

CAMBRIA CAT CLUB

Annual General Meeting - Sunday 27th March 2011 at The Hero's Room, Newport Centre, Newport - commencing at 2.00pm.

AGENDA

The Chairman, Angela Evans, welcomed everyone to the 2011 A.G.M. of the Cambria Cat Club and on behalf of the committee, thanked them all for attending.

1. Apologies for absence:

Brenda Hollandt, Anna Virtue, Lady Bruce-Gardiner, Mr and Mrs Ceci, Mrs Julia Oughtbridge, Yve and Ken Crooks, Vanessa Nash, Mrs Grace Wylde, Mrs Liz Kasamun, Mr Malcolm Brace, Mrs Bronwen Keeling, Linda Burton

Present:

Miss Claire Lewis, Mr Ken Williams, Mrs Angela Evans, Miss Charis White, Mrs Lyn Hudson, Mrs Sandra Humphreys, Mrs Jackie Steele, Mrs Gail Millar, Mrs T Hart, Mr Neil Wiles, Mrs Paula Simms

2. Approval of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 28th March 2010.

Approved by: Charis White; Seconded by: Claire Lewis

The Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising from 2010 AGM

There was one matter arising which related to a presentation Dragon which belongs to the Club. This has now been returned to the club from Margret and Tony Horrobin. Charis White is currently holding it for safe keeping.

4. Chairman's Report - Angela Evans

Angela Evans: "Our 26th Show held at Thornbury Leisure Centre on Saturday 9th October 2010 ran very smoothly indeed. The atmosphere was very good and everyone seemed to enjoy the occasion. Unfortunately it ran at a loss but our committee is working extremely hard to make sure this will not happen at our next show.

Mrs Ann Stubbs, a member of our committee, has asked for a 'gap' year from serving on our committee, which we are happy for her to do and we look forward to her return.

As a committee we felt we needed additional people to serve and I am pleased to report that three current members of the Cambria Cat Club had put their names forward. They are Mrs Elisabeth Kasamun, Mr Neil Wiles and Mr Malcolm Brace. Mr Wiles is officially welcomed and will attend his first committee meeting after the AGM. Unfortunately Liz and Malcolm are not able to attend today and send their apologies. At our last committee meeting on 26th January 2011, it was agreed that the Cambria Cat Club will affiliate to the GCCF as we felt this is the way forward and a letter has been signed to this effect.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank, most sincerely:

- Jackie, our Secretary, for the tremendous works she carries out to make everything run smoothly.

- Ken, our Treasurer, for keeping meticulous financial details of our three accounts and his work as Membership Secretary
- Charis for her work promoting our website and introducing the welfare page.
- Claire for keeping us informed about the work of the GCCF through her reports as Delegate and for kindly collecting the 'Cambria Dragon'
- I should also like to thank Sandra, Linda, and Lyn who have such knowledge of the current affairs in the cat world.

We are indeed very fortunate to have such an enthusiastic and fully committed committee. With the exception of Lyn (who has stood down due to personal commitments - and I would like to thank her for all her help over the years) the remainder of the committee remains the same.

This year our 27th Annual Show will take place on Saturday 9th October at Thornbury Leisure Centre and we look forward to working with Lisa, John and Elaine, our Show Managers, to make this a worthwhile success again."

5. Treasurer's Report - Ken Williams

Ken had produced a copy of the Club accounts and went on to explain these to all present. The accounts had been taken to Louise our accountant to verify prior to the meeting but there were a few minor anomalies that Louise wanted to go over – mainly to do with the show account, before she signed them off. Ken suggested that if next year Lisa our show manager could close the accounts off on 31st December they would tie in with his accounts and make it easier for Louise to action. Gail asked about the accounts and Ken went on to say that Louise had thought it would be a much better idea if the Current and the High Interest accounts were merged, In times gone by when the Club had more monies it stood to gain more by moving money to the High Interest account. Now that interest rates are low it is pointless to hold both accounts. Lyn also supported the idea of a single account as being sound. Neil asked if the accounts cost us anything to manage. Ken said they did not. A discussion followed mainly about the show and ways of saving money and trying to ensure the show does not run at a loss this year. Lots of ideas were put forward and questioned raised regarding the raffle etc. It was decided that all this would be discussed at the committee meeting and a plan of action drawn up.

