MINUTES
For the Meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY
Friday, 19 June 2020 by videoconference

Present:  Mr John Hansson - Chairman
Mr Sean Farrell - (Vice-Chairman)
Dr Peter Collin  Mr Steve Crow
Mrs Hilary Dean  Ms Sarah Devereux
Mrs Rosemary Fisher  Dr Gavin Eyres
Mr Thomas Goss  Mrs Shelagh Heavens
Mrs Catherine Kaye  Mrs Jen Lacey
Mrs Heather McRae  Mrs Elaine Robinson
Mrs Lisa Robinson-Talboys  Ms Lyndsey Robinson

BD3969 MEETING INTRODUCTION

1. Apologies for absence.
   1.1 Apologies for absence were given on behalf of Mrs Lynda Ashmore.

   Attendance notes: Steve Crow & Thomas Goss were late because of technological difficulties.
   Elaine Robinson also had IT problems and participated via a phone link from 11.40am.
   Lisa Robinson-Tallboys left the meeting briefly shortly after the start.
   Heather McRae was absent for a lengthy period of the meeting.
   Maria Chapman-Beer was present by invitation for BD3472:Finance.

2. Chairman’s opening remarks
   2.1 The meeting began at 11.15am with the Officers, 11 Board members and the Office Manager present.

BD3970 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The Minutes of the Board meeting of 22 May 2020
   1.1 These had been circulated and corrections made. It was confirmed that all were using version 2.
   1.2 BD3964.3 & 4.4 The VC proposed a few additional words for these points to remove ambiguity.
   1.3 SH & LRT asked for the inclusion of notes to state when they left the meeting as neither could stay until the
   end. They thought it was sometime around the end of BD3964.
   Action: the meeting recording to be checked and the additions made.   JL
   1.4 The minutes were then agreed on the proposal of RF, 2nd by CK, with one abstention (HM).
   Action: after the agreed amendments, the May minutes to be published on the GCCF website  JL/RF

2. Matters arising from the previous minutes
   2.1 BD3962.7 Director liability insurance. RF had checked with Gallaghers and found that there were no exclusion
   clauses in relation to the ‘officer, director and trustee’ liability insurance. They were covered for legal fees
   arising from claims made from within the company as long as there was not a court judgement against them.
   (LRT left the meeting)
   2.2 There was discussion on trustees in relation to GCCF. It was remembered that the organisation used to have
   trustees in connection with ownership of the property and agreed that this should be checked. If they
   were still in place the names would be published on the website.

BD3971 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. Unregistered interests declared for the business of this meeting
   1.1 SF declared an interest in the arrangements for the elections, as did HD, SD & LR at the time
   of discussion for this item (BD3976).
   1.2 HD & SD declared they were Ragdoll BAC officers (BD3977.1)
   (LRT returned & SC, TG, and MCB joined the meeting at 11.30am)

BD3972 FINANCE

1. GCCF limited - company account for 2019
   1.1 A draft of the company accounts for 2019 had been received from Monahans. The bookkeeper had made
   some preliminary queries, with corrections made, so draft 2 was used for this meeting.
   1.2 There was a separate sheet giving detail of the Supreme account. This had been sent to all by LP, following some
   corrections, but missed from pre-meeting paperwork circulation and so forwarded at the time of discussion.
   1.3 Points to be raised were requests for further information that it was thought delegates would require.
   a) An explanation for the greatly increased amount held for club show entries. This was £11,442 in 2019,
   but £217 in 2018.
   It was thought to be in connection with STAR shows and assurance was needed that it had been paid to the
   clubs concerned early in 2020.
   b) A breakdown for the £27,172 given as miscellaneous income on page 8, even if this was given as a note.
   Delegates did not like unidentified large amounts and the same request had been made for
   these details at Council in June 2019.
1.4 It was noted there were different figures given for the 2018 Supreme totals. In the main account the deficit was (£27,243) compared with (£25,877) for 2019. On the separate page it was given as (£16,991).

