



MINUTES

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

Friday, 25 September 2020 by videoconference



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

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Mrs Lynda Ashmore | Dr Peter Collin |
| Mr Steve Crow | Ms Sarndra 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 |
| Mrs Chris Stalker (for BD4009.4 The GCCF Year Book) | |

In attendance: The Office Manager, Denise Williams (OM)

BD4005 MEETING INTRODUCTION

1. Apologies for absence.

1.1 Apologies had been received from Mrs Hilary Dean and Dr Gavin Eyres (although Dr Eyres was able to be present for a short time, arriving at 12.15 approx.). Drs Collin and Eyres had to leave the meeting at 1pm. Mrs Ashmore joined the meeting intermittently, but had some internet connection difficulties. Mrs Chapman-Bier had sent apologies for not being present for the finance items.

2. Chairman's opening remarks

2.1 The meeting began at 11.15am. The Chairman welcomed those present, and commented that although it was not a long agenda he expected some items would need in-depth discussion.
2.2 It was agreed there would be a break for lunch at 1.00pm approximately

BD4006 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS THE MEETING

1. The Minutes of the Board meeting of 21 August 2020

1.1 These had been circulated some amendments and corrections made.
1.2 GE had emailed a request shortly before the meeting for a small amendment to BD3997.1.7 which was agreed.
1.3 From a proposal by SC, seconded HM, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Action: the minutes to be sent for website publication

JL/RF

2. Matters arising from the previous minutes

BD3997.6 The Vice-Chair reported that FC had discussed assisting Board members who did not have adequate electronic equipment to access online meetings and discussion. It was agreed that that this should be done discreetly with the OM making a check with new Board members when they joined. The loan of equipment would be made with a record kept, but without further reference to the Board.

INFO

BD3998.3 The Vice-Chair had made the suggestion that this item should be redacted from the published minutes as it was still ongoing and solicitors were involved. This was agreed and the note would be attached to the published minutes to explain the redaction.

BD4000.1 It was queried whether any Board members knew of any objections to the Ragdoll registration policy as one club had contacted the Office to be sure it was approved. As no one was aware of any it was agreed that it could now be considered approved and should be shown as such on the website.

Action: website publication for both items as described

JL/RF

BD4000.4 RF reported that a new edition of the SOP app was available for download from the website, and for distribution from the Office on request. All BACs had been contacted for input.

INFO

BD4007 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

INFO

BD4008 FINANCE

1. Management p&l accounts to 31 August 2020

1.1 The profit and loss accounts to the end of August had been provided by the bookkeeper and circulated to all in advance of the meeting, and a summary sheet was available for comparative purposes.
1.2 There were no queries on the p&l sheet and thanks were again put on record for the bookkeeper (Leanne) for providing a clear report, with additional notes to show where there was a variance in income/expenditure from that which was typical for a month, or indicating concerns.
1.3 Monthly income was again improved, and expenditure reduced, adding to the increase in gross profit for the year. £52,229.72 in August 2019, and £125,408.73 in 2020.
1.4 Concerns noted were the increase in fees from Monahans and an unexpected £199.10 in bank charges from Payzone for transaction charges that had not been included in the estimate of costs.
1.5 The subscription to the Canine & Feline Sector Group (£500) had been paid this month

Action: passing thanks on to Leanne

OM

2. **Volume figures (core business)**
- 2.1 The comparison figures produced by the OM had shown substantial increases in all areas when compared with the month in the three previous years.
- 2.2 It was commented that transfer figures had improved as well as registrations, after a fall and little movement since the level of the incentive from Royal Canin had dropped. This followed the rise in registrations, but it was hoped that new people were interested in owning a registered kitten.
- 2.3 The OM reported there was also an increase in prefix applications, another indication of new interest.
- 2.4 Import figures had jumped dramatically. It was expected that breeders bringing in cats from abroad were taking the opportunity ahead of any further restrictions due to the pandemic and the uncertainty of the regulations post-Brexit. It was not expected that this figure would be sustained.
- 2.5 Overall it was clear that the core business had benefitted rather than been affected adversely by the pandemic. Denise and the Office team were thanked for their considerable efforts in maintaining a high level of customer service. **INFO**

3. **Report on new account**

- 3.1 RF reported that the account at the Monmouthshire Building Society had been opened and £84,000 deposited.
- 3.2 It was an easy-access account with online access only for the OM, bookkeeper and RF.
- 3.3 The interest rate was 0.5%.

