

Cumann Lucht Capaillini Chonamara
CONNEMARA PONY BREEDERS' SOCIETY

Minutes of the 92nd Annual General Meeting of the Connemara Pony Breeders' Society at Haydens Hotel, Ballinasloe, Co Galway on Sunday 9th October 2016 at 3pm

Council Members Present: Mr. Tom Mac Lochlainn (President), Mr. Jim Mullaney (Vice-President), Mr. Jerry Mahon (Human Resource Officer), Mr. Philip Morgan (Finance Officer), Mr. Kevin Bolger, Mr. Noel Brett, Mr. Sean Carey, Ms. Joan Dahill, Mr. Noel Farrell, Mr. Patrick Geoghegan, Mr. Michael Laffey, Mr. Keith Murray, Ms. Denise Norton, Mrs. Nancy O'Connell, Mr. Andrew O'Donoghue, Mr. Peter J O'Malley, Mr. Dermot Power, Mr. Frank Quinn

Society Members Present: Ms. Noelle Brett, Mr. Jackie Brien, Mr. Thomas Broderick, Mr. John Burke, Mr. Michael J Burke, Ms. Joanna Butler, Ms. Michaela Butler, Mr. Kieran Callaghan, Mr. Sean Carrey, Mr. Martin Clancy, Mr. Denis Clynes, Mr. Patrick Collins, Mrs. Mary T Connolly, Mr. Sean Cooney, Mr. John Costello, Mrs. Mary Coyne, Mr. Brendan Coyne, Mr. Michael Coyne, Mr. Tom Cunningham, Ms. Neasa De Bhailis, Mr. Thomas Dempsey, Mr. Thomas Dempsey, Mr. Liam Diamond, Mr. Seamus Dolan, Mr. Thomas Dooley, Mr. Kieran Egan, Mr. Kieran Feeney, Ms. Esther Feeney, Mr. Tom Feeney, Mr. Felim Finnegan, Mr. Hubert Flaherty, Ms. Mary Flaherty, Mr. Michael Flanagan, Mr. Michael Flannery, Mr. Sean Flannery, Mr. Paraic Folan, Mr. Enda Gavaghan, Ms. Kathy Geoghegan-Curley, Mr. Damien Gill, Mr. Martin Golding, Mr. Tomas Grimes, Mr. Jarlath Grogan, Ms. Joanne Grogan, Mr. John Harte, Mr. Emma Hession, Ms. Julia Hession, Mr. Pdraig Hopkins, Mr. Jeremiah Horgan, Mr. Edward C. Horgan, Mr. Paul Hussey, Mr. John Hynes, Mr. Michael Igoe, Ms. Orla Igoe, Mrs. Phyllis Jones, Mr. Arthur Judge, Mrs. Mary Keating, Mr. Tom King, Mr. Sean King, Mr. Aidan Larkin, Mr. Gearoid Larkin, Ms. Denise Leavy, Ms. Jacqueline Lewis, Mr. Anthony Linden, Mrs. Janice Linden, Mr. Peadar Lydon (Tom), Mr. Patrick Lynch, Mr. Noel Mahon, Fr. Christy McCormack, Mr. Michael McCormack, Mr. Kieran McGrath, Mr. Philip McMahon, Mr. Fergus Moloney, Mr. Patrick Moroney, Ms. Gemma Mulligan, Ms. Leisa Murphy, Mr. Keith Murray, Ms. Mary Nee, Mr. Ronan Nee, Mr. Val Noone, Ms. Carol O'Connor, Mr. Mairtin O Cualain, Mr. Pierce O'Malley, Ms. Caoilfhinn O'Malley, Mr. John Joe O'Neill, Mr. Joseph Ramsay, Ms. Ann Reade, Ms. Ruth Rogers, Mr. Michael Ryan, Mr. James Treacy, Mrs. Mary Tynan, Mr. Eric Walsh

Apologies: Ms. Jane Andrews, Mrs. Carol Bradbury, Mr. Thomas Conneely, Ms. Margurite Morrin Cullen, Mr. Gearoid Curran, Mrs. Geraldine Curran, Ms. Katie Curran, Ms. Amy Curran, Mr. Pdraic Heanue, Mrs Nicola

Heanue, Mrs. Avril Kelly, Ms. Carmel Melody, Ms. Niamh Melody, Mr. Pat Melody, Countess April Merveldt, Mrs. Nicola Musgrave, Mr. Hugh Musgrave.