Action: queries to be reported to the bookkeeper to raise with Monahans

OM

2. Management p&l accounts to 31 May 2020

2.1 The profit and loss accounts to the end of May had been provided by the bookkeeper and circulated to all in advance of the meeting, together with a summary sheet for April, May and the ytd in 2019 & 2020, to enable like to like comparisons.

2.2 It was noted that the gross profit for the year when compared with 2019 was showing a considerable increase, £41,504.02 compared to £8,880.83. Income had been steady and expenditure was considerably reduced as there were fewer staff, and no meeting costs.

2.3 The increase in IC legal fees was queried, and it was observed that some of these would be in connection with the Small Claims case. The VC informed the Board that this had been delayed because of a slow down in all court business due to Covid-19. It was hoped that the case would be settled shortly via a paperwork judgment as this would provide a quicker resolution and probably save on costs.

2.4 There was a reminder that business gifts were agreed honoraria payments and covered small tokens of thanks or something sent at the time of illness or bereavement.

2.5 Dennis had returned to the Office after a nine week furlough. His salary had been paid by the company for this period and would be claimed back. It was requested that it be established when this would be done, and how it would be shown in the accounts.

Action: check and report to be made on furlough repayment

OM

3. Volume figures (core business)

3.1 The OM reported that core business remained strong and figures overall were an improvement on those for the previous three years.

3.2 She had taken a reading for the latest transactions to date and this was showing as 1673, whereas the total for the whole month in 2019 was 1995 (only 322 fewer), so she expected this would be well exceeded.

3.3 It was noted that registrations were taking place now for kittens that would have been conceived pre-lockdown, so GCCF was yet to receive the full effect of that period, but it was hoped that a very good first six months would provide a cushion for a possible downturn.

3.4 It was noted that the number of imports was lower than in previous years which was the one area that current pandemic restrictions directly affected.

4. Proposed pricing for STAR

4.1 SC reported that he had asked Caroline to go back to basics and explain STAR and its processes as well as providing the costs to GCCF, plus 20% and 25% mark-ups, as requested at the May meeting pricing delivery of the basic and extended show service, including materials, printing and staff time.

4.2 This was appreciated as the presentation was more meaningful. It was thought that named shows could now be included as examples, where permission had been given, such as the Chester & North Wales.

4.3 It was noted that the same percentage mark-up had also been applied to card charges, and agreed that for this service GCCF could only pass on the actual cost it had incurred.

4.4 In answer to a query SC responded that the STAR User Manual was now at its third draft and feedback was awaited from the SMs it had been sent to. It was thought those who hadn’t replied needed a reminder and it should go to all other SMs who had participated in the pilot provision so that it could be finalised.

4.5 There was consensus that a fair amount of money had been put into developing STAR and there would be both ongoing system maintenance and development needed in the future, plus additional equipment such as a spiral binder. These facts supported costs changes for the service.

4.6 The IT Group had estimated that 35-40 shows could be provided for per year initially. It was planned the service would be offered in shows who had taken part in the pilots to start with and then to others.

Action: example of costs to actual recent shows to be provided

Prompts to be made for the user manual feedback, plus its wider circulation

CTR

OM

4. Proposed pricing for STAR

4.1 SC reported that he had asked Caroline to go back to basics and explain STAR and its processes as well as providing the costs to GCCF, plus 20% and 25% mark-ups, as requested at the May meeting pricing delivery of the basic and extended show service, including materials, printing and staff time.

4.2 This was appreciated as the presentation was more meaningful. It was thought that named shows could now be included as examples, where permission had been given, such as the Chester & North Wales.

4.3 It was noted that the same percentage mark-up had also been applied to card charges, and agreed that for this service GCCF could only pass on the actual cost it had incurred.

4.4 In answer to a query SC responded that the STAR User Manual was now at its third draft and feedback was awaited from the SMs it had been sent to. It was thought those who hadn’t replied needed a reminder and it should go to all other SMs who had participated in the pilot provision so that it could be finalised.

4.5 There was consensus that a fair amount of money had been put into developing STAR and there would be both ongoing system maintenance and development needed in the future, plus additional equipment such as a spiral binder. These facts supported costs changes for the service.

