WELCOME TO THE DELEGATES AND IN MEMORIAM

At 1.05pm the Chairman welcomed 101 delegates and thanked them for attending.

Margaret Bell, Sylvia Edwards, and Paula Long were remembered in a moment of silence.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman gave apologies on behalf of the President, Shirley Bullock, who had sent good wishes for a successful meeting, and Vice-Presidents, Gordon Butler, Eric Wickham-Ruffle and Brenda Wolstenholme.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

1. The Chairman, John Hansson, remarked that he had very little to say at this point in the meeting.
2. He was looking forward to a successful Supreme show and noted that there still were some hotel rooms available in the show hotel, after confirmation had been received on definite requirements.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The Minutes of the Council meeting of 14 June
   1.1 The draft minutes had been circulated with the Council paperwork, following Board discussion and amendment at the July meeting, and publication on the GCCF website immediately afterwards. No requests for amendments had been received.
   1.2 It was suggested that the minutes did not make it sufficiently clear that there were two meetings, and that there should be no discussion of the AGM minutes until the following AGM. However, it was acknowledged that all delegates present at the AGM would have been invited to this meeting, and there was a greater probability that those present in June would be at this meeting than the following year.
   1.3 The Chairman said it would be possible on the day to have separate meetings, but it would take longer as there would be pauses as votes were counted.
   1.4 There was delegate comment for preference for the current style of Electoral Meeting. An objection that the office staff had been appointed as tellers for the AGM only, making subsequent voting invalid, was not given support.
   1.5 Objection was made to the method of recording votes as the majority figure, when the vote was by show of hands, was not stated. It was acknowledged that it could be deduced from the number present. It was agreed that the number of abstentions and objections should be stated. At C2160 the number of abstentions was unknown as not specified or recorded at the time.
   1.6 Objection was made that there were omissions in the minute record, and it was asked that these should be specified, and queried why they had not been submitted in advance.
   1.7 Objection was made that a Point of Order concerning an amendment was not taken.
   1.7 There followed some discussion on the style of the minutes, as the Committee Secretary commented that she was required by the Articles of Association and Company Law to record proposals and outcomes rather than give a verbatim report. If Council wished to have another style then an example would be appreciated, as it was impossible to know what was required without being given due notice.
   1.8 In response to a query the OM observed that the minutes were not recorded at present. It was considered it would be useful to have a record to check for any omission rather than pay to have a typed record of the complete meeting.
   1.8 During the course of the debate it was suggested that the minutes should be:
      • withdrawn and represented in their entirety
      • withdrawn for further opportunity for amendments to be made.
   In conclusion the Chairman asked if the meeting was prepared to accept the minutes
   Majority approval 24 against 13 abstentions
   Action: correction to be made and the approved minutes to go onto the website

Note: It was agreed that for this meeting the Officers and OM would count and declare the result of any vote by show of hands as was standard practice in GCCF meetings.

Matters arising, and delegate questions on ongoing business not covered by an agenda item

Club Returns report
2.1 It was noted that the Board had accepted the Longhair & Semi-Longhair Cat Club’s request to become an all-breed rather than a specialist club. It’s name would include ‘and All-Breed’.

The Chairman reported that some clubs had not completed their returns, others had made no contact.
2.2 Irene Roos was appointed as a reserve to DC until June 2018.

2.1 There was a single vacancy and one applicant.

S Devereux 52, V Marriott 24, S Rabey 21 (with 1 abstention and 1 spoiled paper).

1.3 Sandra Devereux, Vanessa Marriott and Saffi Rabey were proposed. A paper ballot was held with the result: for two years, plus two reserves to serve for one year.

1.2 The Chairman took names from the floor to find a replacement committee member for Mrs Shingleton, to serve on AC for a three year period were confirmed.

1.1 Mrs Cullin and Mrs Pike had applied for reappointment. As there were no other applicants their positions vacancies arising from any cause whatsoever.

1.4 A vote was taken on the Bye Law revision and amendment, and a two thirds majority was obtained for approval.

Note: Applicants for committee members and substitutes for the disciplinary committees need not necessarily be members of Council. (see Byelaw 11 (4,5,6))

2.1 BD3666.2.2 In response to a query Mrs Shingleton confirmed her report on the WCC meeting in Las Vegas had been published on the GCCF website shortly after the June Council meeting when there had been no time for her to present it to delegates.

2.2 BD 3667.2.3 Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell observed that a full judge list that was updated weekly was now available from the ‘show information’ area of the GCCF website.

