

The last GCM before the AGM was held on 24/04/16 with a 10:00 am start at Newton Regis Village Hall. In attendance were the President, the Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer and 11 Committee Members.

From the Minutes of the last meeting there were two matters arising which are worthy of note here. Due to unforeseen circumstances affecting an important part of the event that our President had planned for the summer, the event has been postponed until later in the year. As eye testing is to be available at this year's Championship Show, some members had queried the rule about the Club reimbursing the owners of dogs over the age of 8 the cost of having their dogs tested if their dog's DNA is lodged with the AHT. This rule was introduced in 2010. It has been decided that, instead of the owners paying the cost and then requesting a refund, the Club will just pay for the test so long as the DNA criteria is met.

The list of correspondence was lengthy but, in the main, was concerning the general running and workings of the Club. However there were two items of note, the first was concerning the Give a Dog a Genome project being run by the KC and the second was a large collection of data about Show entries. With regards to the Genome project, the Club has applied to be part of this exciting project and we will keep you updated as we get further information. We would like to thank the correspondent for their submission regarding Show entries. The documents contained a large amount of data which time constraints denied us from investigating fully and for that reason have been carried over to the next meeting as an agenda item.

Looking forward to the committee appointments to be announced at the AGM, both Ray McDonald and Alan Bamford have been re-elected for another 3 year term. The two other vacant positions have been filled by Diane Jones and Diana Walpole who will both serve for a 3 year term. There will be one vacant position and we shall discuss co-opting someone to fill that post at the next meeting. It was noted that as there had been no need to hold a ballot this year the CV's for the new applicants had not been seen by the membership. We would rectify this by including them with the next edition of the newsletter.

There were a number of points raised in AOB. Amongst them were requests to make the application form more prominent on the website and also to add the show venues with postcodes to the same. Some of the duties for the Championship show were delegated with catering being the main one as our caterer would unfortunately be unable to attend this year. Ray MacDonald has been busy organising photos to update the display and the leaflets for Discover Dogs. Our year book editor has been in touch regarding the 2015/16 yearbook as she is keen to see a smoother production process than we had for the last publication. Possible seminars were discussed but again time constraints require that this item to be carried over to a future meeting.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 12:00pm.

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