4. **Statement of accounts balances**

- 4.1 Aldermore £76,445.61 with a fixed interest of 1.49% until March 2021.
(signatories SC, RF and the bookkeeper)
- Cambridge & Counties £77,727.37 95 day notice account with 1.49% interest
(signatories JH, SC, RF and the bookkeeper)
- Redwood £70,247.03, 95 day notice account with 1.54% interest
(signatories SF, RF and the OM and bookkeeper)
- Monmouthshire BS £84,000
- Lloyds (current) £165,977.41
- Lloyds (Supreme) £1036.50
- Lloyds (Euro) €11,309.70
(signatories JH, SC, RF, SH and the OM and the bookkeeper)

5. **GCCF holding funds temporarily on behalf of clubs and BACs**

- 5.1 It was observed that it had been established that the amount stated on the cheque sent by the Ragdoll BAC's retiring treasurer was commensurate the BAC's funds and there was a risk that if it was not cashed it could run out of time. SD proposed that the cheque should be cashed now and this was agreed. The amount held would then be validated.

Action: the bookkeeper to be informed

OM

- 5.2 Once this was done a letter would be sent to the Ragdoll BAC confirming the amount, reminding the BAC of the need to appoint a new treasurer and open a new account, and asking for an update on progress with this.

- 5.3 The recommendation from FC was that a request for the release of funds would have to be sent from the club or BAC to the Board

Action: a letter to be sent to the BAC

JL

- 5.3 The bookkeeper had reported that it was not difficult to record money held in GCCF accounts that did not belong to GCCF as a 'holding account' could be designated. However, she did not want to be involved in operating the account on a club or BAC's behalf and needed a protocol to follow for the release of the funds to an authorised account. It was agreed FC should define a protocol and refer it back to the Board, and included within it should be a stipulation that money paid out required Board authorisation and should be from an officer, supported by minutes to verify an account had been opened and the cheque signatories.

- 5.4 SD confirmed that she had transferred £4065.40 from the North West CC's show account to the GCCF and this had been acknowledged by the bookkeeper with a receipt sent to the NWCC's solicitor. **INFO**

6. **Proposed change to the practitioners examining the company's annual accounts**

- 6.1 It was noted by several Board members that Leanne had explained the need to change from Monahans and researched alternatives providing a considerable amount of detail, and she was to be thanked for this.
- 6.2 Monahans costs had increased significantly with the only explanation given that it was based on the level of queries that needed a response. However, these were necessary due to errors in their work so GCCF was being charged for correction of the accountant's mistakes.
- 6.3 Comment was made on the two companies whose details had been circulated the previous day with a summary of the discussion from the FC meeting of 23.9.20 (FC872.2). It was observed that the charges of each were very similar, and liked that there was familiarity with the charity/not-for-profit sector, and that Leanne had established a rapport during telephone conversations. However, it was pointed out the strongest quality of Albert Goodman (FC recommended choice) was the amount of research that had been made prior to giving a quote for services. It was thought it established an interest in GCCF as a business.
- 6.4 It was remarked that if GCCF changed its accountants it was an annual appointment. If there was lack of satisfaction a different company could be tried. Also, that the appointment was Council's but it had been specified in the resolutions that it could be confirmed this year by website publication.
- 6.5 The OM confirmed possible dates had been arranged for a Zoom meeting if this was agreed so that the Officers, OM and bookkeeper could meet with Michelle of Albert Goodman and confirm the positive impression. This was agreed by a majority with 1 abstention (SH).
- 6.6 There was then discussion on the action to be taken subsequent to the meeting. It was proposed by SF that as long as there was nothing negative to report then the approval of Albert Goodman be ratified by email. There was objection to this as it was thought the Board required a summary of the meeting in advance of a new vote, although there was concern that if this waited until the next Board meeting and did not succeed the default would be remaining with Monahans. The proposal was approved by 7 votes to 6 with 1 abstention (CK)

