

SUSSEX CATTLE SOCIETY

Report of a Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, 8th November 2023 at 1.30 p.m.

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received and noted.
2. **Confirm Minutes of Meeting held 13th September 2023**
The Minutes were approved and signed.
3. **Matters Arising**

a) On-Line Sale, Bull Catalogue

It was noted that if we wanted to raise prices and do something proactive to combat the unwillingness to have purchase and sell at live sales due to health issues a move towards online sales might be the solution. The only way this would work is with commitment from vendors.

It was noted that SE Marts were very interested in working with us with the proviso that there were sufficient entries to make the event viable.

A number of Council members indicated that they would be willing to support such a sale with entries of bulls and females.

Several members of Council indicated that they felt the quality of the animals forward need to be high and possibly monitor this. It was felt that it would not be possible to ask breeders to support and then say "your bull is not good enough". The price of bulls had risen to £5/6k but has dropped to £3/3.5k and we need to work to get the price back to where it should be and this to be seen publicly.

The Chairman stated that an agreement by Council to go forward needed to be made by the year end to enable breeders to be notified.

It was agreed to have a Zoom meeting in December to finalise plans.

b) Nigel Ventham Legacy

It was agreed that Council would give consideration on how the £1000 should be used.

c) Exhibition Trailer

The question was raised on the viability of the exhibition trailer in terms of costs and benefits. There was some discussion with a division on whether the trailer should be sold or carry on being used at shows. This will be discussed further in relation to publicity and promotional spend.

4. Finance Report

a) Bank Balances

Balances were reported as Current Account £5,792, COIF Deposit Account £21,739 compared with a total of £42,064 for the same period las year.

b) Preliminary Income & Expenditure 2023

Details of a draft Income & Expenditure report for the main items of income and expenditure had been circulated, noting that this was not final as some aspects and adjustment had not yet been made. It was generally agreed to wait until more information become available to consider the results. It was further noted that there was a high possibility of a deficit for the year.

c) Fees for 2024

The fees were discussed and it was felt that due to the potential shortfall of income over expenditure, the fact that all costs had risen considerably due to the rise in inflation and that fees had not been increased for a number of years the following fees would be charged from 1st January 2024. The fees were amended and agreed by those present.

SUBSCRIPTION	Full Breeder	100.00
	Associate	25.00
BULL REGISTRATION		50.00
CAPITATION	Full Rate 1-74 cows	26.00
	Full Rate 75+ cows	13.00
	Payment by 31 st March 1-74 cows	13.00
	1-74 cows	6.50
CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP		20.00
Prefix Registration		10.00
Duplicate Registration Certificate		5.00
Extended Pedigree 5 Gen		20.00
REGISTRATION FEMALES		
Late/Individual Registration/No Birth Return received/No Capitation Fees paid		
	Up to 12 months old	40.00
	Up to 18 months	80.00
	Up to 24 months	110.00
	Over 24 months	150.00
Export Cert.	Bull	100.00
	Female	50.00

d) Publicity & Promotions Plan & Budget 2024

A paper outlining proposed activities and spend had been circulated.

There was considerable discussion on what activities should be actioned and those to be dropped.

Two points were agreed. Not to take a stand at Suffolk and Norfolk shows. Not to attend Beef Expo.

It was agreed to hold a meeting January/February 2024 by Zoom to clarify the financial situation at year end 2023 and look at what activities will be supported in 2024.

5. Dates for Future Meetings

13 th March 2024	Council
April 2024	AGM [Zoom]
8 th May 2024	Council
18 th September 2024	Council
6 th November 2024	Council

The above dates were provisionally agreed and it was confirmed that the AGM would take place as a Zoom meeting.

6. New Members

The following new members were elected to the Society following a proposal by Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mrs. Hide and agreed by those present.

Mr. J. Long, J.P. & C.J. Jenkin, Cornwall
E. & A. Mitchell, West Sussex

7. Any Other Business

a) Property Valuation

This would be done by the year end.

b) Redacted Minutes

These will be published on the website by the year end and more regularly thereafter once full minutes have been approved by Council.

c) Photo Gallery

These will be uploaded by the year end.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 15.45pm