions

- 4.5 There followed some discussion on the terms of the General Data Protection Regulations. It was confirmed that they would also be applicable in Eire.
The need to allow for an opt in rather than opt out was mentioned, as was the requirement for the removal of personal data on request. However, there could be transfer of data, if secure, for legitimate business reasons. It was acknowledged that there was still a lot more to learn about how GDPR would affect GCCF's processes. Implementation was confirmed as 25 May 2018.

Action: the rules to be amended to incorporate the agreed changes in 1-4. Office

5. Amendments to the '13 day' rule Progressive Singapura CC

- 5.1 The changes were proposed by a club and a statement asking for the retention of the status quo had been submitted from the Veterinary Advisory Committee.
5.2 The PSCC delegate argued that the rule made more sense if it was applied to the cat rather than the household and that with the regular use of vaccinations and the general good health of cats infection risk was low risk. There were also times when the rule could be applied to a household where the cat did not actually live, and breeders accepted that other cats visited for stud contact without major impact.
5.3 He was supported by other delegates who commented that GCCF was the only organisation to implement such a stringent rule when there was no definite evidence that it was necessary. However, it was noted that GCCF was respected by veterinary organisations and charities for consideration of best practice.
5.4 The VAC had argued that it offered better protection for cats if the none of the household was shown again within 13 days as it gave better opportunity for an infectious disease to show symptoms if present.
5.5 Delegates present gave examples of occasions when cats and kittens had returned from a show and been ill a little over a week later, and observed it was difficult to barrier nurse in a home situation and so infection could spread to others in the household.
5.6 It was proposed that the removal 'or following' would still mean an individual cat would not be shown more often than once a fortnight. However, it was pointed out that this would enable a cat to attend a non-GCCF event the following week.
5.7 A paper vote had been requested, and the slips provided were counted by the Office staff present.

The proposal was lost 15 in favour 80 against 1 spoil paper INFO

C2196 BREED APPLICATIONS BSGC

1. Recognition for the British Shorthair AC Golden Pointed (BSH -y 33)

- 1.1 The BAC had made an application for the BSH Golden Pointed cats to be shown in the existing class with other BSH colour pointed.
1.2 The BSH SOP had been amended to include them and was submitted for approval.
1.3 The registration policy had also been updated accordingly.
1.4 There was a vote for the acceptance of the new colour of an existing pattern.

Majority approval 1 against 0 abstentions

- 1.5 Cats could be entered in the existing appropriate class at shows not yet closed.

Action: the BSGC to be informed JL

- 1. Revisions to the Australian Mist registration policy** **A-MBAC**
- 1.1 There were 2 revisions to the Australian Mist registration policy. Reference to orange in the background of an outcross was removed as unnecessary, and DNA tests when an outcross was made to a Burmese had become mandatory rather than advisory
- 1.2 There were no queries and the revised policy was approved.
Unanimous approval 0 against 0 abstentions
- 2. A revised registration policy for Exotics** **EXBAC**
- 2.1 There was substantial revision to the Exotic registration policy to align it closely to the Persian LH registration policy. Exotic LHs were now registered and shown as Persian LHs.
- 2.2 There was a query on note 3 of the policy which referred to DNA testing for progressive retinal atrophy. It was unclear whether this was going to be required as an advisory or mandatory test.
- 2.3 It was agreed that this could not be determined by the representative to Council and would have to be referred back to the Exotic BAC for clarification. The policy was therefore withdrawn.
- Action: the BAC to be advised to make the necessary amendment and represent the policy** **JL**
- 3. Persian LH registration policy revisions** **PERLHBAC**
- 3.1 There were deletions from the notes on introductory page to remove outdated register references.
- 3.2 The substantive changes were to the lists of colours and patterns suitable for full and supplementary registration and reference to Exotic SHs as a Persian LH.
- 3.3 The year of 2016 was mentioned for the introduction of DNA testing and queried. However, and it was stated that this was already in place from that date, and not a new requirement.
- 3.3 The revised policy was approved.
Unanimous approval 0 against 0 abstentions
- 4. Amendments to the Russian registration policy** **RUSBAC**
- 4.1 Amendments had been made to the obligatory DNA tests required for an import or an outcross.
- 4.2 There were no queries and the revised policy was approved.
Unanimous approval 0 against 0 abstentions
- 5. Amendments to Tonkinese registration policy** **TONBACG**
- 5.1 Additional DNA testing was required for males to be registered as active.
- 5.2 There were no queries and the revised policy was approved.
Unanimous approval 0 against 0 abstentions
- 6. Note of clarification to the BSH registration policy** **BSGC**
- 6.1 This had been published on the website and no queries had been received. **INFO**
- 7. Amendment to the BSH SOP in respect of Red & Cream re tabby markings** **BSGC**
- 7.1 The amendment was relevant to Red and Cream BSH only.
- 7.2 There were no queries and the revised SOP was approved.
Majority approval 1 against 0 abstentions
- 8. Amendments to the SOP for Exotics** **EXBAC**
- 8.1 There was an amendment re the amount of body colour on Shaded Cameo Bi-Colour Exotics.
- 8.2 There were no queries and the revised SP was approved.
Unanimous approval 0 against 0 abstentions
- Action: the relevant BACs/Groups for 1 & 3-8 to be informed of the approval** **JL**
- 9. Minor changes to the Egyptian Mau SOP published on the website** **INFO**
- 9.1 These had been published on the website and no queries were received. **INFO**
- 10. Minor change to the Oriental SOP published on the website** **INFO**
- 10.1 These had been published on the website and no queries were received. **INFO**
- 11. Breeding from male torties** **Board**
- 11.1 The Board had discussed this further, as requested, and advice had been taken from Langford on DNA testing a tortie male for the purpose of any health checks required by a registration policy. The DNA in cells from a cheek swab would not necessarily be that passed on to the progeny.
- 11.2 It was agreed that breeding from a tortie male was acceptable if there was a purpose to it, but the Board would want to be informed in advance of the mating so that any necessary adjustments to the computer programming could be prepared for, and consideration could be given on a case by case basis to any health checks necessary for the breed. **INFO**