7. To satisfy the requirement of minute record of the decision SC proposed a single item meeting Board meeting be convened. This was agreed for 11am the following Friday (2 October) after the zoom meeting now confirmed for the previous day. This was agreed by all as a single item meeting.

Action: summary of meeting (by JH), and notice of the meeting to be circulated

JL

BD4009

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Preparation for the 2020 Elections

- 1.1 GE reported that all preparations had now been made, and information was available on the website.
1.2 The nominations would go live on 30 September.
1.3 It was queried whether nominations would be available to view as they came in or whether the nominees would not be known until after nomination closed. GE explained that at the close of the nomination period a list of those nominated would be sent to the Office from Civica for verification. Once they had been checked a list could be posted on the website, and by Civica, either on the day the election opened or the day before.
1.4 A supplementary question to that was whether people would be able to withdraw from the process if they wished and GE confirmed that was possible. Civica would be writing out to nominees for their statements and a list of those standing could be sent at this time. It was agreed this would be useful.
1.5 The Vice-Chair was concerned whether there would be any email verification. The OM confirmed that she was certain that the list supplied to Civica was now accurate and GE added that this was something that Civica would be familiar with and checking for.

Action: liaison with Civica to discuss list publication and a quick check on email processes

GE

(Break for lunch, PC and GE left the meeting)

2. Agria news

- 2.1 The Chair reported that Agria continued to be satisfied with the level of business generated from the breeder policies which had improved on last year.
2.2 It was noted that the figure for August was down compared with that for the same month a year earlier, but the OM explained it did not necessarily relate to the actual month, but a period of time earlier the year. Currently there was improvement.
2.3 It was stated there was fairly frequent contact between GCCF and Agria's representative Sarah White. There were meetings and information passed for the website. It wasn't known if Agria had the Kitten Checklist on its site, but agreed they should have.

INFO

3. IT report

- 3.1 SC reported that the IT meeting planned for earlier in the week had been rescheduled for 30 September.
3.2 There were no known problems, and Denise commented that there were very few issues in the Office because Ian was able to respond quickly and knew the system well.

INFO

4. Yearbook progress

(Item taken shortly after midday. GE arrived during 4.4)

- 4.1 A printing company had been decided. They had given a competitive quote, specialised in magazines, and had been used before so were known to produce a quality product. They were also local to SD so would be easy to take and collect if necessary.
4.2 There was discussion on taking payment for advertising copy. It was thought it would be possible to do this by phone to the Office or set up email payment. Ian would need to be involved, and as there was an IT meeting on 30 October it was possible SD and Chris could take part in direct discussion.
4.3 It was agreed that the Year Book would be able to be bought and paid for online via the 'shop'. The agreed cost of £10 would include the postage.
4.4 There was discussion on Royal Canin and Purina to ascertain if any contractual obligation to RC precluded taking an advert and copy from Purina. It was thought that the contract lapsed two years earlier and although RC provided some benefit to the Supreme nothing prevented a relationship with Purina for advertising. It was also observed that Purina now had a higher profile in the UK which could have future significance. Vouchers within the adverts would be requested from both companies.
4.5 The front cover would be the Supreme Winner from 2019 and the HHP winner feature on the first page. The cover space for advertising would be reserved for commercial companies rather than clubs.
4.6 CWT would be given two pages to highlight their latest research project (HCM in British). SC was asked for a GCCF history page (edited from an earlier year) and RF for a 'backyard breeder' article.
4.7 It was agreed that distribution for the Year Book would be via the Office. Pre-orders would be taken.