Also in Attendance: Ms. Carol O'Connor (Assistant Secretary), Mr. John Kenny (Auditor), Ms. Emer McNamara and Mr. Mike Burns (Office staff)

Order of Business

The President Mr. Tom MacLochalinn opened the meeting and welcomed those present. A vote of sympathy was extended to the families of all members who passed away since the last AGM and a minutes silence was observed.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

At the request of the President the Assistant Secretary read the notice of the meeting the confirmed the agenda for the meeting to the membership present.

Adoption of Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2015

The adoption of the minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting was proposed by Mr. Fergus Maloney and seconded by Ms. Ann Reade.

Matters Arising from Minutes

There was no matters arising from the minutes

Result of Election to fill vacancies on CPBS Council

The Assistant Secretary confirmed the following candidates elected on to the Council

Connacht

Mr. Damien Gill (Seat C9)

Mr. Peter J O'Malley (Seat C10)

Mr. Keith Murray (Seat C11)

Mr. Dermot Power (Seat C12)

The casual vacancies in Connacht were filled by the following candidates

Mr. Michael Laffey (Seat C3)

Mr. Martin Golding (Seat C5)

Mr. Michael Flanagan (Seat C6)

Leinster

Mrs. Phyllis Jones (Seat L3)

Ulster

Mr. Joseph Ramsay (U2)

Munster

Mr. Andrew O'Donoghue (M3)

Adoption of the Society's Financial Statements for the Year ended 31/12/2015

Mr. John Kenny (Auditor) presented the accounts to the members. Mr. Kenny stated there was a €2,376 loss in 2015, with government grants down €30,000 and income for the year was €500,000. Mr. Kenny stated costs such as stationary and postage increased. Mr. Kenny welcomed questions from the members.

Mr. Eric Walsh questioned the costs of running the CPBS Inspections and the difference in costs from 2014 to 2015. Mr. Philip Morgan gave a breakdown of where money was spent for inspections. Mr. Morgan stated the council has looked into where to save money and informed the meeting there was no travel or accommodation expenses in 2016. Mr. Jim Mullaney gave a detailed breakdown of where he claimed money from his time as chairman of inspections. Mr. Walsh stated he was unhappy with this kind of money being spent for a small organisation.

Mr. Liam Diamond asked if all the expenses from Inspections are accounted for on the balance sheet. Mr. John Kenny informed Mr. Diamond all items are recorded. Mr. Eric Walsh voiced his concern on the amount

of money spent on legal fees. Mr. John Joe O'Neill questioned why the cost of council meetings trebled in 2015 compared to 2014. Mr. Philip Morgan stated there were extra meetings held in the year with the Memorandum & Articles committee and the Executive committee.

Mr. Eric Walsh asked why a copy of the accounts were not posted to every member. Mr. Tom MacLochlainn stated the accounts are available to download from the CPBS website and there are also copies available from the desk. Mr. Fergus Moloney informed the meeting that in the letter sent out to all, it stated where they accounts could be found and to phone the office if you required a copy to be posted.

Finance Report

Mr. Philip Morgan stated he was Finance Officer for 2016 working alongside Ms. Niamh Philbin and now Ms. Carol O'Connor.

Mr. Morgan stated all sub committee's submit a budget at the start of each year and three quotes are obtained. Mr. Morgan gave a summary of areas where savings were made and informed the meeting on the current contracts outstanding on the office photocopiers. Mr. Eric Walsh asked who signed the contracts for the photocopiers and how many photocopiers are we currently paying for. Mr. Morgan stated one photocopier was traded in. Mr. Morgan stated he spoke to Irish Business Solutions (IBS) and spoke to Sales rep who acknowledged the photocopiers were over specification for what was required in the CPBS office. Mr. Morgan stated they have stopped payment and all the information has to go back to Council. Mr. John Joe O'Neill questioned the cost of stationary and photocopying in the office. Ms. Leisa Murphy asked what the debtors of €24,000 comprised off. Mr. Morgan stated it was nothing alarming but mainly made up of money still owed for sponsorship. Ms. Mary Nee asked why the society was not setting up a standing order for the annual membership fee. Mr. Morgan explained it was too difficult to stream line.

