

Minutes of the Border Collie Breed Council meeting which was held online on 6th December 2017. This meeting was held via WebEx so everybody was in attendance via WebEx meeting link. Thank you to Ross Green for setting this meeting up.

1. Welcome: The meeting was opened at 7.15pm by the chairman.

The chairman opened the meeting slightly late as we were having a few problems with connection. Present at the meeting MBCC / Scottish BCC / Wessex BCC / BCC of Wales / Wessex BCC (need to sort link) / NEBCC / BCC of GB / WOEBCC

2. Apologies - No apologies were received.

Absent SBCC / EABCC / NWBCC

3. Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were read out and proposed as correct by MBCC and seconded by Scottish BCC all clubs in favour.

4. Matter arising from the minutes.

Starting on item 1 through to item 5 everything is fine.

Item 6 The secretary does have correspondence about this item but they would come under the agenda item.

The balance sheet from the treasurer is fine. The complete balance sheet will be loaded onto the website for clubs to see.

Item 8 election of vice chairman -

5 clubs voted for Mr S Atkinson.

3 clubs voted for Mr C Grant.

So Mr S Atkinson is the vice chairman.

There were no other matters arising apart from those spreads on the agenda as a shortage item.

5. Chairman's report

This is our second meeting by a conference call or messenger, I understand that this method of holding a meeting is convenient to many, but as a chairman it's a nightmare. I cannot keep control and often miss large parts of dialogue .

Marion has again spend many hours contacting the KC by mail and phone, mainly about the SBCHT and The JCF without much success or detailed information.

My calls to Gary Clarke were not answered so no information from that quarter .

We have asked Toni Jackson to raise our concerns and views regarding the removal of the SBCHT title. Toni attended a meeting late November but until the minutes are public she cannot tell us the outcome.

6. Secretary's report.

It is quite difficult sometimes to hear what people say via this type of link. I will type the minutes up to the best of my minute taking but you might have to keep this in mind if we continue meetings in this way.

I have spent quite a bit of my time in the last few weeks trying to sort out the JCF and the video details but this will be discussed later on in the meeting.

7. Treasurer's report.

Val Hawker was not present as having problems with connection but would add the balance sheet online after the meeting. We have connection with Val now via mobile.
In the bank £2.979.25. We still have put aside the engraving money for the trophy.
All clubs are fully paid up.

8. Video - clarification from the KC.

There was a great deal of discussion about the making of the video. The details from the kennel club were that at the moment in time they couldn't confirm an exact price to us for making the video but would hopefully do that at the beginning of next year as they are changing the company that makes the videos. The one thing they did say was that we are more likely to be at the front of the queue rather than the back if we decided to go for the option 3 (we pay for all of the video) because if we went for option 2 which is where we pay some of the money and the Kennel Club pay some of the money, there has to be funding at the KC to cover this .

BCC of Wales asked do we have any idea of the cost? The chairman said he thought between anywhere between £2.500 & £3.500 but the KC will let us know exactly the cost when we confirm which option we are going for.

BCC of GB said could we get a time scale and cost ASAP? The secretary will ring the KC.

Scottish BCC said maybe the Breed Council could put some money toward it? The chairman said he thought it was a good idea maybe if we put a £1.000 towards it. We need to speak to the treasurer and at the moment the link is not very good. All clubs were in favour.

Votes are as follows.

1. No financial input funded totally by KC – Wessex BCC (we have no money)
2. 50/50 or similar between clubs and KC – BCC of Wales
3. Fully funded by the breed – Scottish BCC / NEBCC / MBCC / WOEBCC /

BCC of GB said maybe we could raise some funds towards it but on principal would go with 3.
So option 3 is carried the secretary will let me KC know.

9. JCP where do we go from here?

The chairman said that he has tried contacting Gary Clarke to ask him to come along and meet us at a meeting but he hasn't replied to the messages he had left him via telephone.

BCC of Wales suggested we try and write to Gary Clarke and email him again and see if he will reply. The KC has asked the Breed Council to try and work with him. All clubs in favour. The chairman said that when speaking to Mr Clarke, he informed him that SBCC will not be renewing their membership to the Breed Council in 2018. The secretary said she had not received this in writing yet.

10. SBCHT – ref letter sent - Toni Jackson details.

The chairman said he and the secretary had spoken to Tony Jackson and emailed her over the information the Breed Council had put forward to the KC regarding the SBCHT and that she totally understood where we were coming from about the SBCHT title.

Toni had now bought this matter up at the Kennel Club meeting but cannot give us any further information until the minutes of that meeting have been passed. BCC of Wales said was it really so important? Scottish BCC said Yes it was important all other clubs agreed.

11. Update from our health rep.

Kathie Kinton would send update from Roslln to the secretary. For the minutes but she wanted to mention that there was quite a lot going on at the moment. Firstly the research is moving to Aus-

tralia in the New Year and there has been some more news with Cathryn Mellish seminar last week.

Please see below update sent from KK.

Can you tell the committee(s) that we will shortly have the form for requesting the results. Please make it clear that these will be provisional and should be confirmed by an official test once one becomes available. Also that we will provide the results as part of the research project and not for diagnostic purposes, so we will not be liable for any use that is made for breeding decisions etc. Results will come back by email. People will have to show proof that they are the owner (eg the registration certificate) and we will simply send the result and an explanation of all possible genotypes. I hope to have this done in the next few days.

Also as I will be moving on, we won't be able to accept any more samples in Edinburgh after the end of next week, ie 8 December. If you have any you think would be interesting for the research, can you please get them to me next week. After that it will take me a while to put something in place to work with them in Australia, although I do intend to do so.

With respect to an official commercial test, we have been held up at this end by the University's commercialisation rules which mean we have to offer it to the local group first. I doubt they will be interested and once we have published the paper I can work with Animal Genetics to help them make something available but for the moment we are constrained from working with them. I am pushing the university people to make a decision but they can take months. We are hoping to publish early in the new year.

Cathryn Mellersh of AHT gave a seminar here this week. One thing she said that makes good sense to me is that once a test for a genetic disease is available it is important to eliminate the gene slowly. If you simply stop breeding from all carriers you run the risk of reducing the genetic variability and therefore increasing the frequency of other genetic variants. So don't eliminate carriers from the breeding pool. Of course never breed from a severely affected individual, and try to breed carrier to non carrier. That way you can gradually reduce the frequency of the variant without going through a genetic bottleneck that would increase the risk of other genetic conditions. In a way this is similar to advice you have had in the past, not to breed from affected individuals and don't breed their relatives together, but you shouldn't stop breeding from those lines altogether.

12. AOB

No one had any other business.

The next meeting will be Wednesday 24th January.

THIS DATE HAS NOW BEEN CHANGED TO SATURDAY 28th JANUARY.