4.6 The IT Group had estimated that 35-40 shows could be provided for per year initially. It was planned the service would be offered in shows who had taken part in the pilots to start with and then to others.

Action: example of costs to actual recent shows to be provided

Prompts to be made for the user manual feedback, plus its wider circulation

CTR

OM

3. Volume figures (core business)

3.1 The OM reported that core business remained strong and figures overall were an improvement on those for the previous three years.

3.2 She had taken a reading for the latest transactions to date and this was showing as 1673, whereas the total for the whole month in 2019 was 1995 (only 322 fewer), so she expected this would be well exceeded.

3.3 It was noted that registrations were taking place now for kittens that would have been conceived pre-lockdown, so GCCF was yet to receive the full effect of that period, but it was hoped that a very good first six months would provide a cushion for a possible downturn.

3.4 It was noted that the number of imports was lower than in previous years which was the one area that current pandemic restrictions directly affected.

4. Proposed pricing for STAR

4.1 SC reported that he had asked Caroline to go back to basics and explain STAR and its processes as well as providing the costs to GCCF, plus 20% and 25% mark-ups, as requested at the May meeting pricing delivery of the basic and extended show service, including materials, printing and staff time.

4.2 This was appreciated as the presentation was more meaningful. It was thought that named shows could now be included as examples, where permission had been given, such as the Chester & North Wales.

4.3 It was noted that the same percentage mark-up had also been applied to card charges, and agreed that for this service GCCF could only pass on the actual cost it had incurred.

4.4 In answer to a query SC responded that the STAR User Manual was now at its third draft and feedback was awaited from the SMs it had been sent to. It was thought those who hadn’t replied needed a reminder and it should go to all other SMs who had participated in the pilot provision so that it could be finalised.

4.5 There was consensus that a fair amount of money had been put into developing STAR and there would be both ongoing system maintenance and development needed in the future, plus additional equipment such as a spiral binder. These facts supported costs changes for the service.

4.6 The IT Group had estimated that 35-40 shows could be provided for per year initially. It was planned the service would be offered in shows who had taken part in the pilots to start with and then to other.

Action: example of costs to actual recent shows to be provided

Prompts to be made for the user manual feedback, plus its wider circulation

CTR

OM

5. Statement of accounts balances & signatories*

5.1 Aldermore £76,062.96, with a fixed interest of 1.49% until March 2021. Signatories SC, RF & LP

Cambridge & Counties £144382.36, 95 day notice account with 1.49% interest (£70,00 transfer to be made to Redwood on 22 June.) Signatories SC, RF, JH & LP

Redwood £1,028,27, 95 day notice account with 1.54% interest Signatories SC, RF, SF, DW & LP (online only)

Lloyds (current) £151259.19

Lloyds (Supreme) £1051.50

Lloyds (Euro) £9,639.90

Signatories SC, RF, JH, SH, DW & LP

* DW (Denise Williams, Office Manager), LP, (Leanne Penwell bookkeeper), officers & directors.

5.2 It was agreed that a check should be made on whether all of the Lloyds signatories could actually access all of the account in practice, although this information came from the bank. It was thought the Euro account would probably only be available to SH & LP.

Action: LP to be asked to check with Lloyds

OM

5.3 It was agreed that care should be taken that the Redwood did not exceed £85,000, and that a suitable unrelated bank should identified so that another deposit account could be opened when necessary.

5.4 It was also agreed that consideration should be given to opening another deposit account to avoid carrying an amount in Lloyds that was in excess of FSCS compensation in the event of bank failure, although it was doubted that Lloyds would be allowed to go under.
5.5 This would not have to be connected to any of the other accounts, and it was thought an instant access would be useful.

Action: a search for suitable accounts

(MCB left the meeting, 12.30pm approx)

BD3973 BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Agria news
   1.1 It was observed that Agria had reported a surge in policy conversions in the last month when comparing it to the previous year. It was now 16.6%, compared to 9.9% in 2019.
   1.2 This covered cover notes issued by breeders and the 4 weeks of free insurance offered to other new owners with GCCF registered kittens. GCCF benefitted from both.