Action: continued planning & work on the Year Book

flyer from Becky to ask for support via the website and to clubs

**SD
OM**

5. GCCFI Update

- 5.1 The Chair reported that the business relationship with GCCFI to give registration service provision had now existed for almost three years, which was the length of time the contract had originally provided for.
5.2 RF reported from a meeting with Lorna (GCCFI Chair) that her organisation's chief concern was the large amount of indemnity that GCCFI had to provide to GCCF in clauses 15 & 16. She needed to know the circumstances in which this would be claimed.
5.3 The Vice-Chair gave opinion that original purpose of the contract had been to recover some of the set up costs if GCCFI pulled out suddenly, within the first three years, but as it had now been operating for that period it would be difficult to assert any legal claim that it had not, in order to claim a penalty. This was particularly so because payment had been made to GCCF from GCCFI for the services as defined in the contract for that period. It was not essential that the initial costs had been recovered as GCCF retained the asset of soft ware to provide the service. Therefore, it was recommended by FC that the clauses relating to indemnification were now removed.

- 5.4 It was also noted that FC recommended an amendment to clause 3 so that the contract did not have an initial fixed period, but became a rolling contract, with each party able to terminate if six month notice was given to the other. That gave greater flexibility for both parties.
- 5.5 It was understood that GCCFI was very satisfied with the service and now would like the contract in place as a safeguard for the future.
- 5.6 There had been queries raised on VAT and it been established that it was GCCFI's responsibility to pay any VAT due in the Republic of Ireland, but it did not apply to them as they were not a sufficiently big enough company to be registered for VAT. Because of the type of service provided to GCCFI, GCCF did not have to include VAT on its invoices to them. This had been made clear in the agreement at clause 7.
- 5.7 A vote was taken to accept the service level agreement with the amendments described so that it could be signed on behalf of both organisations. This was agreed by a majority with two abstentions (SH & LR).

Action: arrangements made for the contract to be signed

OM

BD4010 STAFF & OFFICE

1 Report from the Office Manager

- 1.1 The OM had prepared a report for FC with staff appraisals that would be presented to the Board at its October meeting with recommendations for bonuses and salary increases.
- 1.2. She reported briefly to the Board that there was a good working atmosphere at the Office, and normal service to customers had been resumed in all respects.
- 1.3 Rhian was training the probationers, Alice and Katie, and doing this well. Both were making good progress.
- 1.4 Denise and Leanne planned to draft the 2021 budget on 1 October.
- 1.5 Rhian's 21st birthday was mentioned as coming up shortly and it was agreed that a card and Amazon voucher should be given from the Board.

INFO

2. Office maintenance update

- 2.1 The work needed to follow the fixed wire testing was scheduled to be done in November, unless a slot became available earlier.
- 2.2 An assessment of the lighting had been made with a recommendation that the fluorescent tubes should be replaced with LED lighting. This would save considerably on running costs and would be investigated. **INFO**

