

CUMANN LUCHT CAPAILLÍNÍ CHONAMARA

CONNEMARA PONY BREEDERS SOCIETY



MINUTES OF THE 100TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CONNEMARA PONY BREEDERS' SOCIETY

AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE OUGHTERARD, GALWAY ON SUNDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER 2023 @ 1.00 PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Sheedy (President & Chair), Ann Marie Conroy (Vice President), Fiona Grimes (Finance Officer), Pat Geoghegan (Co. Sec), Ulla Connolly (HR), Kevin Bolger, John F Brady, Martin Coyne, Ciarán Curran, Gearóid Curran, Ray Halpin, James Naan, Andrew O'Donoghue, Peter J O'Malley, Pierce O'Malley, Daragh K Ó Tuairisg, Clare Oakes, Alan Woods.

SOCIETY MEMBERS PRESENT: Jacqueline Bolger; Clemerson Braga; John Burke; Michael J Burke; James Byrne; James Canavan; Sean Carey; Mark Casey; Pauline Casey; Martin Clancy; Patrick Collins; Kevin Connolly; Gerard Costello; Brendan Coyne; Conor Coyne; Padraic Curran; Derek Delapp; Frank Delapp; Liam Diamond; Priscilla Diamond; Kieran Egan; Una Egan; Thomas Faherty; Stephen Fahy; Esther Feeney; Paddy Feeney; Anthony Flaherty; Hubert Flaherty; Mary Flaherty; John Flannery; Joanne M Flynn Hunter; Paraic Folan; Sean Folan; Enda Gavaghan; Aine Geoghegan; Tom Healy; Cáit Hennessy; Patrick Heskin; Padraig Hopkins; Lee Hurney; Paul Hussey; Grainne Kearns; Joe Killeen; Claire King; Feichin King; Kerry King; Seán King; Tom King; Aidan Lee; Mattie Long; Peadar Lydon; Jerry Mahon; Noel Mahon; Fr Christy McCormack; Michael McCormack; Gerard McCormack; Kieran McGrath; Sara Millar; Gemma Mulligan; John Mulligan; Kevin Murray; Geraldine Halloran; Barbara Hoffman; Frank Joyce; Gerard King; Michael Laffey; Bridget Lee; Lorraine Loddick; Eddie Madden; Peter Molloy Jnr; Martin Mylotte; Dudley Nee; Evelyn Nee; Martin Nee; Mary Nee; Noel Nee; Ronan Nee; Finola Nic an Iomaire; Denise Norton; Gr aine O'Brien; Máirtín Ó Cualáin; Páid Ó Cualáin; Seán Ó Cualáin; Nancy O'Connell; Carol O'Connor; Morgan O'Connor; John O'Dwyer; John Joe O'Neill; Irene O'Sullivan; Dermot Power; Richard Rice; Cathy Snow-Coyne; Eamon Spain; John Sullivan; Joseph Sullivan; Gavin Tierney; John Tierney; Patrick Tierney; Áine Uí Fhoghlua; Rynes Walker; Michael (Bartley) Walsh; Sean Walsh; Tony Walsh.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms Angela Carleton (Office Manager); Deirdre Conneely, Administrator CPBS; Ciara McNamara, Administrator CPBS.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Noel Brett, Camilla Coyne, Amy Curran, Colm Curran, Dylan Curran, Eleanor Curran, Katie Curran, Thomas Dorgan, Nicola Drake, Alex Evans, Blathnaid Gallagher, Niall Gallagher, Kathy Geoghegan, Padraig Geoghegan, Phyllis Jones, Avril Kelly, Jackie Keohane, Paula McCarthy, Jeann McClancy, Peter McClancy, Sasha Maxwell, Val Noone, Cathriona O'Toole, Patrick O'Toole, Jim Power, Sean Redmond, Norma Spurr.
2. **PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS:** Mr Sheedy opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees and accepted apologies for absence; Ms Carleton read the Annual General Meeting Notice for 2023. Mr Sheedy called for a minute's silence in remembrance of those who had passed during the year.