As it stands at the 27th March 2011, the accounts stand at:

Current Account: £ 783.47
 Welfare Account: £ 508.77
 High Interest Account: £1,024.24

As of 27th January 2011:

Show Account: £335.00

Total: £2651.48

Membership Secretary's report - Ken Williams

In Ken's second role he revealed that there are currently 107 members made up of:

Single: 72 Juniors: 1 Seniors: 34

The figures for last year which had been omitted in error were:

Single: 88 Juniors: 1 Seniors: 46 Total: 135 members.

Ken explained that a lot of members choose to pay their membership with their entry to the show, hence the membership being lower at this time.

Ken also explained that on looking through the catalogue, some exhibitors had said they were members but were not actually paid up. He will rectify this in the 2011 show by giving Lisa a current list and asking her to check. It was agreed that some more monies could have been made from this.

Angela thanked Ken for all his work.

Appointment of auditor

Proposed by Charis White and seconded by Sandra Humphreys that we appoint Louise again for this year.

6. Secretary's report - Jackie Steele

Not a very busy time; everything is ticking over in preparation for the next Show.

Website report - Charis White

Charis is responsible for managing the Club website but it is run for the Club by Colin Nash – who makes all the additions, amendments and updates on request from Committee members. This includes details of the annual show, schedules and entry forms, etc. The site provides an opportunity for members to advertise themselves as breeders, using their own banners, and also advertise their kittens free of charge as part of their membership. Members can also advertise older cats they need homes for, as well as stud cats they have available.

The Committee wants to make it a more useful and informative site for its members by providing information and posting articles. Any potential contributions are welcome.

The Club is also trying to save money where it can – so where possible, it will take the opportunity to put items such as the AGM notification information and agenda, previous Minutes, etc. on the website, rather than sending them to the members – thus saving money on stationery and postage. The Club is actively encouraging members to subscribe to these items through the website, and a database of members' email addresses is being compiled to send out such information. At the same time, the Club respects the fact that a number of members cannot access the internet for a variety of reasons and the Committee welcomes contact from these members, updating any personal detail changes, to ensure that they are kept fully up to date by post.

7. GCCF Delegate's Report - Claire Lewis

Claire Lewis: "I have attended 2 out of the 3 meetings since the last AGM and our substitute Lyn Hudson attended the other meeting which I unfortunately could not attend.

Again, it has been a momentous year for the GCCF. We are now members of a GCCF which is a limited company although the word limited is not used in the title. Radical changes are being made to the structure to try and bring it in line to the present century. Finance continues to be a great worry. The IT system needs to be updated to allow on line registrations and this will cost a lot of money. There is a proposal that each club loans the GCCF money in a fixed 5 year bond to finance this.

At the last meeting on the 2nd March, a change to the show structure was voted through which means from 1st June, cats will only be allowed to enter the relevant Open class if they have not already achieved the title i.e. Champions will not be allowed to enter the Open, Imperials will not be allowed to enter the Grand but all will be entered for the BOB. There will also be a new title of Olympian for Imperial cats which they can gain at different levels. All the detail and further information will now be available via the GCCF website as one of the aims is to widen the communication between outcome of meetings and club members, e.g. a BLOG to feedback on Council and other meetings.

In June, at the Electoral meeting, there will also be discussion and voting on Executives' proposal to split the sections in a show and to update steward and judge training. Again information will be available via the GCCF website. Council Delegates are very keen to ensure the GCCF survives in these difficult times. The Council Meetings continue to be long and sometimes very tedious when sorting out all the detail. People are though, working very, very hard both in the various committees and outside them-all unpaid and in their own time. I am very proud to be the Delegate for the Cambria Club and to help and assist in any way I can."

After the report was read a discussion again followed. Claire explained that the proposal for the new Olympian classes when originally voted on was opposed and withdrawn when she left the meeting at 5.15pm but subsequently the Chair then asked for a revote on this policy – second time around it was voted in favour. Both Gail and Neil asked how this could be done and if it would happen. Unfortunately the new Rules and classes are due to start 1st June 2011 and the next Council meeting is not until after this date.

Gail also explained that some breed clubs did not let their members know what was happening regarding the breeding policy etc. Area clubs decided it was a breed issue. In general it was still felt that it was the breed club responsibility and that it was something that should be broached with them.

Claire also explained that when she went to a Council meeting some of the important points for discussion on the agenda seemed to be put at the end so there was less time for discussion. One proposal coming up concerns the revamping of the Breed sections and about training of stewards and judges so the approaching June meeting will be attended with interest. A further discussion followed.

