

A GCM was held on 02/10/16 with a 10:30 am start at Newton Regis Village Hall. In attendance were the President, the Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer and 10 Committee Members.

A member had written in with a request to look at adding AVNSC classes to the Open Show Points Competition as, at many shows in some parts of the country, these were the only classes where red and whites could be exhibited. The request was discussed and starting next year these classes will be included.

The BH & GSC report was discussed at length. It was suggested that perhaps the sub-committee would benefit from the addition of new members. This matter will be discussed at the next meeting of the sub-committee. The eye testing at this year's Championship show had been very successful and will be offered again at the 2017 Championship show. This time round a rota will be drawn up to save one or two people being involved all day with the admin work that is required. A call for volunteers for the rota will appear in the next newsletter but if you wish to add your name to the rota before publication then please let me know.

A lot of effort has been put into updating, and where necessary creating, the documents which outline the roles and responsibilities for various job functions within the Club. Whilst the majority have now been completed, this enormous but worthwhile task is still ongoing.

The Championship show in 2017 had been moved to July to avoid a date clash with Three Counties. Unfortunately the date chosen for next year proves problematic with venue availability and other show date clashes in the years following. As such we have decided that from 2018 we will revert to our June date as venue availability is not a problem. The possibility of holding our show in conjunction with another show was also discussed and will be investigated further.

The duties for the autumn open show were discussed and delegated. This is an important subject at meetings as there is a lot of hard work that goes in to organising shows much of which is behind the scenes and perhaps not appreciated. From canvassing for and setting up sponsorship to stewarding, catering and hospitality on the day. We also try hard to keep a record of the day in photographs which are published on the Club website. Whilst, in the main, the same people carry out these tasks over and over, there are times when not everyone can attend and your committee members have to be flexible and take on other roles and responsibilities to make for a good show and a smooth running day.

Ideas for merchandising items were asked for and jackets, jumpers, coasters & car stickers were suggested. If anyone has any ideas for items that we might try please let me know or contact Ian Lamb direct.

Methods of promoting our breed were discussed and a number of ideas have been put forward for discussion by the working party that has been set up.

There had been a little bit of a misunderstanding with regards to the Club's Facebook page about who could post to it. We have made a few changes in terms of how this page will now operate and hopefully it will continue to be a well used method of getting Club and breed information out to everyone who is interested.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 3:30pm.

Hopefully these notes will give a brief overview of the work the General Committee does on your behalf. The General Committee are always open to discussing your ideas and pleased to hear your point of view so please feel free to let me know what these might be and I will make sure that they are taken back to the General Committee. You can contact me by phone, by email or around the ringside at shows.

Brian Pilmer
Membership Liaison Officer.