2.3 BD3671.2.2 Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell reported to Council that she had been not be involved in the assessment of a show structure as an ongoing exercise. Her concerns had been dealt with very satisfactorily after the meeting.

2.4 The Office Manager said there were no plans to increase the amount of membership capitation, but to set a minimum membership fee of £20 and this would affect clubs with low membership (list provided).

2.5 No comment was received to indicate a change in the status quo was wanted.

1.1 It was confirmed that the revision was to be proposed by the Chairman on behalf of the Board

1.2 The number of reserves was not changed when the Disciplinary and Appeals committees were reduced in number in 2015. As six members are appointed to each with a quorum of three required for a meeting it was thought unnecessary to have four reserves for each.

1.3 An amendment in the form of a note was proposed as members of the disciplinary are not appointed solely from the 'show information' area of the GCCF website.

1.4 A vote was taken on the Bye Law revision and amendment, and a two thirds majority was obtained for approval.

2.9 It was asked why proposals concerning show structure, that the Suffolk and Norfolk Cat Club wanted to come to Council were not on the agenda for this meeting, as it had been understood that the Chairman had indicated they should be. The Chairman responded that they were out of time, and were now after the event as the SRG’s proposals had been put to Council following consideration of all such ideas.

C2177 MINUTES OF MEETINGS FOR INFORMATION ONLY Chairman

1. Board of Directors: 9 May 2017, 12 July 2017

1.1 BD3666.2.2 In response to a query Mrs Shingleton confirmed her report on the WCC meeting in Las Vegas had been published on the GCCF website shortly after the June Council meeting when there had been no time for her to present it to delegates.

1.2 BD 3667.2.3 Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell observed that a full judge list that was updated weekly was now available from the ‘show information’ area of the GCCF website.

1.3 BD3671.2.2 Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell reported to Council that she had been not be involved in the assessment of a replacement server as was stated in the action. It was her opinion that an expensive purchase had been made that was not required, without reference to the IT Committee, and she wished to be disassociated from this.

C2178 BYELAW REVISION (11:9 SUBSTITUTE COMMITTEE MEMBERS) Chairman

Two members of the Council shall be elected at the Electoral Meeting when appropriate to each of its Committees (except the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeals Committee where four members shall be elected) as Substitute Members to fill vacancies arising from any cause whatsoever.

Note: Applicants for committee members and substitutes for the disciplinary committees need not necessarily be members of Council. (see Byelaw 11 (4,5,6))

1.1 It was confirmed that the revision was to be proposed by the Chairman on behalf of the Board

1.2 The number of reserves was not changed when the Disciplinary and Appeals committees were reduced in number in 2015. As six members are appointed to each with a quorum of three required for a meeting it was thought unnecessary to have four reserves for each.

1.3 An amendment in the form of a note was proposed as members of the disciplinary are not appointed solely from Council delegates. The amendment was agreed. Majority approval 0 against 10 abstentions

1.4 A vote was taken on the Bye Law revision and amendment, and a two thirds majority was obtained for approval. Majority approval 0 against 11 abstentions

Action: The IC/DC secretary to be informed

C2179 APPOINTMENTS Chairman

1. The Appeals Committee

1.1 Mrs Cullin and Mrs Pike had applied for reappointment. As there were no other applicants their positions on AC for a three year period were confirmed.

1.2 The Chairman took names from the floor to find a replacement committee member for Mrs Shingleton, to serve for two years, plus two reserves to serve for one year.

1.3 Sandra Devereux, Vanessa Marriott and Saffi Rabey were proposed. A paper ballot was held with the result: S Devereux 52, V Marriott 24, S Rabey 21 (with 1 abstention and 1 spoiled paper).

2. The appointment of a reserve for the Disciplinary Committee

2.1 There was a single vacancy and one applicant.

2.2 Irene Roos was appointed as a reserve to DC until June 2018

Action: The IC/DC secretary to be informed of the outcomes
1. To clarify the use of titles in names (Section 1:7b)
Names must differ by at least one letter from the name of any other cat registered with the GCCF. The following will not be accepted as a name or part of a name:

i) recognised feline titles (Champion, Premier, Supreme, International, Imperial) etc.

Note: These cannot be used on their own or linked by permitted punctuation to any other word to form a name.

