**SVS Executive Committee Meeting**

**18th November 2019**

President Nick Hart opened the meeting at 20.05

**Present:**  Hazel Rice (HR), Yoav Alony-Gilboa (YA), Heather Stevenson (HS), Mark Thompson (MT), Tricia Sutton, (TS), Clare Phythian (CP), Amanda Carson (AC), Nick Hart (NH), Rachel Foster (RF), Amy Jennings (AJ), Hannah Kenway (HK)

**1. Apologies:** Davinia Hinde (DH), Moyna Richey (MR)

**2. Minutes of last meeting:**

Held on 8th September 2019

Minutes approved as being correct:

Proposed:

Seconded:

**3. Matters Arising:**

a) There was discussion on how best to progress the production of a map showing the practice locations of SVS members. YA suggested using the Yahoo group to encourage people to sign up and AC advised that anyone wishing to be included on the map should respond with their practice details. HR commented that only around 50% of members are on the Yahoo group and that not all have up to date email addresses. HS suggested using the president’s letter that is sent out with the conference booking information. AJ agreed to look into how a map could be produced.

**Action: HR, AJ**

b) DH had provided TS with contact details for an accountant who may audit the SVS accounts. TS to approach them.

**Action: TS**

c) NH reported on the Red Tractor meeting held on 7/11/19. The standards are under review for completion by October 2021.

d) NH spoke to George Caldow regarding the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme. 24 flocks have added sheep (87) with inappropriate paperwork. The rules are being re-written to make it clear that only a vet can take the samples and that specific laboratories must be used. NH is trying to arrange a meeting with the CVO to discuss the issue.

**Action:** **NH**

e) JP Crilly and Julian Earl were suggested by NH and YA as possible recipients of SVS awards. HS circulated details of the awards and previous recipients.

f) DH had approached AHDB regarding funding for parasitology road shows. A written plan needs to be submitted to progress this further. A workshop at the spring meeting was proposed as a good starting point however AJ wondered if AHDB may not wish to finance that. TS suggested repeating any workshop in autumn. DH will liaise with AHDB and see what they would be happy with. NH will discuss with DH

 **Action: DH, NH**

**4. Specific Items:**

a) HR will check with MR/PP about sending a letter in November/December to members to encourage volunteers to speak on interesting cases. Crumlin Road Gaol has been booked for the conference dinner.

**Action: HR**

b) NH went to the most recent meeting of the Goat Veterinary Society. Attendance was low and it will be difficult for them to sustain 2 meetings a year. The last joint meeting was in Skipton. NH will speak to PP/MR and Nick Perkins about offering them a couple of speaker slots in September.

**Action: NH**

c) The research grant was advertised in 2017 but no grant was awarded. It was advertised again in 2018 with a closing date of December 31st 2018 and money was awarded. It was agreed to advertise it again with a closing date of 31/3/20. HS will arrange for a notice to be put in the Vet Record and HR will add to website.

**Action: HR/HS**

d) Yahoo is changing shortly and NH suggested trying Slack. An email link will be sent.

**Action: NH**

e) There was general discussion about whether or not SVS should have a Facebook page. AC said that it could either be restricted to members only, or be open to allow advertising of events such as Talking Sheep meetings. HR commented that SVS has a Twitter account that only HR posts to. Moredun have both but their Twitter account has more followers. If a Facebook page is launched then AC said it would be possible to have a couple of administrators who are allowed to post items. BCVA have both Twitter and Facebook.

f) Treasurers report – No problems at present.

g) NH had attended the RUMA conference and had spoken to the CVO about the proposed merger of SHAWG and CHAWG. There was also a long discussion of the subject at SHAWG. NH was concerned that the impression given was that the merger was a done deal and AC felt that it was being conducted behind closed doors. AHDB are undergoing restructuring and the way forward is not clear. AC requested that updates are sought from SVS representatives on SHAWG, Red Tractor, RUMA and SCOPS prior to every meeting.

**Action: HS**

h) There was discussion about the SVS policy groups and it was agreed that they should be checked and updated after every AGM. Once updated the information can be added to the website. Committee members were requested to email NH if they were interested in being part of a specific group.

**Action: ALL**

**5. Any other business**

a) Rafoxinide – A very good case will be required to import any further stocks of rafoxinde products. NH has a copy of a joint SCOPS/COWS letter for publication in the Vet Record.

b) Date of next meeting – it was suggested that this could be scheduled prior to the next BVA meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 21.30

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| **Action Point** | **Person Responsible** | **Completed** |
| Progress map showing practices of SVS members | HR/AJ |  |
| Contact accountant | TS |  |
| Talk to CVO about issues with SMS | NH |  |
| Look further into potential for AHDB funding of parasitology roadshows/workshops | DH/NH |  |
| Send letter to members | HR | Y |
| Speak to PP/MR and GVS about speaker slots in Sept. | NH |  |
| Advertise research grant | HR/HS |  |
| Send link to Slack | NH | Y |
| Contact SVS reps. for an update prior to every meeting | HS |  |
| Volunteer for and update SVS policy groups | ALL |  |
| **Action Points Carried Forward** |  |  |
| Circulate further constitution changes to members prior to 2020 AGM | HR |  |

H. Stevenson

Hon. Secretary