

## **Montbeliarde UK 2019 AGM – Waveney Hotel 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019**

Present: Andrew Cotton (AC), Teresa Cotton (TC), Peter Bridge (PB), Fiona Bridge (FB), Rob Warburton (RW), Stuart Cadamy (SC), Ferreol Roche (FR), Peter Keniwell (PK), David Taylor (DT), Margaret Taylor (MT), Pete Wood (PW), Kath Wood (KW), Sarah Jarvis and Sarah Liddle.

Apologies for absence: Chris and Janette Prince, Martin and Alison Furness, Gary and Kate Simpson, John Harvey and Paul Dixon.

The Chairman asked for any matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting:

- RW asked what had happened with the service contract with Holstein UK?
  - o SL responded to say she had met with HUK at UKDD, to further discuss the service contract and Holstein UK had been unable to present the contract, therefore a new one will be required. Registration charges are set to increase.

The minutes of the 2018 AGM were then approved.

### **MATTERS ARISING**

- Membership handbook – SL reported we have had permission to crib the Holstein UK handbook, and stressed that we need to generate something similar. It was suggested that two volunteers work with the secretary to produce a handbook before a Spring meeting. SL also explained that EU regulations were changing and a survey had been filed to DEFRA – it's important to protect the breed.
  - o RW asked if the handbook was available electronically – PB, RW, MW all agreed to correspond with SL on a draft – SL will supply an amended draft for review working with a deadline of the spring.
  - o AC suggested joining the French herdbook - there was little support for this from the floor.
- The Full Montey – breed and information well received – FB commented that it was good to have some to pass on prospective new members at shows and sales
  - o SL asked if it should go to more than biannual but the feeling was to leave it at once every two years as support from advertisers has been very good and we don't want to exploit it.

### **CORRESPONDANCE:**

- GDPR has come in and so a privacy policy was created and added to the website
- A new set of certificates had to be ordered and printed and some of this stock has now become obsolete – with changing EU regulations the new certificates will be printed on plain paper.
- We had to submit another Breed inventory for 2015/2016/2017 to FangR – SL reported we are registering 802 from 25 -30 herds
- A letter was sent out to AI companies regarding supplying DNA profiles for sires – to explain that only Micro Satellite profiles were acceptable opposed to the Genomic SNIP form of the test. FR explained that all semen sold from France has both SNIP and Micro Sat data available

- DEFRA Self Certification Questionnaire – was filled in and filed – detailing how the Society is run, herdbook protection, procedures for membership. As part of the new Zootechnical regulations.
- HUK Service Provision – currently £4.05 per registration costing HUK £5.27 and £5.67 for a replacement certificate which only costs £1.03. As of 01/01/2020 registrations will increase to £4.46, in 2021 to £4.86 and in 2022 £5.27 SL reported Holstein UK do 190,000 registrations for HUK, 17,500 all breeds registrations and 800 Monty registrations. SL also stated that every time a statement/invoice is posted there will be a charge of 41p. There is supposed to be an improvement in the website interface and the generation of a bull list that is rankable by PLI or Type – SJ suggested that a link be put on the website for the NBDC as a temporary fix for the Animal Search facility on the website.
- Minette Batters Meeting – The Society was invited to send a Montbeliarde young member - Richard Walker had replied to the FB post but the secretary had requested that he joined the Society and he then didn't respond.
- An enquiry from Bath and West – A young man looking for a share farming opportunity. SL asked if anyone in the meeting was interested that they ask her for contact details.
- An 18 year old French man – wanted to do a 4 week placement in June next year – if any members were interested – MW expressed interest.
- Stock for Sale – people are desperate to buy stock still the secretary reported that we still get one or two phone calls a week. SL asked if there was any interest to consign to a sale if you could bring a core of in calf heifers in from France. AC reported that David Clarke had suggested an Elite sale of Montbeliardes from the top cows – in the UK – which was discussed by the room. RW commented that a sale could only be successful if a consignment was brought from France. SL will discuss further with Ferreol, regarding costings of bringing from France etc... SC added that he receives enquiries for stock as well.

