



Fenland Goatkeepers & Smallholders Club
www.fgsc.org.uk

Minutes of Committee Meeting
Thursday 19th November 2009 at 7.30pm
West Walton Village Hall
Wisbech

Present

Shane Durston, Kim Webb, Sarah Sayers, Emma Durston, John Francis, Judith Hall, Stuart White, Roger Symonds, Theresa George.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Judith Hall & Tony Dudley

2. **Minutes of Last Meeting**

Approved with no amendments.

3. **Actions Arising from Last Meeting**

There was some discussion as to whether the vermin control talk should be an 'on site' workshop or and indoor meeting. It was decided that as there was no further information regarding the leather worker, the vermin talk would be booked for the April meeting. Shane to make contact. SD

Items and photographs for the club stand were still required.

Sheep shearing demonstration would go ahead in May at Shane and Emma's.

Roger had produced a list of Christmas party games.

All members had been sent a D T Brown seed catalogue. Information on ordering seed potatoes was included in the October newsletter.

Committee nominations had been received and would be printed in the next newsletter.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

Balances as at year end 31st October.

Current Account	£ 1035.85
Savings Account	£ 1452.44
Cash	£ 12.78

The committee discussed the draft year end accounts which have yet to be passed to the accountant.

As interest was negligible, Sarah asked if savings account monies could be transferred to the current account. This would make account administration easier.

5. **Meetings and Events**

November – Meat Inspector. What they look for both pre and post mortem and advice on travelling.

December 13th – Christmas Party.

January – AGM

February - Talk by Norfolk Farm Vets – subject to be agreed. Membership would be asked via newsletter whether there was anything specific they wanted the vet to include.

March – member Brian Peacock would be asked to give a talk on wine from the grape. He could also do a talk at another meeting on wild boar.

April – Possibly advice on vermin control.

May – Sheep shearing demonstration and general sheep husbandry..

The National Trust had asked for Smallholders and rural crafts people to attend their country fair on Sunday 27th June 2010. This would be discussed further. ALL

6. **Christmas Party**

Roger produced a list of Christmas party games and these were allocated as follows:

Splat the Rat (**Stuart**), Pin the Tail on the Donkey (**Emma**), What's in the Bag? (**Theresa**), What's Missing from the Table? (**Sarah**), Photographing Participants in a Santa Beard (**Roger**), Bowl the Skittle (**John**), Bowling for Whisky (**Shane**), Shove a Penny (**Tony**), I Went to Market (**Janet**).

In addition **Judith** would be asked to organise a lucky dip for the children and **Tiff** would be asked to dress as Father Christmas, T&JH

As 'guests' arrived they would be asked for £1 for which they would receive the equivalent in pennies. These pennies would then be used to participate in the games. At the end of the afternoon any unwanted pennies could be deposited in a bucket for club funds.

All committee members would be asked to supply £5 in pennies. ALL

As there would not be enough room for the tables required for the customary buffet lunch, refreshments would be in the format of the usual monthly meetings with a festive theme (mince pies, Christmas cake, punch etc) TG

7. **Bulk Seed Orders**

Stuart had posted D T Brown seed catalogues to all members. His company had borne the postage cost of 72p per catalogue.

8. **BGS Affiliation**

Sarah advised that she had not received an invoice for our British Goat Society affiliation fee. Sarah would look into this and also clarify the benefits of affiliation to our members. This could SS

then be made more widely known in the newsletter.

9. **Ideas Received**

None.

10. **Any Other Business**

Sarah asked if monies for advertisers could be due by 1st September. This should ensure that all revenue was received before our financial year end. Any new advertisers not receiving a full year of adverts would be invoiced pro-rata to ensure that all monies were due at the same time. The committee were in agreement.

John advised that the Harvest Lunch had raised £80 for the Sue Ryder Foundation.

Theresa advised that whilst she did hold a food hygiene certificate, she wasn't sure if members supplying cakes should also hold one. Stuart would investigate.

SW

Shane suggested that the item 'subs to be reviewed' be added to the AGM agendas.

Shane suggested the idea of a two tier membership fee - £10 for those paying by standing order and £12.50 otherwise. Not all the committee were in agreement.

11. **Date of Next Committee Meeting**

Thursday 21st January 2010 (for committee to discuss audited accounts prior to AGM)
Thursday 18th February 2010 (first meeting of 2010 committee).

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 22:00 hrs.

Distribution

All committee members via email. All FGSC members via the newsletter.