



**Minute of the eighty-sixth Annual General Meeting of the  
Beef Shorthorn Cattle Society held at United Auctions, Stirling  
and via Zoom Video conference  
on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 12 noon**

Present: Charles Horton (President), Timothy Riley (Vice-President), Cathryn Williamson (Past President), Morna Bell (Society Accountant) and 57 members/staff (See Appendix 1)

Also in attendance online: Clive Brown (Operations Manager/Breed Secretary), Ellie Doak (Breed Co-ordinator), Geoff Riby, Tim Coles, Martin Reynolds, Charlie Maclean

The President welcomed everyone to the eighty-sixth Annual General Meeting (AGM) of The Beef Shorthorn Cattle Society. He announced that the meeting was being recorded for minute taking purposes and that Clive Brown was unable to attend in person due to a sudden spinal injury.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Chris Nye, Rob Paisley, Erika Ivinson, Martyn Moore and Grant Stephens.

**2. To approve the minute of the eighty fifth Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 14th March 2021.**

The minute was adopted as a true and accurate representation and signed by the President.

**3. To receive the Directors' Report and approve the accounts for the year ending 31st August 2021.**

Tim Riley (TR), Finance Committee Chair delivered the Directors report. The Accounts for the year were prepared by Morna Bell and reviewed in detail by the Finance Committee and Board of Directors then independently examined by MMG Archbold (Dundee). A copy of the Accounts was available for all Members to review on the Society website.

Income

Income for the Financial year was £388,000, slightly more than the previous year of £367,000. Income from Subscriptions for the year was £30,314. Subscription levies were held at the same charge, but the income represents an increase of 8 % on the previous year (PY) due to the growth in membership.

Registration fee income was £163,000, an increase of almost 9% on previous year.

Society Sales commission was back at pre lockdown levels of income, being £33,000 for the year ending 31 August 2021.

Expenditure

Overall, the financial year was one of consolidation which included the appointment of the new Operations Manager/Breed Secretary and the relocation of this office to Stoneleigh.

Many cost centres had lower outturns than the previous year with a total expenditure of £328,000 compared to that of £383,000 for the previous year.

During the year legal work was undertaken on the review of the Articles of Association and advice regarding complaint matters and employment matters had been sought.



A positive investment of £13,309 for the DNA testing of first calving heifers was made reflecting the Board's Strategy to understand and collect more information of the prevalence of Myostatin within females. The scheme ran until 31 December 2021.

The overall outturn for the year was a net income of £55,821 before any gains/losses on investment. This was a welcome position however it was noted that there was less operational expenditure occurred due to the global pandemic with a large number of shows and events cancelled due to Covid restrictions meaning some budgets were not fully utilised.

#### Investments and Returns

A healthy return of £18,000 on dividend income from the investment portfolio was seen with funds valued at £954,000 on 31 August 2021. Net gain on investments over the year was £167,000. The investments are managed by Smith and Williamson and the portfolio is reviewed annually by delegated Directors. TR outlined that the Board actively sought to monitor these and were liaising with Smith and Williamson to ensure that ethical, sustainable and good governance options were sought to be inline with Society aims and objectives.

The Board has established a new Reserve called the Bi Centenary and Strategic Development Fund, with £30,000 identified to support the 200th celebrations of the Coates Herd book in 2022 as well as strategic investment in the promotion of longevity of the Breed and Society.

The kind donation of various shares received from Major Gibb and his family in 1987 were outlined. Originally named in the accounts as the 'Glenisla Fund' at that time, in 2017 the fund was valued at £80,000. Some of the shares in this fund have since been sold, reinvested, and amalgamated in various investments within the wider portfolio however it was important to outline this kind donation continues in support of the running of the Society.

TR concluded that the Society remained in a healthy financial position, with the Unrestricted Reserves equal to greater than two years of normal expenditure, thus meeting the stated Policy on Reserves. The Board continued to regularly review governance and policy as well as the risks to the Society which included budgeting, review of costs, monitoring income and fee levels as well as financial management and assessment of risks associated with the different income streams. Improvements to internal governance were outlined. Decisions will continue to be made at Board level, however the Finance Committee was able to delegate authority to the Chairs of the other Society committees, so they were responsible and accountable for their own budgets and the spending performance and delivery. This change gave greater transparency how funds were utilised and was open for scrutiny by members if desired.

The resolution to approve the accounts for the year ending 31st August 2021 was proposed by David Dickie and seconded by Tina Russell, and a unanimous vote approved the accounts for the year ending 31st August 2021.

#### Director's report

Charles Horton commenced the Directors report by stating how pleasant it was to conduct business in person. The pandemic meant the Society had had to be adaptable and making use of online video conferencing for meetings and member webinars with good attendance.



At the start of 2021 there was no Breed Secretary in place, so CH offered his thanks to Ellie along with Rusmi's team at the Charolais for their assistance in this period. April saw Clive Brown join from ADHB bringing with him a wealth of industry knowledge.

Online regional members forums and the subsequent member's questionnaire had highlighted a need for improved communication, and this continued to be worked upon with a successful introduction of an e-bulletin, popular webinars, and a greater social media presence.

The adoption of the updated Articles of Association meant the Society was able to move forward and the use of email communications would lead to significant reduction in postage and printing costs.