Mr Sheedy thanked the Oughterard Court House management and Ms Mary Coyne, grandniece of one of the founding members on the unveiling of the Centenary Commemorative Plaque located on the Court House to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of Cumann Lucht Capaillíní Chonamara. He also congratulated Mr Pierce O'Malley and the students of Oughterard Secondary

School Transition year for their work on the presentation of the commemorative project undertaken for the Centenary and the riders who brought their ponies and led the parade of members through the town to the Court House for the unveiling of the plaque.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022:

Mr Sheedy asked if these were a true and accurate record of the 2022 meeting minutes. This was proposed Mr DK Ó Tuairisg and seconded by Ms AM Conroy.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

Mr D Power, offered written confirmation from Data Protection Commissioner refuting Ms Conroy's assertion in the 2022 AGM minutes of director's expenses being protected under GDPR as individual expenses. Mr Power called on directors to publish full expenses he had written to the President several times during the year and had received no reply. Ms Grimes, Finance Officer, said the slides of directors' expenses would be made available to the membership following the AGM.

Mr J. Mahon following up a query at AGM 2022, asked who owns the DNA. Ms Conroy said the CPBS owns DNA and are now required by DAFM to share the DNA with other passport issuing authorities.

Mr Power asked whether the Society non-compliance with the Charities Regulatory Authority had been dealt with? Mr Geoghegan stated the CRA were in communication with the Society all year and as far as he was concerned the CRA were 'happy with the way they were running the society'. Mr Ó Tuairisg asked if everything had been submitted to CRA and if the CRA certification of compliance was available. Ms Conroy said this had not been completed. Mr J. Mahon stated it was a function of the Society that this compliance be available to the membership and asked if this was available to view. Mr Geoghegan stated it was not but a consultant had been asked to come to a Council meeting to go through this. Mr Mahon expressed his disappointment that this was the case after four years of work-in-progress and received a round of applause from the membership. Mr Sheedy said it was a work-in-progress and was moving on.

Mr D Power called on Mr Sheedy to explain the forced removal of the former secretary by the President and Vice-President from the CPBS offices in February 2023 and the reasons behind this. Mr Sheedy ruled this out of order and did not reply.

Mr Ó Tuairisg asked for a report on the progress on the motions that were passed at AGM 2022 and ratified by Council in February/March 2023. Mr Sheedy said the motions were circulated to the sub-committees. Mr Ó Tuairisg stated it was the President's responsibility to bring these to Council. Ms Diamond stated she submitted a motion in 2022 regarding judges at 2023 show, which was carried at the AGM but not implemented, it was counter proposed by Ms Conroy because of cost; this year the ballot papers for election had to be issued twice at a cost that was not disclosed to members and Ms Diamond asked how much this had cost the members? Ms Conroy stated it was 'about €3,000'.

Ms Diamond asked if it was a waste of time for members tabling motions as they were not brought to Council. Mr Sheedy called on Mr Geoghegan, who was show chair to comment on the judges' motion from Ms Diamond. Mr Geoghegan stated it was going to cost too much money. Ms Diamond asked about her motion for the Amnesty that was passed at AGM 2022. Ms Conroy said they had not heard back from DAFM if the request was going to be sanctioned or not. Mr Sheedy ended the discussion on matters arising and called on the Society's auditor for the financial report.

5. **ADOPTION OF THE SOCIETY'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022:**

The 2022 accounts were published on the CPBS website and were also available to members from the office. Mr Declan Mannion (Mannion Lochrin Accountants & Auditors Clifden) presented an overview of the 2022 accounts. He began by explaining the 'Directors Responsibilities Statement' in the accounts.

Directors are required to prepare financial statements each year according to the Companies Act 2014. Their role as auditors is to evaluate the accounts, controls, procedures, content and to determine if accounts presented are a fair and true representation. He reported to the meeting that they found this to be a clean audit report and were confident that the financial controls, policies, content had been properly applied for the financial year by the Company.

