

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
ROYAL JERSEY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

**Held on Thursday 20th April 2017 at 7.30 pm,
in the Members Room at the Royal Jersey Showground**

Item 1) Welcome and to receive apologies for absence:

The President welcomed members to the AGM noting that the full set of agenda papers had been posted on the Society web site and drew members attention to the new format of the printed Annual Report. He also warmly welcomed five past Presidents to the meeting and Mrs Jane Harvey who had recently joined the office staff.

Present: Mr Ian Mitchell (President & Chairman), Mr Paul Houzé (Vice President, Agricultural Dept.), Mr Graham de Gruchy (Vice President, Horticultural Dept), Mr Christopher H Taylor (Treasurer, Agricultural Dept), Mr Alan Le Troquer (Treasurer, Horticultural Dept), Mr James W Godfrey (Chief Executive & Secretary of the Society, who took the minutes), Mr David Hambrook (Manager, Jersey Island Genetics), Mrs Louise Agnès (Secretary, Horticultural Department), Mr David Cottrell (Assistant Manager, Jersey Island Genetics), Mrs Jane Harvey. Mr Laurence Agnès, Mrs Collette Bisson, Mrs Jane Blackie, Mr Alasdair Crosby, Mr Derek de Gruchy, Mrs Graham de Gruchy, Mr Max de la Haye (Hon Life Member) & Mrs de la Haye, Mr Derrick Frigot (Past President & Hon. Life Member), Mrs Christine Gill, Mr Daniel Goddard, Mrs Nance Hicklin, Miss Vicky Huelin, Mr Charles Le Cornu (Past President & Hon. Life Member), Mr John Le Feuvre (Past President & Hon. Life Member), Mr Steve Le Feuvre (Past President), Mrs Suzanne Le Feuvre, Mr Andrew Le Gallais, Mr Ricky Leith, Mrs Jennifer McMullon, Mr John McMullon, Mr Tim Pallot, Mr Vernon Pallot, Mr & Mrs Robert Perchard, Mr Tom Perchard, Dr David Pope, Mr Martin Preisig, Mr Barry Raven, Mr David Reynolds, Mr Lewis Rondel (Past President), Mr Martin Rouault, Mr Derek Russell, Mr Peter Williams. Also present was Mr Don Connolly of Messrs Alex Picot (the Society auditors).

Apologies: The Lieutenant Governor of Jersey, the Bailiff of Jersey Mr William Bailhache, Mr & Mrs Peter Andrieux, Mrs J Frigot, Mrs Helen McGugan, Mr & Mrs Brian Ashplant, Mr Neil Fauvel, Mr Kevin Roberts, Mr & Mrs Graham Querée, Miss Becky Houzé, Mrs Rosemary Boleat, Mrs Joanne Dauny, Miss Victoria Le Feuvre, Mr Hugh Gill, Mrs Muriel Le Gresley (Honorary Life Member), Mr John Hidrio (Hon. Life Member), Mrs Barbara Hidrio, Mr Michael Blackie, Mr & Mrs Colin de la Haye.

Item 2) To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on 28th April 2016:

The minutes were approved on the proposition of Mr Derrick Frigot and seconded by Mr Martin Rouault with all in favour and were duly signed.

Item 3) To discuss any matters arising from the minutes:

Mr Steve Le Feuvre queried the number of times the Agricultural General Committee had met during the year which Mr Godfrey confirmed as being five. Mr Houzé elaborated on how a number of issues which affected a broader range of people, for example cattle show exhibitors, were being addressed at 'open meetings' of all concerned rather than at meetings of the committee. Mr Le Gallais followed up with the same question relating to Jersey Island Genetics and Mr Godfrey explained that the company had held a similar number of meetings and that the two bodies were considering how best to avoid duplication of work in future.

Item 4) To receive the Annual President's, Treasurer's and Departmental Reports for 2016:

The President noted that these reports had been circulated in the new format of a printed magazine to which there was much positive comment. Mr John Le Feuvre proposed the adoption of the reports and congratulated the President on the way in which he had conducted the anniversary year. Mr Le Gallais seconded echoing the sentiments and in particular drawing attention to the President's remarks in his report on the future direction of the breed. He also congratulated the President and Council on the bold decisions to invest in the real estate of the Showground. Mr Graham de Gruchy spoke of the successful show season which had seen an increase in participation. The reports were unanimously adopted.

Item 5) To receive the consolidated accounts for the Society for the year ending 31st December 2016:

The President welcomed Mr Don Connolly, from Society auditors Messrs Alex Picot, who presented the accounts and commented on the audit process.

Mr Connolly explained that the audit had gone well and that his firm were happy with the processes and controls within the Society office and that the accounts showed a true and accurate record of the financial position of the Society. He drew members' attention to the exceptional expenditure on the anniversary of the Jersey Herd Book and how this had been made within a previously agreed budget. He felt the results were good and close to 'break even' allowing for the exceptional item and the best for many years. It was clear that the Council's strategy to grow revenues from the Showground and bear down on costs were delivering the desired results.

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Mr Taylor, in stepping down as Honorary Treasurer of the Agricultural Department, thanked Mr Godfrey and all the staff for their hard work and support without which it would not have been possible to achieve the continually improving financial results. The President thanked Mr Taylor and Mr Connolly for their presentation and there were no questions on the accounts which were duly received on the proposition of Mr Ricky Leith and seconded by Mr Rob Perchard.