2. IT report
   2.1 SC reported that there had been no ITG meeting since the May Board meeting, although there was ongoing communication by phone and email.
   2.2 The next system update was due to be made shortly, and a further one would follow some four to six weeks later.
   (HM left the meeting, 12.35pm approx)
   2.3 IM had begun an investigation into Phoenix/Infusionsoft problems and was reporting to the OM and SC. The first conclusion was that a lot of work was needed. The current programming that provided the interface between the two needed to be removed and replaced and about 50% of the re-write had been done.
   2.4 IM had been in touch with Infusionsoft to acquire a 'sandbox' that was necessary for this purpose, but had not been installed when the programs were first set up. This enabled the testing and error reporting to ensure efficient working between the two programs.
   2.5 In response to a question from LRT the OM outlined the process of updating the club officers on Phoenix. All were being contacted check for any changes, and to amend email addresses where necessary. If the update was made by a club officer, office staff would not be aware at the time the change was made, but the new information would be on the system for use as long as it had been saved.
   2.6 The OM reported that in the next electronic newsletter to go to all, people would be asked to check their profile details and that they had selected their preferences, as without these emails addresses could not be updated.
   2.7 Opinion was expressed that every club should ensure it had at least one officer who could be contacted electronically, as it was necessary for the club to receive information. If people did not wish to have a user profile it was their choice, but it would mean they could not be contacted by phone or post either as there was no alternative way of GCCF holding records.

BD3974 CLUB & BAC MATTERS

1. A report on the 2019 club & BAC returns
   1.1 SH had circulated a report giving details of all clubs that had made no contact, or those who had supplied some information, but whose returns were incomplete.
      • 15 had sent nothing
      • 1 was resending - as it seemed as if their paperwork and cheque had been lost
      • 3 were awaiting signed off copies of the show and/or club account
      • 11 had extensions and still had information to send
      • 3 had missing show accounts
   1.2 22 BACs had sent returns, with 5 of these unaudited
   1.3 She observed that there had been little change since the May meeting. Clubs had been informed there would be no June Council meeting so that the urgency had gone, and were now awaiting developments.
   1.4 It was agreed that all 35 should be contacted once more to be given the 31st August deadline and asked to update on their current status. Most had had a delegate and/or a show licence previously and would be informed that this would not be possible for 2020-21 unless they completed. If there was no contact at all then they would become non-active clubs.
      (The OM noted she had heard from the Kernow and Turkish very recently and was hopeful that they had begun the process).
   1.5 It was noted that 15 clubs required dispensation for continued representation and confirmed that if elections went ahead the bylaw resolutions allowed for this to be done via publication on the website. It was noted that one all breed club was below the required number and one breed club had only 18 members. This prompted discussion on whether there should be a minimum number of members to allow a club to apply for dispensation and it was observed that Council had discussed this at electoral meetings, but there had been no proposal to put it to the vote.

Action: contact with the clubs concerned

2. North West Cat Club
   2.1 In reply to a query from SH the Chairman, Ian Gaskell, had confirmed by email that the club had submitted examined show accounts in 2018 that were incorrect.
   2.2 To make the accounts for 2019 balance the closing balance on the 2018 show account had been altered for by the amount unaccounted for in 2019.
   2.3 It was considered that there was little to be done other than minute the fact so that should it be needed as evidence for any future disciplinary or legal action it was on record.
2.4 The club had paid for a delegate, but not named one, nor requested any dispensation. It was reported that there appeared to be a stop on the bank account to prevent membership subscriptions being paid.

2.5 It was agreed that little more could be done until such time that the club was able to hold an actual meeting and/or Mr Gaskell’s solicitor made contact with GCCF. At present they were continuing to function as a club despite low numbers.

3. **Sphynx Cat Association**

3.1 The club had remained in contact with SH, but had not yet informed her they had access to their bank accounts.

3.2 They had been informed of the 31st August deadline and hoped to be able to complete by then.

**Note:** The discussion on these clubs took place after BD3977 when HM had returned to the meeting at 2.40 approx. Before her return there was discussion on holding a special meeting of the Finance Committee to go through the accounts submitted by her for the West of Scotland Show, held in January 2019, and for the club.

