

Southern British Shorthair Cat Club

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday, 15 April 2007, at 2.30 pm at New Haw Community Centre, New Haw, Surrey.

The meeting began at 2.50 pm.

Present:

Sue Denny, Val Duplock, Sue Featherstone, Shelagh Heavens, Sheila Henty, Brenda Hollandt, Sharon Keegan, Liz Knott, Adrian Miller, Pat Ross, Heather Rowe, Jane Spall, Maggie Whiteley.

1. Chairperson's Welcome

Jane Spall thanked everyone for coming. She said it was unfortunate the meeting was not quorate but we should proceed and deal with as much business as possible.

Apologies had been received from:

Lynne Best, Jane Boutflower, Jan Bradley, Pat Brice, Ronnie Brooks, Lynne Bull, Julie Caffel, Joy Crowther, Janet Farmer, Michael Farmer, Alison Glaisyer, Hugh Glaisyer, Lorraine Greetham, Pippa Heaton, Philippa Hewett, Rebecca King, Celia Leighton, Bill Levinson, Vicki Levinson, Shan Lines, Dee Marsland-Round, Eve Milburn, Lesley Miles, Pam Potter, John Shepherd, Val Shepherd, Joe Tiedeman, Sue Tiedeman, Charis White, Nick Winter.

2. Minutes of the AGM of 9th April 2006

The minutes were agreed.

(Proposer: Brenda Hollandt; Seconder: Pat Ross.)

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. Officers' Reports

4.1 Chairperson:

Jane said she thought that progress had been made, the club continued to flourish and it had held a successful show.

4.2 Secretary:

4.2.1 Selkirk Rex:

Maggie reminded members of the decision at the previous AGM to hold a vote on the issue as to whether the Selkirk Rex should be formally included within the rubric covered by the Club. In the event, those who were most vehement for and against the proposal failed to provide any



brief statement as to their positions. As the matter was being dealt with by the BAC, it was shelved pending the outcome.

4.2.2 Supreme:

A table had been taken on Club Row at the Supreme. Apart from arrangements for arriving and leaving being extraordinarily difficult, the venture had been a success.

4.2.3 Charity:

Following the decision at the last AGM that we undertake sponsorship of a small cat charity, the Committee had decided on the Riverhaven Elderly Cat Rescue. Maggie had hoped to have some leaflets to distribute to the meeting but there had been problems with communication. She had spoken with Jackie Southern that week and had established that, apart from financial contributions, they welcomed used stamps of any kind. Sue Denny added that it was also possible to sponsor a cat about whose progress one would be informed. Details would appear on the website.

4.2.4 PKD:

It was now BAC policy that breeding stock be tested. The Committee's proposals appeared later on the agenda.

4.3. Treasurer:

Pat, introducing the annual accounts, pointed out that the sum expended on promotions had risen. This was due to the purchase of an exhibition stand and a new set of drapes. Overall, the situation remained healthy. The auditor had been offered a rise in her fee but had refused it.

It was unanimously agreed that the accounts be accepted.

It was further proposed that the auditor, Margaret Clarke, be re-appointed. (Proposer: Maggie Whiteley; Seconder: Sue Denny.)

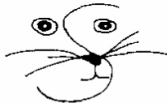
This too was agreed unanimously. It was further agreed that the Club's thanks and appreciation should be conveyed to Margaret Clarke.

4.4 Membership Secretary:

Adrian informed the meeting that as of 31.12.06 the membership stood at 357 of which 243 were single, 112 joint and 2 overseas. That day there were 363 members in total representing an increase of 6%. He was disappointed at the loss of some longstanding members but generally the situation looked encouraging.

4.5 Show Manager:

Sue Denny said she had been concerned by the move of the Wessex Show to be held in Bracknell on the same date as that of the Club. Entries had initially been down but a late surge resulted in an entry of 134 cats, only slightly fewer than in the previous year. A profit of £1,113.69 had been made. Sue expressed her gratitude to everyone who had worked to make the day such a success.



As Sue would be moving away for a time, this was the last year she would be managing the show. Five judges had been booked for next year; another three were needed. We would also require a new venue. A unanimous vote of thanks was expressed to Sue for all her work.

4.6 Web Manager:

Adrian told the meeting that the website consistently had a placement in the top two results for the most common search items relating to British Shorthairs when considering the most popular search engines. In March there were 6,154 new unique visitors, 85% of whom were from the UK. 41% looked at the kitten list, the South-Eastern and Western being the most frequently used sections. 21% look at Breeder links, 14% look at Show Pages and 6% at the Breed Profile.

Work was ongoing to make the site more user-friendly and to review all the links. Those which were not reciprocated were being deleted unless retaining them offered a benefit to the Club. Adrian was also collecting information as to what cats members bred which should enable people seeking kittens to contact them direct, particularly useful when the kitten list was low.

Jane thanked everyone, and particularly Adrian, for the work that they had done.

5. Representatives' Reports

5.1 BAC Representatives' report:

Adrian Miller had been the representative for the past year. He was supported by Sue Denny who longed to come off this Committee.