Mr Mannion reminded the meeting that if a company registered under the Charities Regulatory Authority was ever to run out of money or decide to cease, they would have to donate or transfer reserves to a similar charitable foundation for distribution.

The Society had completed its first full year of operation post covid and was in a comfortable position. Going back to productivity the expenses had increased to €61,000. Surplus for the year was €34,000 compared to €78,000 in 2021. All state support benefits during Covid years were stopped in 2022. The main assets were the show field and property in Clifden with a book value of €400K, this is not a market valuation. Cash reserves in 2022 were €375K, up from €319K in 2021. Accruals amounted to €42k in 2021 and €66K in 2022. A new requirement in the Charities Regulation 2022 was every director must disclose their PPS number, annual returns cannot be filed without the PPS number of each director. Mr Mannion then asked for specific questions from the members present.

Ms Diamond asked why Repairs/Maintenance had gone from €1.7K in 2021 to €54.3K in 2022 and if tenders had been sought. Ms Grimes stated the increased amount was due to the flooding in 2020. There was no official tender process, the show chairman had spoken to contractors. Ms Diamond enquired why the official tender process was not followed, Ms Grimes said she would go through that later. Ms Diamond asked why there were bank charges of more than €8.5K and if the Finance Officer had sought more competitive fees from other banks. Ms Grimes said Stripe transaction charges were included in the figure as well as cheque and bank charges.

Mr J Mahon asked if he was understanding it correctly that no written tenders were provided by the people who scoped out the work, that the show chairman met? Ms Grimes asked Mr Geoghegan to reply. Mr Geoghegan said they had to get quotes from people who were interested and they had done their own pricing as well. Mr Mahon said there is a contracting procedure, where you request quotations for the work to be scoped out, and they are evaluated on the basis of price and work; he asked if Mr Geoghegan had got three individual quotes for the work? Mr Geoghegan said for some of the work they got two, and for some they got one. Ms Grimes said that in best practice Council should get three quotations for work over €5K, it does not say that they must, and due to time constraints they had to proceed. Mr Mahon enquired if, in any situation, the invoice received exceeded the quote given to the show chairman? Ms Grimes stated one invoice was €500 over and this was approved by the Executive. Mr Mahon asked if the Finance Officer thought if it was the function of the entire Council to approve supplementary costs on projects, not the Executive. Ms Grimes, agreeing with Mr Mahon, stated the Executive had a right to approve the cost. Mr Mahon stated Executive approval was not there to approve additional expenditure on an already large cost, a contract can't be decided and given in this manner, policy and procedure must be followed. Mr Bolger stated council members who had objected to two quotes were over-ruled at the council meeting. Mr Ó Tuairisg asked for a breakdown of the €54K on the night it was presented to Council and wasn't given an answer and was looking for the answer now so that everyone was aware of it;

and directing his question to the show chairman and company secretary asked if the HSA consulted and was there any problems identified? There was no reply from Ms Grimes or Mr Geoghegan.

Ms Grimes read out her report on the accounts and presented a slide on directors expenses; members objected to the quality of the presentation being illegible on the wall ; Mr Mahon asked for a copy to be circulated and the members unanimously approved; Ms Conroy objected; Ms Grimes said she did not bring printed copies; Mr Mahon asked for a decision from the top table that the membership receive this information, with members supporting Mr Mahon's request; Ms Connolly objected. Ms Grimes asked Ms Carleton to take a note of the member's request. Ms Grimes read out director's expenses of only the directors who had given their permission to do so. Mr Power objected to the F.O. seeking permission to publish financial information of members money, stating members were entitled to this information. Ms Grimes stated that members who requested the full breakdown could email her and the information would be provided to them.

Ms Grimes went through the costs of the Spring Weekend, Mr Mahon asked if she could provide the exact costs, Ms Grimes said she did not have them. Mr Power asked how much accommodation in the Station House cost and what directors stayed there; Ms Grimes said this was €1,670 on Friday & Saturday nights.

Mr Mahon asked how many members the Society had in 2023. Ms Grimes did not have this figure. Mr Mahon stated it was extraordinary that at an AGM nobody on the Council could tell the members present what the current membership number was for the Society; Ms Grimes stated roughly €126K was taken on memberships so this would equate to roughly 2.5K members.