Mr. Walsh stated the book stops with the president at the time to know who signed for the second photocopier. Mr. Andrew O'Donoghue stated he was president in 2012 and signed for the first photocopier. Mr. O'Donoghue stated he did not know who signed for the second photocopier. Mr. Eric Walsh asked who else had authority to sign cheques. Mr. Morgan stated the issue will be brought to the next council meeting. Mr. Tom MacLochlainn reassured Mr. Walsh that the council would get to the bottom of it in the next few weeks.

Mr. Tom Maclochlainn asked the members for a show of hands to adopt the financial statements for year ended 31/12/2015. Fifty three voted to adopt with twenty nine against. The accounts (year ended 31/12/2015) were adopted.

Appointment of Auditor

Ms. Ann Reade proposed and Mrs. Phyllis Jones seconded that Arkins Kenny be reappointed as Auditor for 2017.

Mr. Liam Diamond asked Mr. Morgan if there was an advertisement for the auditor and if they looked for an auditor in Clifden. Mr. Morgan stated three quotes were looked for and only two submitted.

Mr. Michael Igoe addressed the meeting and informed those present he was a former director of the CPBS. Mr. Igoe described the council as a click. Mr. Igoe made reference to the ownership of the showgrounds, byelaws introduced with no legal standing and the cost of the office photocopiers. Mr. Igoe told the members to look into the money spent on the Therapeutic Riding.

Secretary Report

The Assistant Secretary gave a summary of the work carried out by the Council and office over the year.

Presidents address incorporating Council Report

Mr. Tom MacLochlainn informed the members that they have representation from every province on council and thanked all council members for their work and contributions throughout the year. Mr. MacLochlainn acknowledged the success of the Memorandum and Articles committee and thanked them for their work on the new Articles of Association. Mr. MacLochlainn spoke about the new market of Connemara ponies being sold to South Korea and thanked Ms. Elaine Hatton (HSI) for her help. Mr. MacLochlainn spoke about the success of the four day show in Clifden in August and reminded the members of the upcoming CPBS Christmas Show in December. Mr. MacLochlainn informed the meeting that the America and Belgium Society will be celebrating their 50th anniversary. Mr. MacLochlainn addressed HWSD and asked the members and breeders to be careful in their breeding programmes. Mr. MacLochlainn informed the meeting the CPBS has applied for affiliation to Horse Sport Ireland.

Mr. MacLochlainn summarized the legal opinion of the CPBS showgrounds. Mr. MacLochlainn thanked the office staff and everyone who helped with CPBS events throughout the year.

Sub Committee Reports

Performance & International Committee Report

Ms. Denise Norton informed the meeting of the number of qualifiers held throughout the year and thanked the sponsors. Ms. Norton informed the meeting of a new International Performance class for the 2017 show and the date of the upcoming Christmas Show. Ms. Norton stated the CPBS continued their sponsorship of the Allianz Starfinder and Dressage Ireland (Highest placed Connemara) Ms. Norton told the meeting the 2016 O'Malley award was awarded to Ms. Sarah Hodgkins. Ms. Norton thanked everyone for their help throughout the year.

Marketing & Education Committee Report

Mr. Noel Brett informed the meeting that there would be a new linear profiling course taking place with 27 participants. Mr. Brett stated the CPBS stand at the National Ploughing Championships was a great success and thanked the Department of Agriculture for their support. Mr. Brett thanked Ms. Elaine Hatton (Horse Sport Ireland) for her support and help with the sale of Connemara ponies to South Korea.

Show Committee Report

Mr. Dermot Power (Chairman) thanked the traders of Clifden for their support in the show catalogue and to all the participants who came to Clifden and showed in-hand or competed in the ridden events.