At this point a lengthy discussion followed regarding the letter from the GCCF asking all clubs including the Cambria to loan them monies to help finance the update on their computer system. It was agreed, as the Club was not wealthy at present, that a token gesture could be made and a unanimous vote was that the amount of £50 should be offered which could be reviewed at the next AGM. Neil also suggested that we have an update on the progress of this system prior to the AGM so we could inform our members.

Angela thanked Claire for her report and her hard work.

8. Welfare Report - Linda Burton was absent so Jackie read the report:

The welfare fund has now risen to £508.77. Over £300 was made from the Chocolate Raffle stall and presents at the 2010 Show. As this proved quite a success we intend to do the same in 2011. Jackie Steele thanked everyone for their donations.

We gave out donations from the Welfare Fund: one to Mrs Margaret Harris at Catwel in Cardiff, to which we also gave all the food samples donated from the 2010 show; one to the two ladies in Port Talbot who look after all the cats left due to the steel works closure and one to Siamese Rescue. Jackie was also contacted by Cat Protection to help in re-homing 2 British Blue cats that had been signed over to them from a lady having to give up a lot of animals. The cats were neutered and wormed and treated for fleas before going to their new homes. Jackie is very grateful to the Cambria for helping with the vet's bill. We also gave a funded stall table to Persian Rescue once more at our 2010 show.

9. Show Manager's Report for the Cambria 2010 show - Lisa Talboys was absent - read out by Jackie

"It was the Cambria Cat Club's 26th Annual Show in 2010. Judging by all the wonderful feedback that both we and the committee have had, it was another great success. From a Show Managers point of view, everything seemed to run very smoothly. We were VERY short of table workers, but they valiantly worked through and had everything done and dusted without any hold-ups. The judges and stewards all seemed to enjoy their day, and many commented on the high quality of the cats. The stall area seemed very busy all day, with many people seen leaving the hall laden down with bags and boxes. The Club raffle was run by Neil Wiles and Paula Simms who stepped in to assist only 7 days before the show, with a fantastic array of prizes – many thanks to them.

As you can see from the accounts the Show incurred a loss in 2010, this is a visible trend across all shows and something your show team is monitoring. We are looking at cutting costs where possible, whilst keeping standards high. We were (at the start of the year) looking to allow MEMBERS to enter either the Grand or Imperial for FREE, however since the recent GCCF Delegates meeting with the new Olympian classes and respective class restrictions, we can no longer offer this as an option! although this could all change again before our next show.

On a personal note your Show Team would like to thank all our exhibitors for their support, and our grateful thanks go to the Cambria Committee who were once again a pleasure to work with, they are all extremely hard working, and will do their utmost to ensure the Cambria Cat Club continued success."

There followed a long discussion after the report about ways to cut costs. Neil and Paula outlined an idea for an online auction to bring in some revenue. This was thought to be an excellent idea. Paula had also made chocolate dragons to show and let us taste. This was an idea to sell and maybe give as judges' presents. Ken also commented about show schedules only being sent to last year's exhibitors. It was agreed that they should be sent - be it by post or via email to all current members. This will be discussed with Lisa.

A further discussion also followed about the show coming back to Wales and Angela explained that last year we had 70 'Welsh' exhibitors and 246 from the English side of the Severn Bridge. Sandra talked about the research she had done regarding the Newport Leisure Centre. It was agreed that in the present climate it would be risky to

move the show from Thornbury which seemed to be a firm favourite with the exhibitors and where the Centre is able to cater well for the volume of both traffic and exhibitors. All further discussion including a clear forward plan will be continued via the committee meetings.

10. Election of Committee Members

As the committee numbers had fallen it was decided to ask three more members to join us. Malcolm Brace, Liz Kasamun and Neil Wiles have all joined us on the committee. We look forward to working with them all.

11. Election of G.C.C.F. Delegate and Substitute Delegate

Delegate:	Claire Lewis
Substitute Delegate:	No substitute was appointed
Proposed by:	Charis White
Seconded by:	Sandra Humphreys

12. Changes to Club Rules

All the rule changes proposed in the Agenda were postponed as we were not quorum. These will all be carried over to next year's AGM.

A suggestion was raised by Gail Miller to ask the GCCF if a postal ballot from members would be accepted in light of these rules – Jackie Steele will look into this.

Gail also suggested that the wording on Rule 10 be changed to allow more flexibility i.e. The AGM should take place before the 1st of May each year. It was agreed that this was a good idea.

13. **Correspondence** No further correspondence.

14. **Any Other Business** No other business

The meeting closed at 16:05