Mr Power stated that under Sect.169 of the Companies Act candidates going for election to the board were entitled to a list of members. Mr Ó Tuairisg stated candidates who requested this in the 2023 election were denied; and if ordinary members wish to call an EGM, which is time sensitive, that is the only way it can be done.

Ms Grimes went through the Show income and expenditure from the accounts. Mr Power asked what the Station House Hotel expenses for directors was during the show. Ms Grimes said this came to €8,352 and did not have the names of those who stayed. Mr JJ O'Neill asked why an itemised list of expenses cannot be available for members.

Recording indistinct....multiple voices...

Mr Ó Tuairisg asked for a reply on his question at Council in relation to €1,100 discrepancy in accounts and had not received a reply, he was now asking for clarification on this. Ms Grimes did not reply.

Ms Diamond stated she did ask to view the accounts while on Council and went to the office where she was supervised by a member of the Executive, who was then paid expenses to supervise Ms Diamond. Ms Diamond calculated the figure of €126,832 in the accounts would indicate that the Society has 2,413 members and Mr Ó Tuairisg was told there were 2,083 members making €124K and today the figure of 2,500 members was stated which would bring in €150K so there was a significant difference and the members should be told exactly how many members there are in the Society. Ms Conroy stated the membership rate for 2022 was €50 per year. Ms Grimes then received confirmation there were currently 2,294 members.

Ms Hoffman, while a serving council member was also supervised when asked to look at accounts. She stated Ms Grimes presentation on the expenses left her lost for words; and found it incredible that full breakdowns were not available.

Mr Bolger stated he and Mr Ó Tuairisg were also supervised by the Finance Officer while looking at documents that had been repeatedly requested at Council meetings and asked what they were looking for. He stated staff had been badly treated throughout the year; a staff member removed from office against her will; and asked why long serving members of staff had resigned during 2023.

Ms Diamond queried the cost of €16,577 for Council meetings. Ms Grimes said this figure included the hotel and dinner costs, staff travel costs, director's expenses for Mr Sheedy and Mr Geoghegan travelling to meetings; travel to National Stud and solicitors; the Heritage Officer and Mr Geoghegan travel costs for showground meetings. Ms Diamond asked for the actual figure for Council meetings - Ms Grimes said this was €3,727.

Ms Diamond asked if there was a precedent being set for not following procedures by not getting 3 quotes; what contractors were asked to quote. Ms Grimes said Mr Geoghegan spoke to the contractors and due to Covid and time constraints and deadlines, two quotes were accepted. Ms G Kearns asked where the invoices and receipts for sand used in arena were, she had written and asked for sight of them and received no reply; she had also queried where the sand had come from and if this was illegally taken from an SAC area. Ms Grimes said there were no receipts/invoices available at the meeting and the contractor, Mr Connolly had the responsibility to provide the sand as part of the contract. Ms Kearns stated the Society is funded by the Department of Agriculture, did the Council guarantee that sand did not come from an SAC area which is also protected under the Department. Ms Grimes asked Mr Geoghegan to reply to Ms Kearns. Mr Geoghegan said the supply of sand and everything was the responsibility of the contractor. Ms Kearns asked if Mr Geoghegan had received a copy of the contractors permit from EPA, because even if it wasn't from an SAC it was a matter that conflicts the Society, because it was an area protected long before SACs. Ms Conroy stated it had nothing to do with the Council, it was down to the contractor. Mr Geoghegan said they could go back and ask the contractor, Ms Kearns asked when she could get an answer to this; Mr Geoghegan said he would request it in writing and let her know.

Mr Ó Tuairisg stated that the members were entitled to answers; he had asked the same question at least five times at meetings and received no reply; this was an AGM for members, not for directors, and the members were not getting answers to their questions.

Mr Mahon said the organisation that got the sand through the contractor can be held responsible and should initiate an investigation, if they want to find out, and report back to the members. Each year the members are given promises that are never fulfilled, it was an absolute disgrace; members applauded Mr Mahon. Mr Sheedy thanked Ms Grimes for her report.

6. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR:

Mr Sheedy asked for a proposal and seconder for the appointment of the auditor for 2024. Ms Grimes said they had one quote in for €3,450, this was from Mr Mannion and she received no other quote; Mr Mahon asked how many quotes had been sought and were they from outside Connemara; Ms Grimes said three auditors had been asked to quote and only Mr Mannion replied; Ms Grimes proposed Mannion Lochrin, this was seconded from the floor. Mr Sheedy thanked Mr Mannion who left the meeting.

7. OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT:

Ms Carleton read out the office report for 2023 including list of grants received in 2023, totalling €255,000. This included DAFM, HSI, Heritage Council, Fáilte Ireland, and other agency funding for the Society Centenary year events. [*.....Indistinctcouncil members speaking over the speaker...etc....*]. Ms Carleton said copy of slides presented would be available from her on request

to the office. She introduced Dr Sonja Egan HSI who was invited to make a presentation to the members on the transition from MS testing to SNP testing.

Dr Egan from HSI presented a detailed information session and power-point presentation on the progress of the transition from Microsatellite DNA testing to Single nucleotide polymorphism, SNP. MS was an old DNA analysis technology that was developed in the 1970s and targeted 17 areas of the gene; SNP targets 80,000 areas of the gene. In 2023 the Equine Technical Support (ETS) run by DAFM to support DNA analysis, inspections, etc. announced that MS testing was no longer a supported platform for any funding. They will only fund Studbooks carrying out testing by SNP. In March 2023 full SNP analysis went ahead. In September 2023 studbooks identified a regulatory issue, which contributed to some of the delays in getting foals verified, amounting to a failure rate of around 20%, this was reviewed with the Studbooks and Weatherbys, and reduced to under 5% which is normal. Dr Egan, stating the Department of Agriculture were no longer funding MS testing, stressed the importance of breeders being informed of the correct processes for providing hair samples for SNP as the costs involved in repeated tests would fall to the breeders and owners. Dr Egan replied to questions from the members and provided a copy of the presentation to the office manager for distribution to members. Mr Sheedy thanked Dr Egan who left the meeting.

Mr Sheedy stated he was going to deal with only matters they were obliged to deal with for the remainder of the meeting due to time constraints and called on the office manager to read the results of the elections for vacancies to council.

8. **RESULTS OF ELECTION TO FILL CPBS COUNCIL VACANCIES 2023:**

The CPBS Council election count took place in Gullanes Hotel, Ballinasloe on Saturday, 4th November 2023. The following candidates were elected:

Ulster:

Joanne Hunter – Seat U1 for 2 years

Leinster:

Pat Geoghegan – Seat L2 for 1 years

Munster:

Cáit Hennessy – Seat M2 for 3 years

Connacht:

Noel Brett – Seat C5 for 3 years

Martin Coyne – Seat C6 for 2 years

Noel Mahon – Seat C7 for 3 years

Gearoid Curran – Seat C8 for 3 years

Mr Sheedy congratulated those elected and wished them success on the Council. He thanked the outgoing members, Eimear Coleman, Ray Halpin and Henry O'Toole.

Mr Power asked why two ballots were sent out in 2023. Mr Sheedy replied there was an issue with one of the candidates, and one of the candidates was withdrawn and he was subsequently reinstated. Mr Power stated the issue was Ms Conroy proposed that one of the candidates should be disqualified and a vote was taken at a council meeting and the candidate was eliminated. The Articles of Association deal with where an offence has been caused or the reputation of the organisation has been called into disrepute; there was no basis for the vote except to get rid on the candidate; this person on taking legal advice, had to be reinstated, and was now on Council. Mr O'Donoghue said legal advice was sought by the Council to challenge the person that was excluded. *(Indistinct on recording....raised voices....Mr Sheedy / Mr Power).*

Mr Mahon stated he was chair of the constitutional group, and there were procedures and guidelines in the constitution on how to deal with a complaint, and it was clear from the Council's handling of the situation that they did not understand or did not follow the procedure; they cannot convene a kangaroo court and ban someone because they just didn't like them; the process is clear on interference from any council member; it is the responsibility of the HR officer to go through the process and investigate it. The report goes to the person in issue first, not to the council, and is given a right of appeal; and then and only then if they decide not to appeal does it go to Council. Mr Mahon suggested the Council go back and read the M&A.