Item 6) To elect a President for the Society to serve a three year term (2017 to 2019 inclusive):

The President reported that one nomination had been received for Mr Rob Perchard, proposed by Mr Derrick Frigot and seconded by Mr Paul Houzé. Mr Frigot, in proposing Mr Perchard, spoke of his previous service to the Society in many capacities, his success in the family farming business at La Ferme and with the Jersey Royal Potato Company. Mr Houzé was delighted to second the proposition speaking of the regard in which Mr Perchard is held for the way he had developed the business at La Ferme. The President declared that with no further nominations received Mr Perchard was duly elected President. Mr Perchard thanked his proposers and commented on his priorities for the future as being; financial stability, continuation of provision of dairy services, development of the breed, supporting the Society shows and promoting membership.

Item 7) To elect a Treasurer for the Agricultural Dept to serve a three year term (2017 to 2019 inclusive):

The Chairman reported that one nomination had been received for Mr Steve Le Feuvre, proposed by Mr Derrick Frigot and seconded by Mr Chris Taylor. Mr Frigot, in proposing Mr Le Feuvre, spoke of his outstanding record of service to the Society, going back to 1982, and his accomplishments in the shows of both departments. He remarked on his extensive experience, including currently serving as Treasurer of the World Jersey Cattle Bureau. The Chairman declared that, with no further nominations received, Mr Le Feuvre was duly elected Treasurer. Mr Le Feuvre thanked his proposers and commented on how he wished to look at streamlining the finances and promoting the relevance of the Society to a wider public.

Item 8) To elect two members to the Council; one to serve a term of three years (2017 to 2019) and one to complete the remaining year of Mr Goguelin's term (2015 to 2017):

The Chairman reported that one nomination had been received for Mr Peter Williams, proposed by Mr Derrick Frigot and seconded by Mr Ian Mitchell, to serve the three year term and a second nomination for Mr David Leng, proposed by Mr Ian Mitchell and seconded by Mr Philip Le Maistre, to serve the one year term. The relevant proposers spoke of Mr Williams' valuable experience in the finance industry and Mr Leng's involvement with the dairy farming business at Blanc Pignon. The Chairman declared that with no further nominations received two gentlemen were duly elected.

Item 9) To elect two members to the Agricultural General Committee for a three year term (2017 to 2019):

The Chairman reported that two nominations had been received; one for Mr Charlie Le Boutillier, proposed by Mr Ricky Leith and seconded by Mr Paul Houzé, and one for Mr Laurence Agnès, proposed by Mr Lewis Rondel and seconded by Mr Ricky Leith. Following speeches from the proposers the Chairman declared the two nominees duly elected.

Item 10) To elect two members to the Horticultural General Committee for a three year term (2017 to 2019):

The Chairman reported that two nominations had been received; one for Mr Martin Rouault, proposed by Mr Graham de Gruchy, and seconded by Mr Kevin Roberts, and one for Mr Graham Quéré, proposed by Mr Graham de Gruchy and seconded by Mr Graham Stephens. Following speeches from the proposers the Chairman declared the two nominees duly elected.

Item 11) To approve the annual subscription to be effective from 1st January 2018:

The Chairman explained that the Council were recommending that the subscriptions remain at the current rates being Full Membership at £27, Joint Membership at £40.50 and Junior Membership at £7. The recommendation was proposed for adoption by Mr John Le Feuvre and seconded by Mr Martin Rouault with all in favour.

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Item 12) Any other business:

History of the Jersey Herd Book: Mr Godfrey advised the meeting that a book celebrating 150 years of the Jersey Herd Book, authored by Mr Derrick Frigot, was due for publication by the Society shortly.

Honorary Life Membership: The Chairman made the presentation of Honorary Life Membership to Mrs Collette Bisson explaining that the Council had decided that Collette's record of support for the work of the Society over so many years was exemplary. She has been a regular exhibitor at shows, both cattle and horticultural, she has organised the animal farm display, served as President of the Jersey Poultry & Ornithological Society and reported on the activities of the Society through her role at the Jersey Evening Post. Collette accepted the award and thanked the Council saying that it had always been a pleasure to help the Society.

Presentation to Mr Chris Taylor: The Chairman presented Mr Taylor with a signed print of a Jersey cow in recognition and thanks for his nine years service as Treasurer. The members were extremely grateful for his diligent stewardship through some tumultuous times and the Society was in a much more secure state.

Vote of thanks: Mr Houzé proposed a vote of thanks for Mr Ian Mitchell for his service as President over the last three years to much applause. He commented on the achievements of Mr Mitchell's term including the real estate projects, the focus on finances, and the successful celebrations of 150 years of the Jersey Herd Book. Mr Houzé presented Mr Mitchell with a bronze statue of the head of a Jersey Cow, sculptured by John McKenna. Mr Mitchell reflected on his term saying how quickly it had passed and paid tribute to all the people involved with the Society, its members, committees and staff.

There was no other business raised and the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

These minutes were signed subsequently, on adoption, on the (date) by:

The President / Chairman:

Vice President (Agricultural Dept):

Vice President (Horticultural Dept):