Interest in the breed continued, with a steady influx of new members and good sales prices. The sales of quality beef through Morrisons were increasing and there was a need to ensure more Beef Shorthorn sired cattle were put towards the scheme.

There were good opportunities for the breed, with new environmental schemes being introduced by the government, looking to encourage lower inputs and more beef from grass. It was important for the breed to continue to develop in a sustainable manner and the Breed development committee was looking at what was required, and the Board was looking at a long-term marketing strategy.

Activities for the future included a development initiative. This had originally been aimed at young members with a youth development scheme, but it was swiftly recognised that there was an appetite for something across all ages, especially with regard to new members breeding Beef Shorthorn for the first time. There would now be opportunities for all to benefit with events being held across the regions.

A new merchandise range was to be launched imminently. Samples of the new range would have been on display but due to CB being absent, the launch would now be done online with merchandise available to purchase through the shop on the website or over the phone with the Society office. The ability to take card payments over the phone was under review.

Special thanks were intimated to Graham Towers for stepping in at the last minute to courier paperwork for the meeting, and to Cathryn Williamson for the running of the next part of the meeting.

CH concluded with his best wishes to vendors and purchasers at the forthcoming sale at Stirling.

#### **4. To approve the reappointment of MMG Archbold as the Independent Examiners for the Annual Accounts to 31st August 2022.**

The resolution to approve the reappointment of MMG Archbold was proposed by Andrew Ivinson and seconded by Pamela Nicol. The vote was carried unanimously and MMG Archbold was appointed as the Independent Examiners for the Annual Accounts to 31st August 2022.



## 5. Appointment of President and Vice President positions

Cathryn Williamson took over as Chair for the proceedings.

- 5.1 The Board had nominated Charles Horton to be appointed as President for the following year of operations. A vote was held, and Charles was unanimously reappointed as President.
- 5.2 The Board had nominated Timothy Riley to be appointed as Vice-President for the following year of operations. A vote was held, and Tim was unanimously reappointed as Vice-President.

## 6. Announcement of results of elections for Directors

The results of the elections for posts of Directors were announced. Those standing in the North of England and Scotland had stood unopposed.

North of England	Mark Severn Fraser Hugill
------------------	------------------------------

Scotland	Kenny Mair
----------	------------

A ballot was held for the South of England

South of England	Tim Coles James Fanshawe
------------------	-----------------------------

CH welcomed the new Directors to the Board and thanked Charlie Maclean for standing for the South region.

CH also extended his thanks to the existing Directors for their hard work throughout the year and their continued support of the Society.

Business for the eighty-sixth Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Beef Shorthorn Cattle Society was concluded.

### Meeting ended 12:41pm

At the close of the meeting, a brief presentation regarding the World Conference was given by James Playfair-Hannay.

## Appendix One – Attendees

Name	Herd	Name	Herd
Morna Bell	Accountant	Dan Bull	Lindan
Fraser Hugill	Ballard (Board elect)	Tina Russell	Longfield (Board)
Vic Watson	Balliefurth	James Fanshawe	Lucombe (Board elect)
Cathryn Williamson	Balnespick (Past President)	Gerard Te Lintelo	Mayfield
Andrew Thornber	Blackbrook	John McCulloch	Mayfield
Ellie Doak (Online)	Breed Co-ordinator	George Somerville	Member
Neil Shand	Cairnorrie	R Grierson	Member
Jane Landers	Cairnsmore	Kenny Mair	Muiresk
James Biggar	Chapelton	Clive Brown (Online)	Operations Manager/Breed Secretary
Lucinda Townsend	Coxhill	Sally Horrell	Podehole (Board)
Alistair Gibson	Cutthorn (Board)	Calum Clark	Rattray
Charlie Maclean (Online)	Duart	Ann Clark	Rattray
Carey Coombs	Dunsyre	Brenda Wear	Redhill
Pamela Nicol	Eastmill (Board)	Janet Dunning	Runleymill
Caroline Ivinson	Eden valley	John Wilson	Runleymill
John Scott	Fearn (Board)	Andrew Ivinson	Sandwick
Jim Frame	Galla	Matthew Thomson	Shawhill
Alfie Shaw	GlebeFarm (Board)	Tim Coles (Online)	Silson (Board elect)
Andrew Barrett	Glenariff	Stuart Macadie	Skailhouse
Tia Barrett	Glenariff	Simon Farmer	StanfordPark
James Nelson	Glenbrae	Geoff Riby (Online)	Stonehills (Board)
Catriona Gibb	Glenisla	Timothy Riley	Stoneyroyd (Vice President)
John Gibb	Glenisla (Board)	James Playfair-Hannay	Tofts
Shona Calder	Grandtullybrae (Board)	Valerie Orr	Trainview
Graham Towers	Greenley	James Cameron	Trainview
Judy Fry	Hansford	Gerald Turton	Upsall (Board)
Jemima Horton	Hannington (Non member)	Robin Turton	Upsall
Charles Horton	Hannington (President)	Martin Reynolds (Online)	ValeMeadows (Board)
Mark Severn	Highlee (Board elect)	Alice Haigh	Willingham
David Dickie	Knockenjig	Lois Haigh	Willingham
Rosemary Dickie	Knockenjig	Andrew Wright	Winterbeck
John Redpath	Knowehead		