1.1 There were no queries.
1.2 The rule change was approved.  Unanimous approval

2. Judges to opt out of judging new breeds rather than requesting to be on a list

Section 1:43e  Requirement for the preliminary recognition of New Breeds or Hair Types

A list of GCCF judges, full on at least one list, to be submitted for appointment of the new breed together with the rationale for their choice. These should be full or pupil judges already qualified to work in the section into which the new breed has been placed. Further lists may be submitted prior to the new breed applying for promotion to Championship status using the same criteria.

All GCCF judges, full on at least one list, qualified to work in the section as a Full Judge to which the new breed has been allocated by the Board, will be put onto the breed's list of judges as a Full Judge. When informed of this, any judge may withdraw their name from the new list, and notification of this will be published on the GCCF website and provided to the next Council meeting.

2.1 Two amendments were proposed.
2.2 The first removed those who had only pupil judge status within the section from automatic appointment until they gained this status.  Majority approval 0 against 2 abstentions
2.3 The second that required judges to opt in to being on a list, rather than opt out from it, was lost 43 in favour 46 against
2.4 The substantive rule change was then approved.  Majority approval 4 against 0 abstentions

Section 1:46d  Championship status for New Breeds or Hair Types

Confirmation of the list of full judges of the breed, who have been appointed in accordance with rule 1:43e. If so wished, a list of candidates for appointment as pupil judge of the breed, Pupil judges (not full on any list) training in the same section as the new breed, may be submitted will be appointed as Pupil Judges of the breed in accordance with the GCCF Judge Appointment Scheme.  Any Full Judge from outside the section may also apply to become a Pupil Judge of the new breed at this time in accordance with the procedure of the Judge Appointment Scheme.

2.5 It was noted that new breeds currently required a BAC by the time they gained Championship Status.
2.6 The rule change was approved.  Majority approval 0 against 2 abstentions

3. For clarification - Section 2:5g)1 Classes

Exhibition only classes can be provided for cats on any register belonging to any of the breeds which are permitted to be registered by GCCF, i.e. new breeds granted registration only status or breeds with preliminary or full recognition, and titled pedigree or non-pedigree pets.

3.1 This was withdrawn to allow for consideration of presentations by charities, feline celebrity guests etc.

4. For clarification - Section 2:14 Awards in Olympian Classes

In the Olympian Class, after the certificate winner and the reserve (if awarded), placings should must be recorded to 5th position.

Note: written critiques for publication are required for the certificate winners

4.1 There was some discussion on whether it was acceptable for judges to place all cats other than the certificate winners in 3rd place. There was some dissatisfaction expressed on this practice, but no amendment proposed.
4.2 The rule change was approved.  Majority approval 4 against 1 abstention

5. To allow for mistakes - Section 4:9

Exhibitors entering cats in two shows within 13 days (excluding back to back) but not exhibiting at both in contravention of Rule 3b shall reported to the GCCFF Office who shall disqualify all cats attending either show apply the appropriate sanction as defined in the published penalties listing. Persistent or deliberate breaches of this rule may render exhibitor/s liable to disciplinary action.

Fixed penalty booklet. Removal of 'who shall disqualify all cats attending either show'.

Penalty: a written warning shall be sent for the first offence. (no other change).

5.1 The rule change was approved.  Majority approval 0 against 1 abstention

6. Removal of class limitations - Section 2:4c

A list of classes offered to exhibitors, with the judge engaged for each class.  Note: There should be a reminder in the schedule and on the entry form that no cat can be entered for more than six classes. For cats not in the Breed Class this includes the entry for Best of Breed, and for back to back shows the maximum is inclusive of both.

6.1 It was first agreed that entering for Best of Breed should not count as a class, Majority approval 4 against 1 abstention
6.2 It was then agreed that there should be no restriction on the number of classes a cat could be entered in. This was at the discretion of the owner.  Majority approval 10 against 2 abstentions
1.2 It was accompanied by a revised registration policy and SOP, which were accepted without comment. 