4. **The Scottish CC and the West Scotland CC**

4.1 The show accounts noted as promised, but not received, at BD3962.3.5 had been circulated to the Board on 23.5.20 after HM had been contacted by SC, as agreed. The first email showed the date of 9/3/20, but it had been subsequently discovered that there was a typo in the email address and they could not have been received. HM gave an apology for this, and also for not responding to an email from SH querying what had happened to the accounts sent on 24/4/20, immediately before that day’s Board meeting. SH noted particularly that it was sent at the time when HM was corresponding about being unable to access the meeting so it should have been received. She also wished it to be recorded and made clear that she had not lied about non-receipt of the accounts in March.

4.2 It was also observed that the file properties (to show when the documents were created and edited) did not support that they could have been sent by email in the second week of March as was the contention. HM could not offer an explanation for this.

4.3 It was established that the West of Scotland owed the Scottish CC two amounts from shows held in 2018 and 2019. HM said she had informed Ian Thomson of the amounts, but she was not a signatory in the accounts to make the payment. It was agreed that all the accounts should be sent to Caroline Thomson that evening so that the information was available for the payments to be made.

**Action:** the accounts to be forwarded to the West of Scotland  SH

4.4 In response to questioning HM confirmed there was a single balance sheet for the West of Scotland and the Scottish CC joint shows as all income and expenditure was through the WoS only and the SCC received a payment of a proportion of the profit based upon the number of cats entered into its show. There were no separate accounts, but they couldn’t receive even the balance sheet for the joint show until it was signed off by the WoS who had not yet received it.

4.5 It was identified that there were no membership subscriptions on the accounts and both clubs would need them to be able to complete the returns sheet. HM stated that they were done, and could be sent once accessed.

4.6 SF proposed that the meeting with FC (as note) should take place in the following week to sort out these issues and all information should be available. This was agreed for 25/6/20 at 5.30pm. MCB would be invited as a member of PC and JL would be present to take minutes.

**Action:** zoom meeting to be arranged for the agreed date & time  OM

4.7 In the course of discussion on the 2018 & 2019 joint shows it was stated that financial information had gone missing after the the Scottish Show in December 2019 that was needed for the preparation of accounts for that show. INF

**BD3975 PREPARATION FOR THE 2020 ELECTIONS**

1. **Finalised letter & Byelaw Change**

1.1 JL reported that she had made an amendment to the letter to cover the change brought about by the cancellation of the October meeting, and added the note to explain the consequences of the failing to gain approval for the byelaw resolutions. After circulating these she had then sent both documents back to the solicitor who had made some minor changes to finalise

1.2 PC expressed concern that the covering letter (as put together by Ms Coate) was too complicated and he thought recipients would not read it through to make sense of it, particularly those that were largely disengaged from GCCF and Council business. Others members agreed with this view point.

1.3 It was acknowledged that some of the letter was information that could be included or not, but there were elements, such as the first sentence and the commentary on the resolutions that were legal requirements. If the covering letter was removed then whatever replaced it would need to go back to the solicitor to be sure it was satisfying these. It was intended that the letter and the resolutions should sent with a brief introduction. PC volunteered to write this.

1.4 It was also thought to be insufficiently clear that the only response to the vote expressed agreement. A vote against the resolutions or abstention from voting were both expressed by doing nothing, thus making no reply, as was stated below the resolutions. Various options were given for agreeing to them, that allowed for electronic, postal and delivered returns, but no was expressed by not taking part.

1.5 As this was different from the way people expected to vote, it was thought there would be a need to highlight and make it very evident on the document itself and to include it in the introductory statement. Clubs would need to be aware that they couldn’t record a ‘no’ vote as well as understanding that doing nothing meant that it would indicate they did not support the resolutions.

1.6 It was proposed that PC construct an introduction and the documents approved by the solicitor would be circulated with it. This was agreed by a majority. SF, SD, HD, & LR abstained.

