



The British Alpaca Society

## Board Meeting

**Minutes of a meeting of the Directors**  
**held at 11:00 on Wednesday 30 March 2005**  
**at Genalog, Gills Green Oast, Gills Green, Hawkhurst, Kent TN18 5ET**

**Present:**

Rob Bettinson (RB) Chairman, Philip O'Connor (POC), Graham Reed (GR), Keith Scott (KS)

**Apologies:**

Michael Berry (MB), Nigel Cobb (NC),  
Alan Lorentzen (AL), Maxine Watts (MW)

**Meeting Started:**

11:00

**In attendance:**

James Wade, Kelston Management (JW)

**Meeting Ended:**

19:15

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**341.0 Minutes of meeting held on 26 January 2005**

**Motion:** The minutes were acceptable.

**Proposed:** GR

**Seconded:** RB

**342.0 Outstanding issues/ updates**

**(329.2) Shows - Royal Show**

The provisional budget indicates that the show will be self-supporting if there is a 10% increase in entries on all last year.

**(333.1) Registration & Screening – Member complaint**

KS and Libby Henson of Grassroots have been reviewing the registration regulations to make them more explicit. This includes a minor change to address the renaming problem.

**(333.2) Registration & Screening - Microchips**

The member that had been using these microchips was unaware that they were reprogrammable but in any case has now fitted additional microchips.

**(333.6) Registration & Screening – Large long-outstanding debt**

JW reported that the funds had been received and had cleared in the society bank account. The accuracy of the only remaining debt of £293.75 from another member was questioned.

**Motion:** The alpaca to which the invoice for £293.75 relates was never imported, therefore the debt is not actually owed and should be removed from the debtors list in the appropriate manner.

**Proposed:** KS

**Seconded:** GR

**Action:**  
JW



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- (339.1) Any other business – Contact details**  
Since the last meeting JW had conducted research into 0845 numbers and had found that the existing service provider, Telewest, offer a comparable deal to the one suggested by GR. Due to the costs, it was suggested that an 0870 number may be more appropriate.  
**Motion:** To proceed with an 0870 number if there is no charge to BAS for calls and if the set up charge is reasonable.  
**Proposed:** GR  
**Seconded:** POC  
**Action:** JW
- 343.0 Media, Magazine & Marketing**  
There was a discussion about the progress being made sourcing an alternative display unit in the form of a small tent and trailer combination. It was noted that the costs involved roughly equated to the savings made in renegotiating the magazine publisher.  
**Motion:** The expenditure of approximately £2,000 was approved with a view to recovering some of the costs later through sponsorship.  
**Proposed:** GR  
**Seconded:** KS
- 344.0 Registration**  
KS and Libby Henson of Grassroots have been reviewing the registration regulations to make them more explicit. It was agreed that KS should provide the new regulations to JW for circulation to the Board. Since the registration rules were not incorporated into the Society rules, consultation should not be required.  
**Motion:** Board approval should be assumed unless there are any objections when the document has been circulated.  
**Proposed:** GR  
**Seconded:** POC  
**Action:** KS, JW, Board
- 345.0 Screening**  
The possibility of organising and offering an annual UK screening event in the interests of the national herd was suggested and discussed. It was agreed that this would be discussed by the joint BAS/ BCA steering committee.
- 346.0 Welfare**  
It was brought to the Board's attention that recent evidence came to light that there may be a large scale welfare issue.
- 347.0 Education & Judge Training**  
JW noted that the Alpaca Training Centre had reported that Alex Harrington-Smith had passed Level 3 Judge Training with the required marks to qualify as a BAS Judge, and that Amanda VandenBosch had recommended the Board recognise this.  
**Motion:** To approve Alex Harrington-Smith as a BAS Judge.  
**Proposed:** KS  
**Seconded:** RB  
**Abstained:** POC & GR
- 348.0 Board & Subcommittees**  
The response to the Resource and Volunteers Offer questionnaire was discussed. JW was asked to distribute to the latest summary spreadsheet to the subcommittees.  
**Action:** JW



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**349.0 Update on discussions between BAS and BCA**

Two joint board meetings have taken place, and a Joint Heads of Agreement was signed after the first (appended to these minutes). The three steering committees that were formed have all met. A joint statement has been sent to members of both BAS and BCA (appended to these minutes).

**350.0 Membership**

There was a discussion about the membership fees that should be set for the new financial year, 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006. It was noted that the society currently runs at an annual loss and is therefore diminishing the funds in its accounts. The fees would be discussed further by the Board members.

**351.0 Business Management**

JW presented the latest Management Accounts for inspection, and agreed to investigate a number of issues raised. This was followed by a discussion about the proposed Heads of Agreement for management services provided by Kelston Management. JW noted the concerns raised by the directors present and it was agreed that further discussion would need to take place before this or a revised Heads of Agreement could be signed. It was agreed however that whatever terms are finally agreed could be applied retrospectively from 1 April 2005.