BD4011 SHOW MATTERS

1. Future of the 20-21 show season

- 1.1 It was known that TICA had two shows planned and queried how this was possible. LRT gave a brief summary of the most recent government guidelines for community facilities. These seemed to in line with pubs in being allowed to admit people as long as social distancing could be maintained, and those attending were not in individual social groups that were larger than six.
- 1.2 There was doubt expressed that these shows would go ahead, and opinion that many venues would not be prepared to take shows. It was thought that those prepared to accept that sort of event would have many extra restrictions in place which would make show management more onerous and probably detract further from financial viability.
- 1.3 There was a proposal that the GCCF should cancel the remainder of the 20-21 season as the government had predicted Covid problems for the next six months, but it was pointed out that although this was a fact current measures still permitted shows to take place if operated within guidelines, and made justification for this length of time difficult. It was thought that because shows were allowed to take place would not necessarily mean that they would, because, as well as venue difficulties, judges and vets could be reluctant to attend, particularly as insurance for vets might not be available.
- 1.4 Also, it was stressed that as well as consideration for what individual show managers wanted to do there was a risk to the company if a GCCF cat show was named in the press as a virus 'spreader' event.
- 1.5 The end of March was proposed as an alternative to June for the type of show run by GCCF, with discussion in the intervening time as to the measures that could be taken to make shows safer, and whether these would require rule changes.
- 1.6 SC reported that animal shows had been discussed at the C&FSG meeting the previous week as DEFRA had asked for guidance. A further online meeting was planned with the Group's Chair and GCCF and KC representatives to consider what information to give, as it was known there had already been requests made directly to DEFRA.
- 1.7 It was agreed that the outcome of this meeting should be considered before any major steps would be taken. It would be preferable to be seeking information and guidelines from DEFRA to inform GCCF decisions rather than imposing anything arbitrarily. It was agreed that the website announcement would be to put the date forward so that shows could not take place until the end of December, together with the information that the DEFRA consultation would be taking place. It had to be clear that there would be no GCCF show before the end of the year and after that it would depend on the advice received.

Action: update made to website notification

RF/OM

2. Show licence applications for the 2021- 2022 season

- 2.1 There was considerable discussion on what to do in case where clubs had made an application for a show licence, but were not eligible as they had not yet supplied examined accounts to complete their 2020 return, although the deadline for this had been extended to 31 August 2020. Some of clubs had given reasons for lateness, others had supplied little or nothing.
- 2.2 The Vice-Chair proposed that clubs that had not made a completed return should send extenuating circumstances to explain lateness that would be then be considered with their licence application once the return had been signed off. This was agreed unanimously.

- 2.3 There was also debate over whether clubs who had not named a show manager should be granted a show licence. A number of Board members were of the opinion they should not, but it was stated that precedent already existed for this, and one example was given. It was thought clubs should be notified for the future.
- 2.4 Clubs to be notified that their show licence was not granted and that they would need to supply extenuating circumstances when they had completed their return and indicated that they wished their show licence applications considered:
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Longhair Cream & Blue Cream CC | 2.10.21 |
| Ulster Siamese & All Breed | 13.11.21 |
| Colourpoint Society of GB & All Breed | 11.12.21 |
| Croydon CC | 12.2.22 |
| Southern Counties CC | 12.2.22 |
| Northern Birman CC | 16.4.22 |
| Nor'East of Scotland CC | 14.5.22 |
- 2.5 The Tabby CC had now sent returns, but these had to be checked and their payment confirmed. Their show licence would be on hold until completion.
- 2.6 The Edinburgh and East of Scotland had applied for 4.9.21 initially and asked to change it to 11.9.21. This alteration was not agreed because of it was on the same date as other all breed shows and it was thought there would be difficulty for each in finding judges. The club would try and book the venue on 18.9.21.
- 2.7 Late applications/change accepted on the day:
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Kensington CC | 19.6.21 |
| Three Counties CC a move to | 7.8.21 |
| Gwynedd CC | 5.2.22 |
| Bombay & Asian | 23.3.22 |
| Kate Ekanger as SM for the Caledonian | 9.10.21 |
| Blue Persian & United Chinchilla CCs | 16.10.21 to include Section 1 breeds |
| Siamese Cat Society of Scotland | 14.5.22 to include Balinese & Foreign White |
- 2.8 The Tonkinese CC was approved to include Section 5 breeds and the Bombay & Asian were eligible to do so. The small breed clubs at Bracknell on 2.10.21 had not yet applied to have other breeds of their Grand Group, but it was noted they would be eligible to do so, as in the previous year.
- 2.9 The Asian CA was not granted a licence for 9.4.22 on the same day as the Burmese CA.
- 2.10 The Russian Blue Breeders Association would not be allowed an assessment class for Chartreux
- 2.11 All other licence applications received were accepted as listed.