1.3 There was a vote for the acceptance of the new pattern. **Unanimous approval**

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

2. Preliminary recognition for the British Longhair. (BLH) **Breeder Group**

2.1 The application was accompanied by a registration policy and SOP which had Board approval.

2.2 A small typographical error was noted to be passed onto the Breeder Group for correction.

2.3 A vote was taken for acceptance of the new breed. **Majority approval 0 against 1 abstention**

2.4 Assessment classes could be offered at shows whose closing dates have not yet passed, and must be provided at shows from 4.2.18

3. Preliminary recognition for the Chartreux. (CHA) **Breeder Group**

3.1 The application was accompanied by a registration policy and SOP which had Board approval.

3.2 There was no comment on these and a vote was taken for acceptance of the new breed. 

3.3 Assessment classes could be offered at shows whose closing dates have not yet passed, and must be provided at shows from 4.2.18

4. Name recognition for the Lykoi (LYS/L) **Board**

4.1 A preliminary registration policy and SOP had been approved by the Board at its meeting on 24 August.

4.2 It was queried whether Lykoi could be exhibited at the Supreme as the closing date was prior to Council being informed of their recognition, with the response that registered cats could be on exhibition as registrations were made following the Board’s decision. There had not been a change in procedure as other new breeds had been exhibited very shortly after their Board recognition date.

Action: the relevant BACs/Groups for 1-3 to be informed **JL**

C2182 REGISTRATION/TRANSFER & SOP MATTERS

1. Revisions to the BSH registration policy **BSGC**

1.1 There were 4 changes to the BSH registration policy. Removal of the use of the EXP register, and clarification of the use of XSH were administrative.

1.2 Reference to the harlequin pattern was to support its recognition, and the addition of dominant white to note 10 was to correct an omission to a previous revision that caused a conflict of intention re the expected ancestry of BSH White cats.

1.3 There were no queries and the revised policy was approved. **Majority approval 0 against 1 abstention**

2. Revisions to the Sphynx registration policy **SpBAC**

2.1 There were revisions to clarify the use of a domestic outcross, and the use of other breeds with the register progression of Sphynx and Sphynx variants defined by generation.

2.2 A new DNA testing scheme for Congenital Myasthenic Syndrome (CMS) was introduced.

2.3 The revised policy was approved. **Majority approval 0 against 5 abstentions**

3. Revisions to the Tonkinese registration policy **ToBAC**

3.1 There were new DNA testing requirements for Tonkinese that were to be registered with active status.

3.2 The requirements for Full and Supplementary registration had been completely revised and those for Reference registration amended.

3.3 The revised policy was approved. **Majority approval 0 against 2 abstentions**

4. Amendments to the Standard of Points for Sphynx **SpBAC**

4.1 The minor revisions were approved without comment. **Majority approval 0 against 4 abstentions**

5. Amendments to the Standard of Points for the Toyger **ToyBG**

5.1 The minor revisions were approved without comment. **Majority approval 0 against 2 abstentions**

6. Minor changes to the NFO SOP

6.1 These had been published on the website and no queries were received. **INFO**

Action: the relevant BACs/Groups for 1-6 to be informed **JL**

7. Male torties to be registered and shown **Board**

7.1 The Board had put forward policy points in connection with this.

• Registration would be non-active, because inheritance was not predictable.

• Where the breed class was colour dependent the dilutes would be shown with cream male neuters and, the dominant with the reds. They would not be in the equivalent class with tortie females

7.2 Following discussion in which it was acknowledged that a number of classes had only a single exhibit it was agreed that the breed class would be alongside tortie females and that they could now be shown. This also fitted better with computerised show paperwork.

7.3 It was agreed that the Board would discuss again their use in a breeding programme.

Action: to be on the November Board agenda. **JL**
### 1. JUDGES FOR APPROVAL
(all approved unanimously)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BACs</th>
<th>Full Judge</th>
<th>Pupil Judge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abyssinian BAC</td>
<td>Mrs Rosemary Fisher</td>
<td>Mrs Caroline Roberts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs Janet Williams</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Asian BAC</td>
<td>Mrs Sue Danks</td>
<td>Ms Elisabeth Stark</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr Peter Collin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exotic BAC</td>
<td>Mrs Di Brown</td>
<td>Mr Jonathan Emery</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs Lesley Miles</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Korat &amp; Thai BAC</td>
<td>Mrs Naomi Johnson</td>
<td>Mr Mark Pearman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs Sandra Woodley</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs Sally Tokens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maine Coon BAC</td>
<td>Ms Charis White</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norwegian Forest Cat BAC</td>
<td>Mrs Linda Martin</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs Valerie Anderson</td>
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<td>Oriental BAC</td>
<td>Mr Ross Davies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr Craig Dryden</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs Heather Roper</td>
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<td>Persian BAC</td>
<td>Mrs Carol Pike</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr Craig Dryden</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs Marlene Laird</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian BAC</td>
<td>Mrs Dorothy Stone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
<td>Mrs Sally Tokens</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Action:** Judges & BACs to be informed and lists updated