- 1. JUDGES FOR APPROVAL** (all approved unanimously) **BACs**
- Birman BAC** Pupil Judge Mrs Helen Marriott-Power
- Joint Rex BAC** Full Judge (DRX & SRL/S) Mr John Harrison

	Pupil Judge (LPL/S) Extensions to January 2019	Mr John Harrison Mrs Sue Amor (DRX) Mrs Maggie Birchall (CRX, DRX, SRL/S LPL/S) Miss Janet Tonkinson (CRX)
Korat & Thai BAC	Full Judge	Mrs Sarah Bower
Norwegian Forest Cat BAC	Full Judge	Mr Gerald Martin Mr Jon Trotter
Russian BAC	Pupil Judge	Mrs Sally Rainbow-Ockwell Mrs Caroline Roberts Mr Jon Trotter

Action: Judges & BACs to be informed and lists updated

JL

2. NOTIFICATION OF JUDGES APPROVED VIA THE WEBSITE SINCE OCTOBER COUNCIL

INFO

Balinese BAC C	Full Judge Pupil Judge	Mrs Barbara Prowse Mrs Perri Mansaray Mrs Clare Whitby
Bengal BAC	Full Judge 1 year Extension to October 2018	Mrs Linda Whitmore Mrs Dorothy Stone
BSGC	Full Judge Pupil Judge	Mr John Harrison Mr Mark Pearman
Burmese BAC	Full Judge	Miss Janet Tonkinson
Egyptian Mau BAC	Pupil Judge	Mrs Sally Tokens
Maine Coon BAC	1 year Extension to October 2018	Mrs Dorothy Stone
Oriental BAC	Pupil Judge Discounted time (Jan-June 2018)	Mrs Clare Whitby Mrs Joan Pounds
Ragdoll BAC	Full Judge	Dr Bruce Bennett Mrs Sharara Crichton
Siamese Cat JAC	Full Judge Pupil Judge	Mrs Pina Bruno-Grieve Mrs Perri Mansaray
Siberian BAC	Pupil Judge	Mrs Fiona Hermon
Sphynx BAC	1 year Extension to June 2018	Mr Peter Williams
Suffolk Breed Group	Full Judge	Mr Mark Pearman
Somali BAC	Pupil Judge	Mrs Teresa Cole Mr Steve Parkin
Suffolk Breed Group	Full Judge	Mrs Susan Dalton-Hobbs Mr George Godfrey
Tonkinese BAC	Pupil Judge	Mr Stephen McConnell
Toyger Breed Group	Full Judge	Mrs Marlene Buckeridge

3. JUDGE WITHDRAWALS/REMOVALS

Emeritus BURMESE List: David Barrett, Barbara Boizard-Neal, Lyn Dixon, Jackie Hitchen, Judy Potter, Maureen Smith, Gary Tweed.

Emeritus all lists: Shirley Bullock, Lindsey Grant, Marlene Laird, Wendy McQuilken, Margaret Walkden

Retired from the Siamese list: Linda Walpole

Retired from the Tonkinese list: David Barrett, Barbara Boizard-Neal, Doreen Burke, Jenny Cunningham, Joyce Dell, Steve Nash-Morris, Lilian Niblock and Judy Potter.

