

Minutes of the Meeting of 20th October 2012, held at Norton Lindsey Village Hall, Warwickshire.

Present: Bryan Mayoh (Chairman), Jan Alston (Secretary), Allan Trigg (DCC), Ted Brearley (NHCC), Ann Rolph (DRCC), Tony O'Neill (ESCC), David Oulton (ESCC), Don Payne (CCC), Caroline Smith (RVCC), Nikki Matthews (CSCC), Jane Crick (PVCC), Penny Bell (NACC), Ken Yates (NTWCC), Rex Matthews (RCC), Simon Neesam (ACC), Nicky Reynolds (NFTCC).

1. Meeting Administration

a) **Apologies for Absence:** None were required.

b) Minutes of the Meeting of 23rd October 2010

All present agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting were a true record.

c) Matters Arising from the Meeting on 23rd October 2010 (not on the Agenda)

All Matters Arising were dealt with on the Agenda.

d) Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman stated that he would normally have thanked everyone for ensuring that there was a 100% attendance; but on this occasion these words would not ring true since the presence of a quorum meant that he could not abandon the meeting and thereby be able to watch Frankel's last race live. He commented that the Agenda was not a very full one and that he had considered attempting to take the necessary decisions by mail. However, the facts that the last meeting had been held two years ago and that there was now a proposal to establish a new Specialist Club meant that this would have been inappropriate.

2. Administration of BCC

a) Financial Report

The Secretary produced an interim set of accounts from January 2012 to October 2012. These indicated a cash balance of £1214.68 and a cash surplus of £174.85.

After discussing various options to utilise cash not required by the Council, it was agreed that the best approach would be to produce copies of the latest Standards on memory sticks, which can be accessed by both normal PCs and tablets. Dependent on costs these would be sent to all CAVIES subscribers; although if such costs exceeded £500 then a reduced circulation would be targeted at judges and club secretaries. Additional copies could be sold to fanciers at £5 each. Ms Crick will ascertain the costs of producing quantities of either 100 or 500 memory sticks containing Standards, embossed with a BCC logo.

b) Prefix Scheme

Mr Trigg reported that there had been 71 registrations during the first 10 months of the year and that the income net of costs had been £316. Certain applications had been rejected as they infringed published guidelines; but the major difficulty he had encountered was that the Southern Cavy Club was refusing to ensure that exhibitors could show only using registered prefixes.

The Chairman asked Mrs Bell, who is Joint Secretary of the SCC, why this was the case; and she replied that the AGM had confirmed the policy that exhibitors could show using unregistered stud names and that she could find no record that the SCC had ever agreed to recognise the BCC Prefix Registration Scheme.

The Chairman stated that the BCC Scheme had been set up in 1999 at the request of various clubs who until then had operated their own schemes. The objectives were to prevent the same stud name being used by different fanciers and to simplify procedures so that fanciers have to

register stud names with a single body rather than multiple clubs. The Southern Cavy Club was one of the bodies that had agreed to this. The BCC had undertaken this job because it had been asked to, although if some other organisation such as the National Cavy Club wished to assume the responsibility it could surely do so. Mr Oulton, as Chairman of the NCC, confirmed that it was happy for the BCC to continue this role.

Mrs Bell stated that a particular problem might have been that some fanciers who advertised unregistered stud names had been told by the Prefix Registrar that these must be registered with the BCC even though they did not show under these names. The Chairman accepted that the Registrar was perhaps being over-enthusiastic in suggesting this; and confirmed that the Council only expected stud names to be registered if they were to be used for showing. However, he reminded Mrs Bell of the difficulty that another fancier could register such a stud name with the BCC.

He asked Mrs Bell to go back to the SCC Executive and to point out that the Club's present stance could cause confusion in terms of the usage of unregistered names and that it was surely not in its members' interests that any prize cards quoting unregistered stud names could not be used to claim championships or other awards from Specialist Clubs. Mrs Bell agreed to do this and to ask the Club to reconsider its policy.

c) Website

Mr Neesam reported that the site continued to attract many visitors, a number of these being new to the fancy. It is therefore fulfilling its objective of being a means of both informing existing fanciers and attracting new ones. However, he still required articles covering the breeding and showing of several breeds of cavy and suggested that appropriate ones might already have been produced for Club Year Books. Councillors agreed to consider this; and it is hoped that this will produce a rather more successful outcome than did Mr Neesam's similar requests for articles at the 2009 and 2010 meetings.