Action referral to the Office for the issue of licences and letters of information

JL

3. David Redfeldt - requests for re-instatement (item taken prior to the lunch break)

- 3.1 David Redfeldt had been a GCCF judge for almost 25 years until moving abroad in 2009 and becoming an all-breed judge with ACFA. He had recently resigned from that organisation and was applying to GCCF BACs for re-instatement on GCCF lists. A number of BACs had made proposals to do so on the Judge appointment list.
- 3.2 The RagaMuffin breed did not have Championship status when Mr Redfeldt left the country. However, the BAC wished to propose him as a Full Judge for their list as he was internationally known had in-depth breed knowledge and plenty of judging experience.
- 3.3 It was agreed that there was nothing within the GCCF Judge Appointment Scheme currently that allowed the BAC to propose him as a Full Judge of RagaMuffins.
- 3.4 The Accelerated Scheme was not intended for judges who lived abroad and stated this in its published information. PC reported that a meeting of the JTRG was planned and could consider an amendment to this if the Board was in agreement. It was approved that there should be JTRG discussion on this matter.
- 3.5 It was noted that the Siberian BAC would also like to have this judge on their judging list if it was possible.

Action: referred for discussion by the JRTG letter to the RagaMuffin BAC

**PC
JL**

BD4012 REGISTRATION, TRANSFERS & SOP ITEMS

1. An amendment to the SOP for the Suffolk

- 1.1 Suffolk BAC had proposed an amendment to better describe the profile. It was felt that the inclusion of the word 'stop' in 2014 was inappropriate, even though this was qualified by 'slight to moderate'. It was thought to be associated with Burmese in Section 5, although acknowledged that there should still be wording that differentiated the Suffolks from the Orientals of Section 6
- 1.2 It was observed that this term was not in the Burmese SOP, but agreed that it did describe the Suffolk profile. The alternative proposed by the BAC of 'a slight dip with a change of direction' was not thought a satisfactory description either as still open to misinterpretation.
- 1.3 After discussion it was thought the wording use in the Ocicat SOP was closest to what was required: 'There is no nose break as such, but a slight dip is seen in profile'. This would be suggested to the BAC.

Action: letter to the Suffolk BAC

JL

2. Updating registration policies and SOPs on the GCCF website

- 2.1 RF reported that she had made all the changes to the SOPs when updating the app (BD4006). These were now revised to include the most recent changes (Sokoke and Korat).
- 2.2 All BACs had been contacted to comment and correct any mistakes. Five had sent a response.
- 2.3 It was noted that Caroline (GCCF systems analyst) was working her way through the registration policies to check their implementation on the system, and was contacting BACs if there were inconsistencies

3. Certificate of neutering as a requirement for HHP registration

- 3.1 The Investigations Committee had sent a letter to the Board giving the same concerns about the registration of Household Pets that had been discussed by the Board at the previous meeting (BD4000.5) because of the risk of use for breeding HHPs and claiming the registration certificate as GCCF endorsement.

3.2 RF reported that she had not yet looked into the rules to see where/how this could be implemented in a way that continued to allow domestic cats to be used as occasional breeding outcrosses and the showing of entire pedigree kittens in some circumstances. It was acknowledged that this was not straightforward.

3.3 JL reported that the Household Pet CC of GB had been contacted for consultation, and had replied to say that they would give a response after a club committee meeting.

Actions: rule checking

RF

BD4013 CLUB & BAC MATTERS

1. An update on the 2019 club & BAC returns

1.1 SH had circulated a report in the middle of the month bringing the club returns up to date and indicating where there had been show licence applications.