Birman list withdrawal: Mrs Celia De Martino

C2200

SHOW MATTERS

1. Update on show restructure and judge training revision

CK/PC

1.1 Kate Kaye stated that the work of the Show Structure Review Group had come to an end. The new sections

and Grand groups would be in place from June 2018 and preparations were now in their final stages.

- 1.2 The Judge Training and BAC Review Groups would be continuing as it was planned that the new Judge Training Scheme would be ready for June 2019 delivered via a revised BAC structure.
- 1.3 Reassurance was given that breed shows would not be changed by the restructure, as the sections related to all-breed shows only. The class splits offered at a breed show, and the format of the show in general, could continue to be planned by the show management team in the same way as now.
- 1.4 It was confirmed that for Siamese and Orientals at an AB show there would be only one BOV offered. This was based on the reduced entry level as with some of the changes in other sections.
- 1.5 There were objections from delegates representing Birman clubs at the loss of the Birman only Grand class, with the response that this was also based on entry numbers (published on the website) over the past three years to ensure a level playing field for all breeds in the section. If numbers changed again, as they probably would in time, then there could be further change. It was recommended that any application for this was based on statistical evidence.
- 1.6 Delegates speaking on behalf of the Suffolk and Oriental clubs were given a similar reply. There would be no change for a year, but if they wished to make an evidence based application subsequently for Suffolks not to remain in Section 6 it would be considered.
- 1.7 Peter Collin explained the Judge Training Review Group was working on three different areas of revision: stewarding, the accelerated scheme for existing Full Judges to qualify them across Grand groups and Sections quickly if they wished to do so, and the complete new training scheme for those wishing to become judges.
- 1.8 John Hansson said the first detailed consultation paper had been sent to BACs for comment which reduced the number of groups involved in training and monitoring judging, but this was to gather input and would undergo revision accordingly.
- 1.9 Delegates were informed that all paperwork relating to these groups and their plans could be accessed from one area of the website under the 'shows' menu. Questions and comment were welcome. **INFO**

2. Preparations made for the implementation of the new structure from June 2018 **Chairman**

- 2.1 There was some concern expressed that the change had been arrived at very quickly, but the Chairman responded that after the decision on the format was made it was the breeds within the groups that could have been subject to change. It was not the intention to offer alternative structures.
- 2.2 Lists of judges and the higher certificate classes they were eligible to judge had been circulated and were on the Show Review web page. There was some concern that some judges had been disadvantaged, particularly where breeds had been moved from section 4 into section 5.
- 2.3 It was explained that every judge should be able to do at least the same number of Grands and Imperials as currently, but some would not be judging exactly the same breed at a higher level because of a grand or section split.
- 2.4 PC responded that the group developing the accelerated scheme in the JTRG would be looking at exactly this area so that those who were no longer judging breeds at a certain level could be eligible for them again fairly swiftly.

3. Supreme Show Report & Accounts **SC**

- 3.1 An income and expenditure breakdown was circulated to delegates at the meeting and it was stressed the this was a draft and the final version presented with the company accounts could change, although it was not expected to differ by much.
- 3.2 A detailed explanation of the figures was given by Steve Crow, who had prepared the budget for the event and kept the financial records. He stated he had learned a lot over the past few months on exactly how the money was spent. However, being aware of the costs enabled him to identify areas where further savings could be made and plans were already underway to do this.
- 3.3 SC explained that the biggest disappointment was the drop in income from stalls. Entries were slightly down, and the gate had increased. If stall hire had remained at the same level as in 2016, with the cost savings made taken into account, the event would have been fairly close to a break even position, although this year Agria had not contributed financial sponsorship. It was known that the proximity of a dog show and the National Pet Show had adversely affected the amount of stalls present, and that the same events would be taking place again this year. Therefore, an effort was being made to attract vendors early.
- 3.4 In discussion it was confirmed that an exact like for like with the 2016 show figures could not be made as a breakdown to same extent was not available. SC gave estimates and indicated where some expenses had been combined. He was thanked by a delegate for this, although it was expected that comparisons would be made in the following year.
- 3.5 There was a query on whether the advertising that promoted both GCCF and the Supreme Show should be included in these accounts. SC thought it would be difficult to separate the two. However, the OM confirmed that a request for this had been acted upon, and the advertising would be shown in two lines in the general accounts, as it had been understood that this would satisfy the query made in October.
- 3.6 There was further discussion on whether the Supreme should change venue or be held at a different time of year. The Chairman confirmed that he would be looking at the proposed Manchester venue, but had to consider not only costs and availability, but also travel links and the reactions of the event's main sponsors. **INFO**

C2201

FINANCE

OM

1. Presentation of the management accounts for the current period

- 1.1 The management accounts to the 31 October had been circulated to delegates. There was not sufficient time for presentation, but queries were invited. None had been received in advance or from the floor.
- 1.2 The Office Manager offered to respond by email if any delegate wished for further detail or had a question on any item in the accounts.