It was agreed that the 'print versions' of Standards will be discontinued as these are difficult to update and in several cases these are now out of date.

The possible use was discussed of various social media such as Facebook to promote the cavy fancy. However, the consensus of the Council was that, in the absence of a responsible and dedicated person to act as a 'moderator' for any discussions that might be initiated, this should not be pursued.

3 Breed Standards

a) Guidance Notes for Chinchilla

Mrs Smith proposed various changes to the Guidance Notes for the Chinchilla, these being principally aimed at clarifying the different characteristics required by this variety and the related Agouti. In particular, the Chinchilla should emphasise the muted, pastel colours produced by light undercolour rather than the sharp definition needed by the show Agouti, along with features such as eye circles, light nostrils and bonnet strings that are anathema to the Agouti. After a full discussion of the proposed wording the following modified Guidance Notes were agreed.

CHINCHILLA

A cavy with a long ticked agouti-pattern all over the body except for unticked white or cream markings. The effect should be of muted colours. Emphasis should be placed on the evenness and quality of ticking and overall colour, with longer ticking and light undercolour showing through so as to contribute to an overall pastel effect. White or cream markings should be restricted to eye circles, nostrils, jowls, chest and belly; and should be clearly defined. The belly should be wide and just visible when the cavy is viewed from the side. The Chinchilla has a paler base colour than the normal Agouti, to be as light a shade as possible without losing the

desired pigmentation on skin, ears and eye rims. Too dark a shade of body colour and patches of solid or white hairs are faults.

Allowable colours are:

- Silver Chinchilla: light grey base with long white ticking, white markings. Eyes dark, ears and pads grey.
- Cinnamon Chinchilla: light chocolate base with long white ticking, white markings. Eyes ruby, ears and pads pink / light chocolate.
- Lemon Chinchilla: light grey base with long cream ticking, cream markings. Eyes dark, ears and pads grey.
- Cream Chinchilla: light chocolate base with long cream ticking, cream markings. Eyes ruby, ears and pads pink / light chocolate.

b) Recognised Colours in the Teddy

Mrs Smith proposed various changes to the Description of Colours for the Teddy, their having been confusion in regard to the existing colour descriptions used as the basis for dividing Teddy classes. The Chairman pointed out that the Colour Descriptions in the Standard should simply describe the various colours recognised in each variety; but that these might be grouped in different ways at different shows, at the discretion of the show organisers. He also made certain suggestions on how the proposed descriptions might be made clearer; and the Council accepted these.

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS IN TEDDY

The following notes define the main colour groups and give guidance on the correct classes to enter when exhibiting:

Solid or Agouti	A cavy that is <u>totally</u> of one colour or agouti. N.B. White Teddies that show colouring of hair on nose and feet similar to the Points on a Himalayan should be shown as AOC.
Bicolour or Agouti Bicolour	A cavy that has solid patches of two colours or of agouti and another colour.
Tricolour or Agouti Tricolour	A cavy that has a combination of white and any two other solid colours or of white, agouti and another solid colour.
Roan	A cavy having roan colouration on any part of its body.
AOC	Any other cavy that does not conform to the above categories. This includes Teddy versions of other marked varieties such as Himalayan, Tan, Fox or Dalmation.

4. Cavy Fancy Issues

a) Proposed Formation of Specialist Club for Teddies

Mrs Smith stated that a number of fanciers, led by Mr Matthews, wished to set up a Specialist Club to cater for the Teddy cavy and that the RVCC had no objection to this step, since one of its long-standing aims was to develop new breeds until they could stand on their own feet. Mr Matthews stated that there was widespread support for such a move, given that the alternative approach of extending the Rex CC to cater for the Teddy had been repeatedly rejected by the RCC. He would act as Chairman of the new Club and Bill Seymour had agreed to be Secretary. He suggested a number of other fanciers who had agreed to act as the Committee and Judging Panel of the Club pro tem.