**Action:** circulation of an introduction to the legal documents by 21/6/20  PC

2. **The logistics for the approval of the resolutions and elections**

2.1 28 days was the time specified for clubs accepting the resolutions. It was hoped this could be 31 July which would mean circulation by Thursday, 2 July at the latest.
2.2 The OM reported that she was still checking club officers, but hoped to have this work complete by the end Monday (22 June) so the paperwork could then be distributed. The solicitor had confirmed that there would be no reason why the number of votes coming in couldn’t be monitored and contact made with those who hadn’t voted to remind them to do so if they intended to.

2.3 If a sufficient number of clubs voted to approve there was no reason why nominations for the officers and committees shouldn’t be taken through August as long as those nominating and those standing represented eligible clubs. As clubs had until 31 August to complete their returns about a week in September needed to be given to allow for final nominations so elections could follow.

2.4 A timeline for nominations and voting was requested. It was agreed that nominations could close by 7 September, but thought it difficult to be definite thereafter as it depended on how many nominees there were for the officers and if it was necessary to have any tie breaks and reduction of numbers to a final two.

2.5 There was also discussion on how closely the elections should follow the conventions of an afternoon of voting in Council, because pauses for counting and ascertaining the number of vacant places on the Board (depending on who became officers) would cause delay and add to the expense.

GE volunteered to produce an options sheet for discussion at the next meeting. This was agreed by a majority. SF, RF & JL abstained.

Actions: production of options sheet

GE further contact with Civica for advice & costs

RF/OM

BD3976  STAFF & OFFICE

1 Report from the Office Manager - staff

1.1 Denise had circulated her report in advance of the meeting. She, Dennis and Rhian were now working in the Office and there was good reason for Rhian to return. Social distancing was being maintained and they had discussed and been given a copy of the risk assessment.

1.2 Leanne, Becky and Abi were still working from home, but only Leanne (with young children) would continue to do so once an easing of restrictions allowed a return to the office.

1.3 They were all extremely busy. Dennis was catching up on sending out registration cards and had almost dealt with the backlog, and Rhian was working on the info box. Enquiries were coming in more quickly than they could easily be dealt with. Abi was assisting as well as dealing with club returns.

1.4 It was not yet possible to interview and take on new staff, but the OM would do this as soon as practical. She had planned how training could be carried out. She also wanted Becky and Rhian to take some holiday.

1.5 Appreciation was expressed for the way in which the Office staff were coping and Board members reported they were aware of favourable feedback. There was some concern for the reason there were so many enquiries and it was thought that a future IT project should be to build in a ‘helpdesk’ or supporting videos to assist with the online processes.

2 Office

2.1 The ‘fixed wire testing was scheduled for 13/8/20

2.2 One quote for a contactless key pad on the interior entrance door had been obtained and a second company would be coming on 22/6/20 to give one.

2.3 She was investigating binding machines, but would need advice on what was suitable for GCCF requirements.

INFO

BD3977  REGISTRATION, TRANSFERS & SOP ITEMS

1 Amendments to the Ragdoll Registration Policy

1.1 There was a clarification in the first paragraph, and wording that was now superfluous, including reference to the Experimental Register was deleted. There was no comment on these changes.

1.2 Notes had been introduced so that cats who were homozygous or heterozygous for the Ragdoll HCM gene would no longer be eligible for active registration, (homozygous cats born after 1/1/21 and heterozygous born after 1/7/21). It was queried whether any statistics had been gathered to support these proposals, to show that the numbers being registered or tested had reduced, so there would a small loss to the gene pool. SD, BAC Chairman, said the main intention was to remove cats from breeding that could produce more carriers otherwise health was affected, and that was the prime concern.

1.3 There was also comment on the section of the policy that required DNA testing to establish that a cat was chocolate or lilac before it could be registered as such on the active register. It was thought these colours were easy to determine, and no other breed required tests for this purpose. It adversely affected breeders interested in these colours.

1.4 It was agreed to return the policy to the BAC to ask for comments on the points made, and to provide the rationale to the Board for the BAC’s decisions, as was required by rule Section 1:20.