Ms Norton, addressing her recent complaint to the HR officer, asked when she could expect a reply. Mr Sheedy said this was not the forum to discuss this and asked the HR officer to reply in writing to Ms Norton; Ms Connolly said she would.

Mr Ó Tuairisg asked if the Society had been investigated by the DAFM in relation to procedures and protocols; Mr Sheedy replied they had not; Mr Ó Tuairisg said this was not the case. Mr Sheedy said he was moving on to the next item on the agenda.

Mr Rice queried a decision by the chair of inspections to have his filly re-inspected free of charge, which was later overturned at Council. Ms Oakes said the decision she had made was not ratified at council and apologised to Mr Rice. Mr Mahon stated if Mr Rice had a complaint, it should have been dealt with through the Complaints Procedure, who would have called on the chair of inspection and Mr Rice, this should not be decided at Council. What happened was not due process and the Council was wrong, it did not follow protocol. Mr O'Donoghue said Mr Mahon was interpreting the rules to suit himself [.....*indistinct...raised voices....Mr O'D drowned out by crowd.*]

Mr Rice stated he wrote to the Council twice, requesting the minutes for the two council meetings where decisions were taken in relation to his pony, and his correspondence was not acknowledged or replied to; the office manager stated she had replied to his letter by email.

Ms N. O'Connell wished to record that Mr O'Donoghue, speaking in any capacity about rules and regulations, and addressing Mr O'Donoghue said he did not represent or speak on her behalf as Munster representative.

9. MOTIONS:

Motion 1: proposer Mr D. Power; seconded by Mr J Burke:

The incoming new Council should elect an Audit & Risk Committee.

Mr Power told the meeting they have now seen what happened without oversight and also to analyse risks that could be coming down the road.

This motion was carried

Motion 2: proposer Mr D. Power;

That none of the existing Executive should be members of the incoming new Executive.

Mr Power said the vice-president; the HR officer and the Finance officer should not be members of the incoming executive. Mr Sheedy stated this motion was disallowed as Article 17.2 and 17.8 deal with the election of the executive at the first meeting after the AGM. Mr Power asked if the members wanted this motion; Mr Sheedy said this was not permissible and was moving on to Ms Diamond's motions.

Motion 1: proposer Ms P. Diamond;

I move that all paid up members should be permitted to obtain and view free of charge a copy of Minutes when requested, sent to them on email. Should they wish to get Minutes posted to them that the minutes can remain to be charged for at a nominal fee along with a charge for Postage in line with current postage rates.

Ms Diamond stated as a Member of the CPBS, if one seeks the Minutes of a Council Meeting the member is charged €20 / set for Minutes. Mr Sheedy said the council could not allow minutes to be issued free of charge, there was a bye-law passed in 2019 setting the fee at €20. Ms Diamond said she should know if the representative elected in her province was doing the job they were elected to do. Mr Sheedy asked Ms Diamond to write to the incoming council to amend the bye-law to reduce the fee. Ms Diamond said she would do this. Motion not carried.

Motion 2: proposer Ms P. Diamond ; seconded by Fr. C. McCormack;

Re Procedures: I move that if a person submits a complaint, that all information and correspondence in regarding to that complaint, would be sent to a centrally held database within the C.P.B.S. with copies of everything held securely on file, in order to safeguard this info and prevent a breach of personal data, loss of documentation and or info getting mislaid and or going missing.

Mr Sheedy said he was allowing this motion to go forward

Motion 3: proposer Ms P. Diamond ; seconded by Mr MJ Burke;

Re Grants Available: I move that any grants that are available from HSI or the DAFM or any other relevant body that the CPBS will hold Informative Workshops / Road Shows around the country to notify and explain to members what is available and how to apply for them. The workshops will be advertised through the CPBS Website and their Social Media channels well in advance.