### 2. NOTIFICATION OF JUDGES APPROVED VIA THE WEBSITE SINCE JUNE COUNCIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BACs</th>
<th>Full Judge</th>
<th>Pupil Judge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abyssinian BAC</td>
<td>1 year extension to June 2018</td>
<td>Mrs Caroline Roberts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengali BAC</td>
<td>Pupil Judge</td>
<td>Ms Elisabeth Stark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birman BAC</td>
<td>Six month’s extension as PJ</td>
<td>Mrs Celia De Martino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSGC</td>
<td>Full Judge</td>
<td>Mrs Sally Rainbow-Ockwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pupil Judge</td>
<td>Ms Bethan Hollandt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Rex BAC</td>
<td>Pupil Judge (DRX)</td>
<td>Mrs Sally Rainbow-Ockwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 year extension to June 2018 (DRX)</td>
<td>Mrs Sue Amor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oiccat &amp; Aztec BAC</td>
<td>Full Judge (Aztec)</td>
<td>Mrs Val Anderson-Drew</td>
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<td>(by transitional arrangements)</td>
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<tr>
<td>RagaMuffin BAC</td>
<td>Pupil Judge</td>
<td>Mrs Val Anderson-Drew</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian BAC</td>
<td>Full Judge</td>
<td>Mrs Sally Tokens</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pupil Judge</td>
<td>Mrs Sarah Bower</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somali BAC</td>
<td>Pupil Judge</td>
<td>Mrs Teresa Cole</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr Steve Parkin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suffolk Breed Group</td>
<td>Full Judge</td>
<td>Mrs Susan Dalton-Hobbs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr George Godfrey</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tonkinese BAC</td>
<td>Pupil Judge</td>
<td>Mr Stephen McConnell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyger Breed Group</td>
<td>Full Judge</td>
<td>Mrs Marlene Buckeridge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. JUDGE WITHDRAWALS/REMOVALS

Joint Rex BAC

Cornish Rex list

Mrs Sue Amor

4. Judge Appointment Scheme Change (deferred from June)

4.1 There was an amendment at 13a) re the circulation of paperwork. It was the intention of the Finance Committee to clarify that BACs had responsibility for the cost of distributing paperwork to the BAC officers and clubs, but not to individual representatives. 13a) now reflects the wording given in 11f) rather than giving an option that BACs may circulate paper copies to all representatives and reclaim money from GCCF.

4.2 This was stated at 11f) (Finance) but appeared currently to be contradicted by 13a, which was the reason to make an amendment to 13a so that it was specific.

4.3 This was approved. Unanimous approval

Action: noted for BAC information at the time of the 2017 returns DG

C2184

SHOW MATTERS

1. Report on show restructure and judge training revision

CK/PC

1.1 Kate Kaye summarised the work of the Show Review Group from its formation in 2014. There had been a slow start, but once consultation had begun there had been plenty of input from many different individuals and groups.

1.2 The initial intention was that structural changes should provide balance in competition, particularly where some sections were growing ever larger while others declined. Then this had been linked by Council to judge training, the need for newly qualified judges to be useful to show management and the more experienced to become eligible to judge the higher certificates in the multi-breed sections.

1.3 Kate concluded that the remit of the SRG had been completed with the proposals put to Council in June. Show management training would be given some consideration, and there could be a review of the Household Pet Section.

1.4 Peter reported he was leading the group with responsibility for the revision of judge training, and their work was well underway. It had begun with extensive consultation particularly within the judging community.

1.5 Its purpose was to streamline the training considerably, so that it would be far more efficient. There would be a move away from the extensive critique writing now required.

1.6 It was reported that many Birman exhibitors were unhappy that the breed was losing its individual grand class as was evidenced by a petition. Kate responded that the decision for this was based on numbers shown, and that a grand would be lost in the LH section for the same reason.

1.7 There was a query why Siberians were not in a grand group with Norwegian Forest Cats as the two breeds had more in common than those in its allotted group. In this case too it was based on numbers.

1.8 A delegate speaking on behalf of Suffolk exhibitors said they really did not want to be in a section with Orientals, and it was made clear this was supported by those with Orientals. It was stressed that one of the conditions of recognition for the Suffolk was that the two breeds should be distinct and separate. Peter responded that consideration had been given to reducing the size of the current Foreign Section and allocation had been primarily based on body shape.

1.9 In conclusion both he and Kate reiterated that nothing was irrevocably fixed. A meeting was planned for the following week and it was expected that proposals would be brought to Council in February. It was probable that show structure would be changed from June 2018, but both the BAC review and revision to judge trainings procedures would not be completed until the following year as there was a tremendous amount of work to do.

