

Minutes - The Suffolk Breed Cat Club Annual General Meeting Sunday 7th May 2017

Chairman: Mr Charlie Spendlove

Present: Secretary Mrs L Spendlove, Vice-Chairman Miss A. Spendlove, Mr R and Mrs L Earle-Mitchell, Mrs Pamela Sharp-Popple

Apologies for Absence: Catherine Kay, Elizabeth Stark, Lynda Ashmore, Sue Amor, Janice Attard, Tracy Lander and Stella Stanlake

Minutes of the previous meeting: Simon Neesam's name was incorrectly spelt, this was corrected and the minutes were signed off.

Matters Arising: Tracey had donated a small amount of money, which has been used to purchase a trophy to be presented at the Supreme Show. Kevin Workman also offered a trophy for the club. Linda asked for ideas as to future trophy presentations. Pamela suggested that one was used for the person who put the most into everything for the Suffolk cats.

Correspondence: Simon Neesam has sent the web page details he has been working on and had offered his services free. For which the committee thanked him. Kevin Workman had offered to work along side him to help.

Last year Pamela and Linda had presented a stall at the Suffolk Show to promote the breed, supported by Julian Stuller, a world judge from Australia, and she had sent a lovely letter to thank every one for making her so welcome and for the lovely time she had.

Linda had received a facebook message from Nimby Carter to make the club aware of a new book that Royal Canin were working on. And although these leads were followed they failed to follow up on the offer of including the Suffolk.

Chairman's Report

As circulated

Secretary's Report

As circulated

Treasurer's Report.

Linda has been filling this space as Emil had found it too hard to commit to the club due to working offshore. The committee asked Anna if she would find out if he wished to continue as he had as yet been unable to attend any meetings. The committee will wait to hear from Emil and then reconsider a short term solution until next year. Although postage is expensive it was considered favourable in the club's early years and a Christmas card was sent out to all members with a news letter. Pamela had established

a club to support the Suffolk but through ill health had disbanded it, and in the process handed over her membership details and donated the funds already accumulated to the SBCC. Linda wrote to all these members and four joined the SBCC.

Merit and Expectations for 2017.

There were several club members at the meeting who were actively showing and working towards qualifying their cats and it is hoped that the magic number of 15 cats will be reached by July of this year. There had been a few hiccups with Dorothy Tams Suffolk cats and she had managed to show one girl under the same judge so the 5 merits she had already achieved didn't count. She had also neutered a stud boy without consultation with his breeder. It was explain how important it was to check who would be judging and also if there were any last minute judge changes as you are able to appeal on the show day for another judge to sign off your certificate. All merits will count when we submit to council and the most merited cat so far is Poolside Rhoda owned by Tracey Lander in Cornwall.

Eastpoint Maia Mystic Melody had been withheld at the Bedford and Cambridge Show by Phil Cornish and when her owner questioned his decision as her litter siblings had been given theirs by him, he was very rude and disheartening for this novice competitor.

Linda Ashmore awarded the same cat a first in a side class putting her above two of the merited cats. Everything would need to be submitted asap once everything had been completed, with the hope it could be put before the October Delegate Council Meeting. It seemed very unlikely that the breed would make progression by the Supreme. It has taken the Australian Mist 15 years to achieve what we are working towards so we are doing very well in the scheme of things. Simon Ife queried the merit situation, for which Linda had the record book of the achievements so far to show him. Both Dee Baines (CHOCILAC) and Linda Allum (EGYPTO) have been given their new prefixes, showing commitment to the breed.

Update on Web Page

Simon explained to the club his progress so far and explained it needed populating, it needs to have a testimonial section, Kevin offered to help and we are able to use his fabulous photographs to make it stand out.

Breeding Programme 2017-2018

Dee expressed that she would like to hold her own stud and the need for introducing the illusive lilac gene was discussed.

Linda, Lisa ,Anna and Dee are all working within the out-cross programme, with Clair Harding Brown and Sarah Bilyard both hoping to have litters to support this in 2018. Kerry Dent, Tracey Lander, Linda Allum, Lisa Preston, Linda Spendlove and Pamela Sharp-Popple are all expecting full Suffolk kittens this year. It is very important that people are encouraged to support and breed as it only takes 2 or 3 problems in a Rare Breed programme to have a devastating effect. There have been global enquiries from Australia, Portugal, Russia and America. But we have problems with the foreign

registries excepting the Suffolk cats at the moment. We need to work on this in the coming years for the sake of the Havana breed in general around the world.

A letter had been sent to the GCCF to ask for a change in the RP do to several studs being neutered. Linda read this to the meeting.

Election of Committee

Justin Dorling had asked to step down from the committee as he had been unable to make any of the meetings.

Robert Earle-Mitchell mentioned that due to his change of employment and relocation he might find it hard to attend future meetings and was considering standing down.

Lynne Shirley, Dee Baines and Kevin Workman all offered to join the committee.

Election of Auditor

Emma Dorling had give her time for free and the committee thanked her for this. She was happy to continue for another year.

A.O.B.

There would be a requirement for a BAC for the breed, it might be good to perhaps be part of the Short Haired Cat Society BAC. This would need to be looked into. We also need to complete a Breeding Policy for the website and GCCF. John Hansson suggested we use the Australian Mist BP as a guide.

Meeting finished at 4.45pm