

West Shires Alpaca Group

Annual General Meeting

Date	24-Feb-2019
Location	Abberley Village Hall
Attendees	Iain Sharp, Anne Cheston, Pauline Key, Jay & Hilary Holland, Roger Mount, Julia & Adam Berry, Kevin & Janet Gittins, Paul & Janet Ireland, Sue Steadman, Betty Manley, Caroline Oakes, Trish Tatchell, Zoe Southall, Jacqueline & Philip Greenway, Nicola Wood, Catherine Wood, Ann Proctor, Viv Stone, Loraine & Andy Bassett, Maggie & Nathan Rivron, Kate Collyer, Rose & Michael Dukes, Liz Welch, Victoria Barrett, Sarah Vaughan
Apologies	Bridget & James Tibbs Hamilton, Mike Pearman, Harry Edwards,

Acceptance of 2018 Minutes
The minutes of the 2018 AGM are available and were accepted. Proposed: Phillip Greenway Seconded: Maggie Rivron

Matters Arising
There were no matters arising from the 2018 AGM minutes.

Chairman's Report – Roger Mount
The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, it was lovely to see almost half of the membership of the West Shires Alpaca Group present, particularly the many new members. It was noted that there were almost as many members present as there were at the last BAS AGM!
The group has run a number of events over last year including a talk by Paul Vallely on Fibre Analysis and Feeding for Fibre, the first of a series of informal afternoons talking about fibre, this first one focusing on hints and tips in obtaining your fibre, visits to farms. All of which have been well attended.
The recent neonatal course was also felt to be very useful by those that attended.

Treasurers Report				
We do have money!!				
The following is a summary of the income and expenditure over the last year:				
•	Opening balance	£4,704		
•	<i>Add income</i>	£11,146		
•	<i>Less expenditure</i>	£8,174		
•	Closing balance 22/02/19	£7,676		
Income summary by type:		Expenditure summary by type:		
Shows	£7,902	Shows	£6,629	
Sponsorships	£2,474	Courses	£207	
Subs	£540	Insurances	£430	
Courses	£230	Wireless Mic	£219	<i>one off cost</i>
		Website devt.	£648	<i>one off cost</i>
		Shovels/brushes/sundries	£41	
TOTAL	£11,146	TOTAL	£8,174	
The biggest costs incurred by the group are the two shows – The Royal Three Counties and The Midlands Championship Halter Show. Much of the costs for these shows need to be paid up front before the income is received so the group need a healthy bank balance in order to be able to host these shows.				

With a healthy bank balance the group will be able to continue to help support future events and to subsidise members attendance and group activities.

A lot of the income from the shows is by way of sponsorship. If anyone would like to sponsor the shows in any way, there are sponsorships to suit any budget then please mention it to a committee member.

Adoption of Accounts

The accounts were adopted.

Proposed: Roger Mount

Seconded: Caroline Oakes

Elections

Harry Edwards has stood down from the committee due to other commitments.

If any members would like to offer a little of their time and join the committee then please let a committee member know. Meetings are held in person and remotely by telephone so you do not have to be present at every meeting.

The position of group secretary has been vacant – Julia Berry was co-opted onto the committee to fulfil this role. Julia was duly elected by the group to join the committee

Proposed: Roger Mount

Seconded: Jay Holland

Web Site/Membership Renewal

The website has been redeveloped over the last year and has a new clean look. We will make use of it to advertise events and to inform you of any news. It also has a shop facility so that you can book onto activities and pay online if you wish.

It has been decided to change the membership from a fixed date renewal to a rolling year renewal. You will be sent an email when your membership is due for renewal and it can be paid via the website.

Future Program of Events

A number of events have already been planned for the year, including the second part of 'All About the Fibre' which will focus on how you can sell your fibre, have it processed or use it. There will also be a visit to a processing mill. It was also announced that the Royal Three Counties Show will include a craft competition this year. Watch out for the details in the Newsletter, on the website or on the Facebook page.

There are also a number of other possible events that could be organised. Members are to be asked which they would be interested in. These include Show and Tell Crafts, Paddock Maintenance, Basic Husbandry, Basic Handling, Making Breeding Decisions etc. If there is anything else members would be interested they can always let a committee member know.

Fibre Analysis Co-operative

Members were reminded of the value of fibre analysis to help with decisions about showing an animal or their fleece, how to use the fleece, breeding, tracking fleece quality over time for an animal. The group have an opportunity to significantly reduce the costs of sample analysis from £5.30 per sample plus a set up fee to £3.80 per sample. In order to benefit from these savings we need a minimum of 200 samples. If you are interested in participating please let us know.

AOB

Roger Mount reminded us that he offers a 10% discount to group members on mating fee's with any of his stud males.