5.1.1 Selkirk Rex:

He said that the Secretary of the British BAC had written to the Joint Rex BAC asking if they would like to request a transfer of the Selkirk Rex to their section. They had replied voicing various concerns and declining the offer. The BAC had agreed that when the Rex reached Championship status, Grand classes would need to be judged by persons who were full judges on both lists. Shelagh Heavens pointed out that the decision on judging the Grand for British and Rex would require an amendment to the existing wording of the Rule which dealt with such matters.

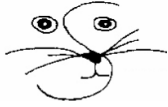
5.1.2 Cinnamon and Fawn Self and Colourpointed cats:

These would reach provisional status in June 2007.

5.1.3 Promotions:

Two Probationer Judges had applied for promotion to full Judge status; both had been deferred. One Steward on the Stewarding Scheme had sought promotion to the Probationer Judge Scheme; this had been accepted.

5.1.4 Seminar:



The BAC was holding its annual seminar on 6 May 2007. It would deal with Manx, Patched, Tipped and Tabby Colourpointed cats.

5.2 GCCF Delegates' report:

Sue Featherstone and Maggie had been the representatives for the year. Maggie gave the report. Major points included:

5.2.1 Office:

The move was now completed. It appeared that progress was being made at in-putting data onto computers.

5.2.2 BSH Tabbies and Spotteds:

An amendment had been agreed to the Standard of Points.

5.2.3 Sphynx:

Preliminary recognition had been granted.

5.2.4 Selkirk Rex:

Provisional status was granted as from June 2007.

5.2.5 Naming:

Various modifications were made to the rules resulting in some easing up.

5.2.6 Rules:

Amendments were made to the Rules including one limiting the temperature in show halls to 90 F (32 C).

5.2.7 Supreme:

Julia May had apologised for the difficulties encountered by persons attending the Supreme this year and undertook that changes would be made to avoid their reoccurrence.

5.2.7 Judges:

Mrs B Prowse and Mrs S Luxford-Watts had become Probationer Judges; Mrs S Newman was granted one year's extension. Mrs S Lorton-Hobbs had been made a Probationer Judge for the Selkirk Rex.

6. Election of Officers, Committee and Representatives

6.1 Committee: In accordance with the practice whereby one of the major Officers and three Committee members stand down each year, this year the Secretary, Maggie Whiteley, was standing down but was prepared to stand again for re-election. Three persons had agreed to be co-opted as Committee members. These were Viv Clerkin, Shelagh Heavens and Heather Rowe. No further nominations having been received, the Committee for the following year would be:

President	Ronnie Brooks
Vice-President	Celia Leighton
Vice-President	Lesley Miles
Chairperson	Jane Spall
Vice-Chairperson	Brenda Hollandt
Secretary	Maggie Whiteley



Treasurer	Pat Ross	
Committee	Viv Clerkin	(co-opted)
	Sue Denny	
	Sue Featherstone	
	Shelagh Heavens	(co-opted)
	Sharon Keegan	
	Dee Marsland-Round	
	Adrian Miller	
	Heather Rowe	(co-opted)

This was agreed.

It was also mentioned that the Committee should give some thought to tidying up this aspect of the Rules which tended to cause confusion when members left the Committee.

6.2 Election of BAC representatives:

It was agreed that Adrian Miller continue as representative. It was also hoped that Sue Denny would continue to act in this capacity until she left the area.

6.3 Election of GCCF delegates:

It was agreed that Maggie Whiteley and Sue Featherstone should continue to represent the Club.

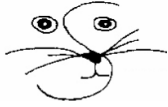
7. Resolutions

The resolutions below had been circulated to the membership with the agenda. Maggie explained that when she had written to Governing Council about the clash with the Wessex, she had received a letter detailing the 'considerations' entertained by the Executive Committee when deciding these matters. It included neither of those below.

“That when considering requests for changing the venues of shows, the Executive Committee of the GCCF should additionally consider:
a) that the venue does not lie within fifty miles of an existing show held on the same day and for which potential entries would overlap; and
b) that the venue of an 'area' show should preferably lie within the area designated by the title of the Club.”

We had thought it would be helpful to put them to the AGM but unfortunately lacked a quorum. Nevertheless, the resolutions were put to the meeting. **They were passed unanimously.** It was agreed that a poll be taken of the membership to strengthen the case which we wished to make.

8. Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD); The Committee's proposals:



Maggie said that this was an issue about which the Committee was concerned. As we were in possession of funds, it seemed a good idea to encourage the chipping and genetic testing of our breeding stock. By working hard for one generation, we should be able to largely eliminate this problem in the British Shorthair. Negotiations had been going on with the FAB. We were thinking of holding an initial session at the New Haw Centre and inviting members to book in their cats. The cost would be £25 per cat plus the charge for the hall and for a vet. Unchipped cats would also need to be covered for the cost of chipping. **It was agreed** that this would be a good strategy. The Club would bear part of the cost. We would think of arranging it for September or October.

9. **Any Other Business:**
None.

The meeting closed at 4.00pm