INFO

2. Supreme Show Report

JH/SC

2.1 There were 650 cats entered in competition, fewer than the previous year. It was acknowledged that this would mean a loss, as income from a greater number entry fees was needed if this was to be avoided. There had been two votes in Council in recent years overwhelmingly in favour of the show’s continuation, but exhibitor support was needed as well.

2.2 However, there was good news on advance ticket sales. Thanks to extensive promotion these were double the number at the same time the previous year, and this had been a record.

2.3 Efforts had been made to be innovative. The catalogue would contain additional features, there would be new style certificates and rosettes and a variety of displays and competitions had been organised.

2.4 A reminder was given no counter signatures would be required, and upgrades for exhibits entered could be made up until Monday, 9 October.

2.5 The Chairman had given the news earlier that some hotel rooms and places at the Gala Dinner were still available and details could be found via the website.

2.6 Event City in Manchester was suggested as a possible alternative to the NEC. There was plenty of free parking and an on-site hotel. The Chairman replied that when last considered this seemed in poor condition, but it could always be looked at again.

C2185

FINANCE

OM

1. Presentation of the management accounts for the current period

INF

1.1 This was not taken for lack of time. The management accounts and volume graphs for the period were on the website and the delegates could send any queries to the Office.

2. Membership capitation standardisation

INF

2.1 There was no change proposed from the 30p per member for clubs, except where the total of this was lower than £20. The fee of £20 would be the minimum required regardless of membership numbers.
1. Licensing update (C&FSG report)  
1.1 Steve Crow had attended the September meeting of the Canine and Feline Sector Group and announced that at last there was more definite news to report.
1.2 The Animal Welfare Act would be revised by Statutory Implementation in 2018, most probably in the late summer or autumn. The planned format for five schedules had not been revised. Cats and kittens were covered only by Pet Vending. There was no separate breeding schedule for cats as there was for dogs and ‘Animal Exhibition’ would not cover cat shows.
1.3 This meant there would be no specific regulation on the number and frequency of litters bred or breeding cats owned, although the provisions for health and welfare would be required as previously.
1.4 Breeders who intentionally bred for profit would require a licence, and hobby breeders to whom this did not apply could be required to prove it to their local authority (and/or HMRC) if requested to so.
1.5 Therefore it would be essential for all breeders to keep careful accounts, verifiable by receipts, to prove that there was no commercial gain. Specific examples provided by DEFRA were given in the report which would be made available to all on the GCCF website.
1.6 Licensing would be the responsibility of the local authority, and the cost of a licence would be set by them, dependent on their expenses. It was probable there would be a preparation period of about 18 months to give those who needed to apply an opportunity to discuss requirements with their local environmental health departments.
1.7 It was noted the information applied primarily to England. The Welsh Assembly was planning similar action, but this had not yet been published. The Scottish Parliament had no changes planned.
1.8 It was observed that the penalties for breach of the AWA were to become more stringent.
1.9 In response to a question Steve confirmed that the age at which kittens would be allowed to be sold had not changed from the planned 8 weeks.
1.10 He thought that the expensive route of accreditation would probably not be worth pursuing now though this was something the Board had to discuss.

Action: the report to be published on the GCCF website asap     SC/RF
the report to be obtained for the record as an addendum to the meeting   JL

2. IT report  
2.1 Sally Rainbow-Ockwell had prepared a presentation to give detail of the updates and planned developments.
2.2 There was no time for this and it would be available from the website. Delegates were asked to pass this on to clubs as the information in it would be important to them.

Action: to read the IT report on GCCF website and pass on the information    ALL

3. Partnership Information  
3.1 None given due to lack of time.

4. Draft Business Plan 2018  
4.1 This was not presented as there was insufficient time.
4.2 It was published on the website and there were paper copies supplied for delegates to take. If more were required they could be obtained from the Office. The Vice Chairman invited those with questions or suggestions on the Business Plan to contact him directly.
4.3 The draft budget would be applied at the November FC meeting.

C2187 FOR DISCUSSION

1. Mandatory microchipping for active registered females by the time of their first litter registration
To be carried forward to the agenda for the February Council meeting.    JL

C2188 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OR INFORMATION

None taken.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 21 February 2018 at the Conway Hall, Holborn, London, commencing at 1.00pm.

Please note the change of date since the publication of the agenda.