1.2 Since then there had been a conversation with the Colourpoint & AB Society of GB as a page of accounts was missing and a copy not currently available. The Tabby CC was close to completing their returns

1.3 The Siamese Cat JAC had sent examined accounts, leaving just two BACs who had sent accounts without an examination claiming this wasn't possible at present (Abyssinian and Joint Rex,) and two that had sent nothing (Singapura and Snowshoes). These would be contacted again.

1.4 SH commented that as she was no longer a member of the Finance Committee she would not be looking after the returns next year. It would be for whichever Board member wished to take it on. RF expressed an interest in doing so. **INFO**

2. Siamese Cat JAC problems

2.1 CK reported that she had liaised with SD (previous chair) and Mr Davies (who had contacted the Board) to discuss the problems. There had also been some communication with the secretary who was now willing to contribute, and this meant BAC records would be available.

2.2 There were 16 clubs and eventually, after two attempts, 14 had made contact and some were going to be assisted in doing a zoom meeting at the end of October. However, 2 had agreed the meeting, but would not take part. The purpose of the meeting would be to elect officers and set a date for a full agenda meeting.

2.3 The finances were in order and returns made, but there would be a need to check on which clubs had paid subs for 2020 in order to participate in a meeting.

2.4 To date there were no proposals for any of the officer positions and the clubs did not seem enthusiastic about making them, but with so many constituent clubs it was thought there should be a suitable candidate for the role of Vice-Chair. The representatives had voted at previous quorate meetings to seek an independent chair and, if possible, Secretary and Treasurer.

2.5 CK noted that at present each club had two votes, although one representative could carry both. This seemed unnecessary and the Board agreed. She would suggest they seriously consider making a change.

2.6 It was concluded that good progress had been made and Mrs Kaye was thanked for her work.

Action: continued liaison with the clubs of the SCJAC

CK

BD4014 HEALTH & WELFARE

1. Updates from the Canine & Feline Sector Group and other groups

1.1 SC reported on a meeting with MPs from the parliamentary group. There was the launch of the 'loneliness' report considering cats as companion animals, and concern for the increased number of cats in shelters after lockdown.

1.2 SC had brought up the problem caused by back yard breeders who were using the internet for sales, with kittens sold that were not as advertised, often for substantial sums of money

1.3 It was hoped legislation would come into force next spring that would extend the length of sentence for animal cruelty convictions. The private member's bill would have a second reading in October. It would bring England & Wales into line with sentencing that was already possible in Scotland.

1.4 The C&FSG meeting had covered the future of shows (BD4011.1) and the licensing of catteries taking rescues.

1.5 There had also been discussion on the consequences of the UK having '3rd country' status in relation to the EU. It was not only the import and export of pets that would be affected, but also concerns about trade for pet food companies, as a lot of production was done outside the UK, and for access to veterinary supplies.

1.6 The next meeting was planned for November. **INFO**

2. VAC meeting

2.1 SC reported that only four members could attend the conference meeting held the previous week.

2.2 Certificates of entirety for imports had been discussed following one importer relying on Pet Passport information, which did not describe the examination given. It was thought that if carried out in another country the CofE should have GCCF wording and English as the first language or a translation.

2.2 There had also been discussion on safety at shows re Covid. Show management would need to check that vets were covered by insurance and that sufficient PPE was available for all show workers..

BD4015 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. The Chair reported that it was now most unlikely the WCC would go ahead in 2021 as even if some level of normality returned next spring, there would be little opportunity for planning and for people from overseas to attend.

2. The IC/DC Secretary had sent an order from DC that requested the removal of a breeder from the Breeder Scheme as she was deliberately breeding polydactyl cats contrary to the breeding policy for her breed. It was agreed the paperwork should be circulated.

3. The New Zealand registry had expressed an interest in use of Phoenix. Discussions were at an early stage.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY, 5 October 2020 at 11 am by video-conference for a single item (BD4008.6)

The date for the next full meeting of the Board to be confirmed at that time.

The meeting finished at 3.57 pm.