## CHAIRMANS REPORT

AC thanked everyone for their support. He began with discussing the 2018 AGM and thanked both the hosts Graham and Amy Morton and all the speakers – the day was a huge success with around 80 visitors. Onto UKDD and one of the Ridgedale animals graced the show ring with MW doing a great job of judging and speaking on the breed. South West Dairy Show was next and thanks to Andrew Jones to helping on the stand, Malcolm Pearce also visited the stand and asked to be remembered to members, Andrew also did some free promotion for Z Tags which was good for the breed. Two Midlands meetings in 2018, one judging night and one matching the cow to the bull – both held in the pub. The Full Montey landed on our doorsteps in early March, and then UK Dairy Expo. Sadly the two youngsters destined for France for the Paris Show didn't make it due to a complication but FR has offered the two a reduced rate trip to the Coopex show in 2020. Another Midlands meeting was hosted by Ridgedale, and then onto UKDD 2019 – this time with a cow and a heifer for the stand. UKDD was a bit slower – but the quality of the enquiries was higher – more engaging, and back around to the Bath and West Show again – Peter Keniwell and Andrew Jones both assisted as well this year. Malcolm Pearce and Neil Derwent (of Lordswood) visited again. The chairman stressed his thanks for both Becky and Tom at home, his wife Teresa and the Society secretary.

## SECRETARYS REPORT:

2018/19 has been a year of Red tape as covered

802 registrations from 27 registering herds – roughly half the members

On the accounts front – the 2017/18 showed another loss of £4326, with the bank balance now at £14,334.27.

Income and expenditure was partly up due to The Full Montey

£4190 to £7386 in breed charges was a big part in the increased expenditure in the year

Membership stands at 60

Show expenses have been fairly static

Full Montey generated £4500 only £2700 included in the accounts it cost - £4525.27 making a small loss after postage etc of -£25.27

- A discussion ensued led by RW regarding the loss year on year, and discussed increasing the registrations again and PB seconded that it was important to do a little bit now rather than wait. RW proposed increased registrations to £10 seconded by DT. SC thinks a strategy is required to promote the breed and pure bred cows and increase the number of members and the advantages of being pedigree – to generate more money for the Society through increased registrations. AC suggested putting something in the winter newsletter – benefits of being pedigree and registering – information is key!!  
SL suggested half a dozen road shows instead of attending the shows, MW said we needed to look at different angles for promotion. AC commented it would be need to be spread over the UK.
- RW raised concern again over the increased loss of £-4000 and the increased registration charge was voted on and carried to increase registrations to £10 as of 1/1/20.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- AC nominated P Keniwell as incoming Chairman, seconded by RW, Peter agreed he was willing and he was duly elected, with Andrew continuing to run the remainder of the AGM
- AC requested for any suggestions for Vice-Chairman – Martin Furness had been approached but he would like to wait until the children are older. AC also suggested John Harvey was asked to be Vice and if he would like to join the committee, Graham Morton and Richard Eccles are also to be asked if they would like to join the committee.
- Election of Secretary/ Treasurer – The secretary was duly re-elected
- Election of committee – AC asked if there were any changes to current committee members

## BREED PROMOTIONS

- Open days and meetings:
  - o Next meeting date – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 11am at Chimney House Hotel (Jnc 19 of M6)

- Open day AC asked for suggestions hosts
- Shows – TC said the three done covered a lot of the country MW proposed the three shows continue seconded by RW. Dairy Tech had approached the Society about having a stand at their show in February, however it was agreed it would be declined for this year.
- Road show – Farm open days – three or four farms spread over the year with the last one incorporating the AGM – area suggestions ask all members in the newsletter. (HD mentioned)
- FB – suggested on the marketing front should we be monopolising more on the Archers. Good enough for the Archers – perhaps something for The Full Montey!!

AOB:

- AC suggested we should have another classification workshop – Muerig had asked if we would like one in the Midlands – supported by all in the room – further details required and dates –so that a venue farm can be arranged.
- AC also said that Muerig had told him that the Angus Society will only allow bulls to be registered out of VG and above classified dams. The issue was discussed but the decision was not to follow suit.
- SL asked if we should put back issues of the Full Montey on the website, RW proposed the cost be found out first, seconded by MW. AC suggested we put more news on the website from around the world on the breed.
- MW asked about on the traffic on social media – and suggested an online judging competition for the website.
- SL asked if the Society should get some more merchandise for the 2020 show season and prizes/gifts - this was supported by the room.
- AC asked if there was enough Young members to try and do more for the youth side and it was decided that we would encourage them to participate in the open days.

PK offered a vote of thanks to the outgoing chairman, who was presented with a picture as a gift.

With no other business the meeting was closed.