



BORDER COLLIE CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1 MARCH 2020 At Willington Village Hall Twyford Road, Willington, DE65 6DE

PRESENT: Marion Hopkinson (President), Peter Simmons (Chairperson), Nik Knight (Treasurer), , Julie Barratt, Doug Collier, Louise Collier, Colin Dowson, Glynis Dowson, Hannah Fawcett, Craig Gamble, Pat Hales, Joanna Lake, Vonnie Simmons, Rachel Spencer, Pat Wilkinson, Tracey Wilkinson, Anita Gowing (Secretary), David Hopkinson (spectator).

Marion Hopkinson opened the meeting at 11.00 am.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Karen Anderson, Alan & Marion Brierley, Bob Henry, Lorna Hastings-Menaker, Pauline Lawrence, Ron Menaker, Voirrey Paesler, Jill Spurr, Phil Surrige, Annette Walters.

2. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 3 MARCH 2019**

The Minutes were approved as an accurate record – Proposed by Nik Knight and seconded by Hannah Fawcett.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

- None raised

4. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Welcome and thank you for coming today. This last calendar year we lost some top BC members in Sonia Saxby who did excellent work for Border Collie Rescue, Elaine Ratcliffe from the Grandver kennel, but most of all Life member, committee member for many years and a dear friend Gordon Ravenscroft.

On a good note the Club is moving forward and in my opinion seems to have peaked at a high level due to hard work and commitment by certain members on the committee who work endlessly behind the scenes; my thanks to these people.

On the show scene the Veteran & Puppy Of The Year as an individual event seems to be growing from strength to strength with great feedback from last year.

The Open Show was well supported and worked well having only half of the KC Building. The 2020 Championship Show has received a great entry in this show scene climate, so we will need to be on our toes; it's going to be a busy day to make it a success.

Dog Of The Year Awards are for the first time giving rosettes to 5th place.

On the whole the Club is in a great position but we need to keep working hard to keep it as the Premier Club.

On a bad note, committee means commit and in some cases committee members are not willing to commit 100%, as you can see from who is here today; some will have reasons for not being able to attend and we wish them all the best. This needs to improve to assist willing committee members.

Following Pete's report, Marion expressed her thanks to the Officers and committee for making this such a good Club.

5. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Thank you to you all for attending today.

Sadly 2019 saw the loss of two of our Life Members, Gordon Ravenscroft and Sonia Saxby. In my early days in the breed I remember Gordon working at our club shows and always welcoming everyone; Sonia worked tirelessly for breed rescue and both will be much missed.

Our shows and events in 2019 were well supported with the herding day once again proving to be a hit with members & non-members; it's lovely to be able to get together like this in an informal atmosphere. The new venue is super and enables us to accommodate the needs of those who are less able, with an accessible loo and level ground. The photographic competition drew the largest entry to date and we will be looking at new ideas for this year's competition. As ever, thanks go to those who help us at Crufts on the breed stand and Discover Dogs and also at our shows and events.

The committee was pleased to respond on behalf of members to the Welsh Government's consultation on its proposals for the Animal Welfare (Licensing Of Animal Exhibits) Regulations 2020. It has been confirmed that dog showing will not fall within the scope of the new regulations, so all the lobbying has been worthwhile. Thanks to Jill Spurr, our Media Officer, for drafting the letter.

The 2020 Year Book was produced with a new print partner. A change such as this is always concerning and I have to admit that I was very relieved when I got my hands on the printed copy and personally I am very satisfied with the quality of the book. Printed publications are expensive to produce and we rely on advertising to make the book viable and to be able to provide our members with a free copy; hopefully the support will continue into the future.

The committee continues to keep all our activities under review in order to take account of feedback to ensure that our events are run as efficiently as possible and that we continue to work for the benefit of our members.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

2019 was a successful year. The Open Show showed a small loss, with surpluses for Puppy & Veteran Of The Year and the Championship Show. The year showed an overall surplus with a healthy Balance Sheet going forward.

The Accounts were adopted.

7. **OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

- President – Nomination received for re-election of Mrs Marion Hopkinson unopposed.
- Chairperson - Nomination received for re-election of Mr Peter Simmons unopposed.
- Secretary - Nomination received for re-election of Miss Anita Gowing unopposed.
- Treasurer – Nomination received for re-election of Mr Nik Knight unopposed.
- Vice-Chair - Nomination received for re-election of Ms Annette Walters unopposed.
- Committee - the following committee members remain:- Karen Anderson, Julie Barratt, Doug Collier, Louise Collier, Colin Dowson, Glynis Dowson, Hannah Fawcett, Craig Gamble, Pat Hales, Yvonne Simmons, Jill Spurr, Phil Surridge, Tracey Wilkinson.

The following have been nominated for committee:-
David McDowell

The officer positions were confirmed 'en masse' with all in favour.; proposed by Tracey Wilkinson and seconded by Craig Gamble.

Pat and Hannah expressed their concerns that they are struggling to commit because of business priorities. Doug commented that we have a high number of committee posts so that we have many people contributing a small amount each; it was also noted that Hannah's partner & friend also help at shows. Marion therefore declared a vote of

confidence in Hannah & Pat and it was agreed that they would remain on the committee, doing what they can.

It was noted that the co-optee, David McDowell, had not contributed to committee over the last 12 months and it was voted unanimously not to elect him to the committee.

8. **PROPOSAL RECEIVED BY CRAIG GAMBLE, SECONDED BY PETE SIMMONS**

“That an honorarium of £200 is paid annually to our in-house caterer.”

This was approved unanimously.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Rachel Spencer thanked the committee and helpers.
- Doug noted that with the death of Sonia Saxby, Border Collie & Sheepdog Rescue had been closed down. Some of the organisation’s shop stock has been donated by Margaret Prentice to our Club for sale at Crufts and our shows with the proceeds going to the Club’s Rescue Fund; more stock may be donated in the future. Doug explained that BCCGB had supported BC & Sheepdog Rescue for some years via a levy from the membership fee and the question was raised about which Rescue organisation the Club would support in the future; this matter will be discussed at a forthcoming committee meeting.
- Doug referred to the catalogue from our first KC licensed show in 1977 at Chesterfield and advised that he will be writing an article on the history of the Club. He has a query regarding the entry and Marion, as one who was present at the show, agreed to liaise with Doug to clarify.

Marion closed the meeting closed at 11.30 am.