Mr Sheedy said he was allowing this motion to go forward

Motion 4: proposer Ms P. Diamond ; seconder Mr J Mahon ;

I move that the CPBS Solicitor be present at an A.G.M. Only documentary legal advice will carry and that where it is cited at an AGM that the CPBS is waiting on legal advice re a certain matter, that the information is made available to and is circulated to the members following the AGM.

Mr Sheedy said he was allowing this motion to go forward

Motion 5: proposer Ms P. Diamond ; seconder Ms G. Kearns;

I move that queries from Members in relation to the Accounts of the CPBS do not have to be submitted in writing only and can and should be dealt with at the A.G.M. going forward.

Mr Sheedy said he was allowing this motion to go forward

Motion 6: proposer Ms P.Diamond ; seconded Ms J. Hunter ;

I move that there is protocol put in place for the CPBS run Show(s) and on the annual Show Day(s) re where a pony is suspected to be and alleged to be lame by a Judge, and subsequently it turns out that the pony is not, as what happened at the 2023 Show, this relates especially to any child riders under 18 years of age in any ridden or performance

class, in order not to single out, humiliate and embarrass the child and or exclude them from competing which can have detrimental consequences. This protocol would have to be implemented and all judges made aware of this and to follow it.

Mr Sheedy asked if Ms Diamond would amend that motion, as for a motion to be admissible it must not contain any arguments, inferences, or defamatory statements.

Mr Mahon said the judge has no entitlement to say the pony is lame; they can say that pony has an irregular gait, so they are not saying anything. There is only one person who can say the pony is lame and that is the Vet.

Mr Geoghegan said the steward came to him in regard to this pony, it was not the judges decision.

Ms Diamond agreed to amend the motion and Mr Sheedy said he was allowing this amended motion to go forward

Motion 7:

Proposer Ms P. Diamond; seconded by Mr J. Burke;

I move that the CPBS liaise with Weatherby's to facilitate as previously was available a "parentage test"; where there is no way of listing potential sires and or dam that the owner can ask for a parentage test.

Mr Sheedy said he was allowing this motion to go forward

Motion 8:

INTRODUCTION OF COVER CERTS: proposer Ms P. Diamond; seconder Fr C. McCormack;

This could be optional or mandatory. A cover cert system: a paper duplicate book and with an online platform similar to what HSI use could be introduced. Stallion owners/Keepers could opt in to use the facility if they so wished during the teething stages of introduction. The Stallion owner / keeper could upon covering issue a cert to the Breeder or upload the info online.

Mr Sheedy said he was allowing this motion to go forward

Motion 9: proposer Ms P. Diamond ; seconded by Ms U.Connolly;

I move that a Show "rule book" be established for the CPBS, currently there is no official rule book, if we are under the umbrella of the I.P.S., state the rules that are to be adhered to re ridden, performance and showing classes within the CPBS and include in the Annual catalogue, on the website and link to it on social media channels.

Mr Sheedy said he was allowing this motion to go forward

Motion 10: proposer Ms P. Diamond ; seconded by Ms C. Snow-Coyne;

I move that the Ordinary members of the CPBS as in previous times, are permitted to attend the count in person for an Election if they so wish to attend.

Mr Sheedy said he was allowing this motion to go forward

This concluded the motions brought forward.

Mr Sheedy said there was a red storm warning for east Galway and Clare and was concluding the meeting without completing the Agenda. The Presidents address and committee reports would be available on the CPBS website. He thanked everyone and wished them a safe journey home.

Agenda Items:

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| 8. | <u>PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS: }</u> | MEETING CONCLUDED EARLY DUE TO WEATHER WARNING – |
| 9. | <u>SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:}</u> | TO BE AVAILABLE ON CPBS WEBSITE. |
| 10. | <u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS: }</u> | |

- END -

12TH NOVEMBER 2024.