**Action:**  
JW, Board

**352.0 Dates of next meetings**

The following dates were proposed for the rest of the calendar year:

Wednesday 27 April\*

Wednesday 18 May

Wednesday 8 June\*

Wednesday 13 July

Wednesday 10 August\*

Wednesday 14 September

Wednesday 12 October\*

Wednesday 9 November

Wednesday 14 December\*

\* To coincide with joint BAS/BCA meetings

**NOTE The meeting was concluded at 19:15**



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## **Appendix 1 – Joint Heads of Agreement**

The Boards of the BCA and BAS met on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2005 at Didmarton, Glocs and agreed as follows:

### **1. Single Registry**

1.1 To ask Roger French to make recommendations on the formation of an alpaca registry. In particular to report on

Ownership and Board structure  
Management  
Administration  
Confidentiality

1.2 To work in conjunction with representatives of BCA, BAS and Grassroots

1.3 To report back to both Boards within a reasonable timescale and to produce an interim report for the next joint meeting.

1.4 To recommend an interim structure and a structure within a single alpaca society under an umbrella of a Camelid Federation.

1.5 BCA agrees to put on hold the formation of an independent registry until Roger French reports back.

### **2. Screening and Importation**

2.1 The joint boards will ratify their current rules for screening and importation

2.2 Information will be made available on certificates – vis the fibre statistics and the comments made by the vets.

2.3 The Breed Society Board will not have access to any detailed screening information but will be made aware of any intended import of animals.

2.4 The Breed Society Board members will have to make any declaration of interest.

2.5 The DNA and embryo transplant standards should be based on international standards and should be discussed by a joint committee and to report back to the joint boards

2.6 The routine for changing the rules needs to be specified and agreed.

### **3. Shows**

3.1 It is agreed that all shows in 2005 other than the BAS National be open to all BLA or BAS registered alpacas.

### **4. Federation**

4.1 It is agreed to form a federation which encompasses the breed societies, the registry and BCVS, the details of which will be put to the next joint board.

4.2 The Joint boards will meet every two months to receive papers from the sub-committees.

### **5. The sub-committees will be the following:**

Single registry

Roger French  
Libby Henson – Grassroots Systems  
Michael Brooke  
Rodney Newth/Arish Turle  
Keith Scott



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Philip O'Conor

Screening and DNA

Libby Henson – Grassroots Systems

Graham Reed

Philip O'Conor

Chas Brooke

Nick Weber

Federation

Nick Weber

Rob Bettinson

Paul Rose

Nigel Cobb

Agreed by all present.



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## **Appendix 2 – Joint Statement to all members of BAS and BCA**

Monday 7 February 2005

Dear Member of BAS & BCA,

### **JOINT STATEMENT FROM BOTH CHAIRMEN FOLLOWING MEETING OF BOTH BOARDS ON FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup> 2005**

We are pleased to inform you that a very important meeting took place on Wednesday February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2005, between the boards of the British Alpaca Society and the British Camelids Association.

At this meeting, which was extremely positive and constructive, numerous proposals and strategies were discussed relating to the development of unity within the Camelid Community of the UK.

Agreements were reached and signed off between the boards to begin a process of full cooperation between our societies which both boards feel will eventually, after full consultation and debate amongst our memberships, lead to formal recognition of these new relationships through the creation of a Camelid Federation. We envisage that this federation would encompass independent single species societies, vets and other associated bodies.

A timetable of exploration and action was agreed upon which will result in both boards working in unison to prepare the detailed joint proposals.

Three joint steering committees were formed at this meeting and given a mandate by the joint boards to investigate, assimilate and with the help of outside bodies, detail the joint proposals and report back at the next joint board meeting. We will in due course present these proposals to our respective memberships for their consideration and input and would hope to move forward to seek their formal approval before the year-end 2005.

It was agreed that both boards would meet in the same way on a regular bi-monthly basis to monitor and progress the work of the steering committees throughout this process.

It was also agreed that the chairmen of each society would be invited to attend the other's board meetings as an observer and consultant enabling a coordinated approach to be maintained throughout this process.

The immediate effects of these agreements are: -

The process of forming a single national alpaca registry is being readdressed and progressed in the light of these new agreements between us.

All alpaca shows for 2005 excepting the BAS National Show will be open to all BAS and BCA registered alpacas.

The BAS will also work with its show organisers to create opportunities for the BCA Llama group to profile some of their llamas at BAS alpaca shows during 2005.



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The existing cooperation currently enjoyed by the Welfare and Shows committees will continue to be strengthened and both boards have agreed to support and promote the activities of each society through their memberships.

It would be premature of us to announce any further details of the initiatives and pre-empt the work of the steering committees. Needless to say, all those present at the meeting see the agreement to develop these proposals as a significant turning point within our small community and we trust that you will all bear with us as we work to flesh out the proposals for your consideration and approval.

Rob Bettinson, Chairman BAS

Nick Weber, Chairman BCA