

West Shires Alpaca Group

Annual General Meeting

Date	23-Feb-2020
Location	Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall
Attendees	Iain Sharp, Anne Cheston, Jay & Hilary Holland, Roger Mount, Julia & Adam Berry, Paul & Janet Ireland, Trish Tatchell & Nick Smith, Jacqueline & Philip Greenway, Catherine Wood, Rose & Michael Dukes, Liz Welch, Victoria & Tilly Barrett, Sarah Vaughan, Steve Powell, Melissa Jackaman, Denise & Mark Willott, Victoria & Tilly Barrett
Apologies	Ginnie Meakin, Nathan & Maggie Rivron, Sue, Guy & Lydia Herrington, Sean & Helen Taylor, Ann & James Price, Caroline & Ian Oakes, Liz & Shaun Eagles, Harry Edwards,

Acceptance of 2019 Minutes
The minutes of the 2019 AGM have been circulated and were accepted. Proposed: Victoria Barrett Seconded: Trish Tatchell

Matters Arising
There were no matters arising from the 2019 AGM minutes.

Chairman's Report – Roger Mount
Roger welcomed everyone to the meeting. He gave a review of a very good year with a number of events taking place (3 fibre focused sessions looking at processing fleece, what to do with your fleece and what the analysis/show results mean. We also held a neonatal course, basic husbandry afternoon and had a visit to Clivewood Mill. The Royal Three Counties Show went well although we needed extra tent space. We introduced the craft show which was well supported and provided a lovely display of articles all made with alpaca fibre. The Midlands Championship Halter Show was less well attended this year as several large breeders were not present due to TB breakdowns (need 120 entries to break even). We also held a winter social that was very well attended.

Treasurers Report					
Figures presented at the AGM were as follows:					
Year ending 23rd February 2020					
		<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>		
Opening balance		£4,704	£7,676		
<i>Add income</i>		£11,146	£8,750		
<i>Less expenditure</i>		£8,174	£9,285		
Closing balance		<u>£7,676</u>	<u>£7,141</u>	<i>*There is £665 of outstanding show sponsorships yet to be received</i>	
			<i>£7,806 Including outstanding sponsorship monies</i>		
Income summary by type:				<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Shows	£ 7,902.00	£4,410		£ 6,629	£ 5,647
Sponsorships	£ 2,080.00	£2,240		£ -	£ 480
Subs	£ 540.00	£740		£ 206.84	£ 1,579
Other	£ 624.08	£1,360		£ 430.00	£ 430
				£ 907.60	£ 1,149
TOTAL	<u>£11,146</u>	<u>£8,750</u>	TOTAL	<u>£8,174</u>	<u>£9,285</u>

The 2019 closing balance is £7141 vs £7676 Prior Year (PY), however there are some outstanding sponsorship monies, £665 which when recovered would increase closing balance at £7806. This is a very healthy position and allows the group to operate and to fund a comprehensive schedule of events including show activities.

Points to note:

INCOME

Income is down vs PY, but this is masked to some extent as WSAG made more use of BAS's VAT registration (which we are able to do as a BAS affiliated regional group) to pay for large costs such as venue costs for Midland halter show for example. The effect of doing this is that that we receive residual income after paying costs. In 2018 we received gross income from BAS and paid the all costs inclusive of VAT ourselves which is less efficient.

A principal risk is maintaining show entries at a level which allows shows to break even. The 2019 year was particularly challenging as there were potential large show entries under TB restrictions which prevented them from showing, thus reducing income. Further, a new show came onto the show calendar close to the Midland show date which may also have impacted show entries.

EXPENDITURE

The group has been very active during 2019, much more so than in previous years, and as a result has incurred a greater level of expense than in previous years.

We believe that holding a balance in excess of £7000 is prudent and ensures that the group can underwrite any show costs as they fall due. We also recognise that the principal aim of the group is to deliver membership value and not profit and so we will aim to maintain the balance around this level each year whilst running an attractive schedule of added value and sometimes subsidised member events.

Adoption of Accounts

The accounts were adopted.

Proposed: Paul Ireland

Seconded: Catherine Wood

Elections

Pauline Key has stood down from the committee due to other commitments. The group were grateful for all her help and small gift and card will be sent to Pauline.

Liz Welch has volunteered to join the committee.

Proposed: Roger Mount

Seconded: Jay Holland

Future Program of Events

A session discussing how to make breeding decisions has been scheduled for 7th March 2020 at Snowhill Alpacas.

Other proposals are an Alpaca Handling Session, Parasite Workshop, TB – Debunking the Myths and further Husbandry activities. Roger may also hold an open-day as he has a marquee on site for another purpose (Pug Club Meeting!)

If anyone has any other ideas of events they would like they were asked to let a committee member know.

Fibre Analysis Co-operative

The fibre analysis co-operative was run last year and we managed to get sufficient samples to gain a considerable saving for those participating.

We have negotiated an even better price this year of £3.60 per sample (no set up costs). But this is dependent on us getting more than 200 samples. Members will be asked to commit to how many samples they would like analysed by AAFT.

The results of your fibre analysis can help inform decisions about showing animals or fleece, use of the fleece, breeding decisions and tracking the quality of fleece for each animal over time.

AOB

There were no other points raised.

The meeting was closed and a very informative talk was given by Sam Lane of Cotswold Seeds on how to manage your pasture.