In discussion of the matter, several Councillors expressed the view that some of the details of who would do what, and why certain people had been suggested as Officers of the Club and others not, were rather vague; and that further work was required. Mr Oulton commented that, with the ever-increasing number of Clubs and no more fanciers available to run them, particular attention should be paid to ensure that any new ones are viable. The Chairman concurred with this view; and suggested that a Teddy Club might be established but should be run under the guidance of the RVCC until it had established itself as able to operate successfully. It could then be recognised as an independent Specialist Club and admitted to the Council, hopefully at the 2013 meeting.

Messrs Payne and Matthews disagreed that such a step was necessary, but the other Councillors felt that a 'probationary period' would be worthwhile so as to ensure that proper mechanisms for running the Club were in place before it was admitted to the BCC. A vote was taken to this effect and this was carried by 12 votes to two with no abstentions.

5. **Correspondence:** The Chairman reported that he had received no correspondence requiring discussion.
6. **Motions of Urgency (accepted at the Chairman's discretion):** None received.
7. **Any other business:** Mrs Rolph stated that she had recently purchased a reprint of Myra Mahoney's book on covies that continued to make inappropriate comments on Dalmation breeders that had been raised with Council previously and that it had been assured by Mrs Mahoney would not be repeated in future issues of the book. Examining the reprint in question, the Chairman noted that it was dated 2011 and might well have been in the process of production before the necessary changes were agreed by Mrs Mahoney.

He felt sure that Mrs Mahoney had been sincere in agreeing to make the required changes but was aware that on previous occasions difficulties had occurred in communications with the publisher; and this might also explain the problem. He agreed to write to Mrs Mahoney to clarify the situation as regards the 2011 reprint and to remind her of her previous undertaking.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that the biennial election of Chairman and Secretary was due. The Secretary agreed to continue in the post and this was welcomed by all. The Chairman stated that he felt that a situation in which the Chairman of the Council was not an active fancier was potentially unhealthy. He had not shown covies for over 10 years and did not intend to do so again; and in terms of priorities the breeding and racing of thoroughbred horses ranked rather more highly than of breeding and showing covies. This meant that he was not likely to put the same effort into the BCC as he had in previous years and possibly someone with a more active interest in the cavy fancy might do a better job.

Mr Oulton asked if the Chairman would be willing to continue until such time as Councillors could discuss the matter further; and the Chairman agreed to do so. Mr Trigg asked if a Deputy Chairman might be appointed to cover the event that the Chairman felt unable to attend a meeting. The Chairman replied that if he were doing the job he would attend any meeting called, as evidenced by the fact that he had attended this one on the day that the best Flat racehorse he had ever seen was to run for the last time. (Fortunately the result of the race in question did nothing to undermine this rather bold assertion.)

8. **Date and location of next meeting:** To be arranged by the Secretary at a similar time / location in 2013, subject to the Chairman's judgement that the matters raised cannot be resolved effectively by mail / email. Should a meeting not be required in 2013 then one will be held at a similar time in 2014.

CAVIES NOTICE

BRITISH CAVY COUNCIL: DECISIONS OF MEETING OF 20th OCTOBER 2012

The following decisions were taken by the Council at its Meeting on 20th October 2012. These will take effect on 1st January 2013.

Guidance Notes for Chinchilla

These will now read as:

CHINCHILLA

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A cavy that has solid patches of two colours or of agouti and another colour.

Tricolour or Agouti Tricolour

A cavy that has a combination of white and any two other solid colours or of white, agouti and another solid colour.

Roan

A cavy having roan colouration on any part of its body.

AOC

Any other cavy that does not conform to the above categories. This includes Teddy versions of other marked varieties such as Himalayan, Tan, Fox or Dalmation.

Teddy Cavy Club

A Teddy Cavy Club will be established from 1st January 2013, with Mr Rex Matthews acting as Chairman. Initially this will be run under the guidance of the Rare Varieties Cavy Club but will be considered for independent membership of the Council after it has proved to be operating successfully.

Bryan Mayoh, Chairman British Cavy Council