Action: letter to the Ragdoll BAC

JL

2 Active registration for Adsepsl Ebony Azure

2.1 The breeder of the cat was suspended from GCCF for selling an unvaccinated kitten, and failure to provide paperwork, at the time IC was asked to help with missing papers for this cat.

2.2 It was established that the cat had been sold prior to the suspension, was registered by the breeder and confirmed as now owned by the complainant, who alleged that at the time of sale she had expressed an interest in breeding, but had been told nothing about active/non-active registration or the requirement for DNA testing for Ragdoll HCM.

2.3 The cat was now tested as clear and the owner had applied to the Board for a transfer and active registration. After discussion the requests were agreed by a majority and it was noted that the breeder’s prefix would not be used.

SD, SF, SH abstained.
2.4 The pedigree provided by the owner to IC showed that the breeder was falsifying the Breeder Scheme logo. It was unanimously agreed that if the breeder wished to pay her fines and return to using GCCF services, then a new case should be referred to IC to protect GCCF's ownership of the logo and the rights of the breeders given permission to use it.

Action: The IC/DC Secretary to be informed of the decisions

BD3978 SHOW MATTERS

1. Change of show date for the Asian CA
   1.1 This had been considered by email circulation and not agreed. A move from 24/4/21 to 17/4/21 would impact on the Burmese CA show which was allowed to take Asians and in the same part of the country.
   1.2 The club had been asked to think again if there was the need for change.

INFO

BD3979 HEALTH & WELFARE

1. Any further Covid-19 or general updates from the Canine & Feline Sector Group
   1.1 SC reported that there had been a meeting of the C&FSG on 12/6/20, with the discussion mostly concerning the Covid-19 and the effects of it on animal welfare and the charities.
   1.2 The most relevant information for GCCF was the report that there had been a noted increase of the sale of puppies and kittens during the period when people were mostly at home. It was thought most of these would be from 'backyard breeders' and it was known that puppies were being illegally imported.
   1.3 There were various concerns about this for the health of the animals bought and for their future well-being when owners returned to a different life-style and they were left alone. It was thought that if there were problems it could lead to extra rescue work.
   1.4 This would impact on the charities whose income streams had largely dried up as nothing was coming in from shops and events. These issues were being referred to Defra.
   1.5 It was known there had been an increased demand for kittens from GCCF breeders and thought probable that would be passed on to those who did not register and were more concerned with profit than welfare. There was little that GCCF could do other than for all concerned to keep educating the public about the risks of buying non-vaccinated kittens at a very young age.

INFO

BD3980 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. SH suggested that consideration should be given to writing off the the 2020/21 show season and recommencing in June 2021 with the same show calendar (if the clubs concerned had made their returns) and simply updating licences. It would give everyone concerned in organising shows the benefit of certainty. LR expressed concern for the penning company. She thought it possible they would not continue to exist if the delay was so long. There was also the possibility that exhibitors would be attracted from GCCF to other organisations if their show provision had started. She thought if certainty was required then a restart could be fixed at 1.1.21 or as soon as possible thereafter, depending on government direction. It was agreed that this would be worth discussing further and in another month more could be known about the easing of restrictions and availability of venues.

Action: return to the next agenda

JL

2. The Chairman suggested the publication of a yearbook/calendar at the end of the year, particularly to feature COTY winners, but clubs could be invited to participate. It was thought if Georgina Anderson-Keeble was happy to put this together and edit it, instead of doing the Supreme catalogue, it would be a very worthwhile project.

Action: further investigation into the practicalities and costs

JH

3. JL reported the Office had been contacted to see if electronic only registration service could be provided if the breeder was happy to print their own paperwork. It would cut out the need for for posting and printing, and part of the saving on cost could be passed onto the customer. Becky had thought it possible, and it was agreed she could discuss it further with the OM to see if it could be viable.

Action: further investigation into the practicalities and costs

OM

4. LRT requested a return to the agenda the following month for the GCCF non-recognised breeds information sheet.

Action: return to the next agenda

JL

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY, 17th July, at 11.00am by video-conference, after consultation with those who had left early.

The meeting finished at 3.15 pm