Arts and Crafts

The entries were up by 50 and it was a wonderful exhibition. Mr. Power thanked Mrs Mary Carey and her committee for organising a great event which was so successful.

Number of Ponies who were exhibited on the day

Class	Numbers entered in Catalogue	Numbers Exhibited
Class 1	13	9
Class 2	21	17
Class 3	16	13
Class 4	13	10
Class 5	18	11
Class 6	11	10
Class 7	Junior Championship	
Class 8	7	7
Class 9	23	13
Class 10	24	20
		6

Class 11	24	11	
Class 12	11	7	
Class 13	18	10	
Class 14	11	10	
Class 15	5	2	
Total	225	154	68%

Mr. Power stated the overseas Connemara Societies were well represented and welcomed their participation in Show week.

Mr. Power thanked all our Sponsors, Stewards, Volunteers and everyone who helped with the show and congratulated all our show winners and thanked all the exhibitors, office staff and groundsman.

Breeding and Inspection Committee Report

Mr. Keith Murray gave a breakdown of statistic results from the Spring and Autumn Inspections. Ms. Mary Nee asked if colts could be pre-tested for HWSD before shown for inspection to avoid colts going into class one and later found to be carriers of HWSD. Mr. Tom MacLochlainn stated the Department of Agriculture are funding the HWSD on all new DNA applications and the society are encouraging all breeders to have their ponies tested. Mrs. Kate Murray addressed the meeting about HWSD.

Mr. John Joe O'Neill asked about the colt brought for inspection in January who had markings on its legs covered. Mr. Keith Murray explained the Disciplinary Committee handled the complaint. Mr. Jerry Mahon stated the CPBS council received a report and it was approved and sanctioned by Council. Mr. Mahon stated the report is not for public debate. Ms. Joanna Butler, previous owner of Kippure Lancelot addressed the meeting. Ms. Butler questioned why when she brought the colt out for inspection it did not pass and when another owner presented the pony it did pass. Ms. Butler stated she received a copy of the report in the post but she does not know who from. Mr. Tom MacLochlainn stated since 2011, forty colts have been represented for inspection and passed on the second time out. Ms. Joanna Butler stated the chairman on the day Mr. Keith Murray had no training. Ms. Jacqueline Lewis asked Mr. Tom Maclochlainn if he was aware of the issue on the day of the inspection. Mr. MacLochlainn stated he had his suspicions.

AOB

Ms. Jacqueline Lewis asked if the president could address the Dr. Jack Murphy report. Ms. Lewis stated the report confirmed what the general public has said about inspections. Ms. Lewis stated the CPBS are the only society who select ponies to go into a breeding programme. Ms.

Lewis stated its classification not selection. Mr. Andrew O'Donoghue stated that under EU Legislation brought in, in 2005, animals can be classified according to their merits.

Mr. Tom Feeney stated he has a pony which he is unable to get inspected because the dam was not inspected and is now exported. Mr. Tom MacLochlainn stated they could contact the French society and ask for the mare to be inspected. Mr. John Harte asked why passports are brought back to office after inspections. Ms. O'Connor informed Mr. Harte that the council decided office staff don't attend inspections and therefore the passports needed to be brought back to office to be updated. Ms O'Connor stated a letter was provided to owners to travel their ponies' home from inspection which was approved by the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Kieran Egan asked if there could be CPBS representation at the sales in Clifden. Mr. Jerry Mahon stated it was a council decision not to have staff working overtime and it was more efficient to have the staff working in the office and to reduce the hours of time off in lieu. Mr. Arthur Judge stated his disappointment that the CPBS office was not open on the saturday of show week.

Mr. Kieran Egan proposed and Mr. Arthur Judge seconded that a CPBS representative would be present at the Clifden sales.

Fr. Christy McCormack asked if there was any further research into sweet itch. Mr. John Burke asked the council to get more Connemara Pony sales around the country to help breeders sell their ponies.

The President brought the meeting to a close

Signed: _____

Tom MacLochlainn, President

Date: _____