2. Presentation of the volume figures to December 2017

2.1 These had also been circulated, but were not presented on the day.

2.2 The OM reiterated that he was happy to answer if any delegate wanted additional information. **INFO**

3. Membership capitation standardisation correction

3.1 The figure of £20 had been given at the October Council meeting based on a capitation of 50 members set @ 40p per member. However, the levy had remained unchanged at 30p for each voting member, and therefore the charge levied on a membership of 50 would be £15.

3.2 This would be applied as a minimum for all clubs with a membership of 50 or below. **INFO**

C2102

BUSINESS MATTERS

1. Licensing update (C&FSG report)

SC

1.1 Steve Crow continued to represent GCCF at the Canine and Feline Sector Group and had recently attended a meeting with DEFRA officials

1.2 It was expected that the legislation that introduced licensing would not be in place until October at the earliest, and it would be followed by a transition period. Breeders who thought they could be affected should contact their local authorities.

1.3 Cat breeding was still covered by the general 'pet vending' legislation, and in spite of some lobbying by the cat charities SC thought it very unlikely there would be any change. DEFRA officials had indicated that they were most interested in businesses breeding for pet shops, but there had still been no actual definition of commercial which was what would have been most helpful.

1.4 The C&FS Cat Group were preparing a "Kitten Checklist" to inform the general public on best practice re kitten sale and purchase. This would be on the GCCF website when finalised.

1.5 A brief reminder was also given to breeders on the need to keep financial records as HMRC would investigate anyone possibly making a profit. A breeder would need to be able to prove this was not the case. **INFO**

2. IT report

SRO

2.1 Sally Rainbow-Ockwell gave a brief report that concentrated mainly describing GCCF's new online entry system that was currently being used by some shows in the pilot scheme

2.2 After the first shows in the new year it was running smoothly, and she and Ian Macro were in the process of handing over to Office staff. The Office was also handling the paper show entries for these shows.

2.3 The Show Managers who had used it had had no major issues, and found the associated printing competitively priced too. In answer to questions SRO explained how exhibitor queries were dealt with and how money paid into GCCF was passed onto the club.

2.4 A delegate who had used it as exhibitor was enthusiastic about the ease of entry, once she had realised that her online account with the cat's details was the starting point.

2.5 It was explained that its next meeting (21 March) the Finance Committee was due to cost out the process so that it could be offered as a show package in the next year. Clubs would be able to purchase all services or some of them.

2.6 SRO concluded by stating that further proposals for 2018 IT developments would be at the next Board meeting, and published once agreed.

Action: information to be on the website with the Business Plan

SRO/RF

3. Partnership Information

Chair & OM

3.1 A mention was made of a possible new partnership with a small microchip company at the time of the discussion at the end of the afternoon (C2203).

3.2 The Chairman and OM agreed that there was no new information to give delegates, and as there was now little time this would be deferred until June. **INFO**

4. The 2018 Business Plan

Vice-Chair

4.1 The Vice-Chairman explained that he had not had the opportunity to make the revisions that were required to finalise this. The work was being completed by Mr Crow and Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell particularly with regard to future projects. It would be on the website after the next Board meeting.

4.2 He then drew attention to the Business Achievements paper that had been circulated with the supplementary agenda. This summarised what had been accomplished during the years since since GCCF had become a company. It was now far more secure and there had been significant developments. **INFO**

C2203

FOR DISCUSSION

1. There was a very brief discussion on the mandatory microchipping of active registered females by the time of their first litter registration, as for males.

2. Points stated in favour were that it was ideal for all cats to prove ownership in case of loss or theft, and get the cat safely home; the government was giving some consideration to mandatory chipping; and that it established a unique identity for purposes of record keeping and health testing demonstrating a breeder's professional attitude. Test results and parentage could be validated if necessary and it could assist with any sort of inspection, such as a local authority licensing check.

3. Those who spoke against were either not comfortable with the idea of chipping because of the implantation, and/or being obliged to do something by GCCF regulation.

4. Steve Crow mentioned briefly that he had had discussions with a small chipping company for consideration of a future GCCF partnership. He would give more detail of this at the next Council meeting.

To be carried forward to the agenda for the June Council meeting.

JL

C22204 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OR INFORMATION

None taken.

The meeting finished at 5.10pm

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 at the Conway Hall, Holborn, London, commencing at 12 noon.