

BOURNE VALLEY RIDING CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 11th January 2022 at The Lion, Clanville

Present: **Lindsay Hills** **Chairman**
 Susie Pool **Secretary**

Members: **Andrea Meikle, Becky Miles, Claire Arnold, Dee Hodson, Dorothee Hawkins, Elizabeth Peerless, Fiona Webb, Janet Burnett, Juanita Coulson, Katie Rossiter, Lesley Dale, Linda Clarke, Louise Makepeace, Louise Parr, Ros Kershaw, Rosie Mathias, Sandra Groves, Theresa Hartlieb, Val Goode, Vanessa Martin.**

Item 1: Welcome

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending. It was lovely to be able to see so many faces again.

Item 2: Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from; Pippa Moon, Sue Baker, Meredith Baker, Sarah Pook, Michelle Haley, Jenny Allan, Julia Croombs, Georgia Howard, Kay Pogson, Ian Spalding, Susan Wheatley, Helen Vernon, Marion Watt, Alison Coleman.

Item 3: Matters Arising from End of Year Report 2020

Nil.

Item 4: Chairman's Report

Despite the challenges of Covid over the last 18 months, the Club had had a very good year. Membership dropped in 2020 but was then maintained through 2021. Finances were low but manageable at the start, as BRC had made a huge increase in membership fees and a lack of income from competitions. However, this had been mitigated by a £400 BRC refund as they had been unable to run many Championships. With the year starting in lockdown, Club entertainment was organised using Zoom; first the Quiz, then a Saddlery Talk then an Introduction to Mindfulness. Camp was cancelled again, as were the early competitions.

Competitions. Competitions started up quickly, after lockdown was lifted, with Dressage at Larkhill but perhaps a little too early as entries were low. Although suggested due to clashes with other events, it had not been possible to reschedule. However, it went well enough.

BVRC fulfilled its promise for the previous year by organising the 2021 Area Horse Trials Qualifier alongside the Club Horse Trials. Again entries were low, particularly for the Qualifiers and on the day it was very, very wet!

To avoid class clashes, the Dressage and Showing Show was split over 2 days. However, entries were too low to make the showing classes viable, so that day was cancelled. It ended up being a lot of effort to refund those entry fees.

In September, the Novice Dressage with Clear Round Jumping and the Open Dressage and Show Jumping were held on consecutive days. There had been discussions of amalgamating them but the entries for the Novice day proved again that there was still a place and need for this separately.

The Hunter Trial was exceptional, as was the weather! However, very few members entered and many of the helpers were non-members too; almost the entire Start Team and half the Fence Judges.

We were able to finish the year with face to face socials; a follow-up Saddlery demo, the New Forest Ride and the Christmas Ride.

Teams. The year started with Online Dressage. The number of applicants across the board was generally down, surprisingly with no takers for the Summer Dressage and Riding Test Qualifiers. Noteworthy performances were:

Danielle Storer, who had previously won the Arena Eventing 90 Qualifier but for whom the Championships were noteworthy for the wrong reasons,

Vanessa Martin, winner of her Arena at the Horse Trials 80 Qualifier, who went on for a 3rd place at the Championships,

Vicky Simons, winner of the Summer 90 Show Jumping, who went on for a 9th place at the Championships,

The 2022 Qualifiers for the Arena Eventing ended the year and both the 80 and 90 teams qualified for the Championships.

Clinics re-started in April and proved very popular, with members enjoying flatwork with Robert Pickles and jumping with Ants McKeowen, Jo Roberts and Hector Payne.

The bank balance was now on a secure footing and it was now time to re-group and look forward. Camp had been booked and there were provisional dates for the Spring events.

Thanks. Especial thanks were made to:

Sarah Pook
Rosie Mathias
Claire Arnold & Alison Coleman
Susie Pool & Lynn Mead
Susie Pool
Committee Members

Sandra Groves

Members

Membership Secretary
Caballine & Be Fair points
Treasurer
Teams
Many hats
for all their help, support, organising, flexibility and helping each other
Organising Dressage Judges, Chief Scorer and Hunter Trials & Horse Trials helpers coord.
for all their help to enable us to run competitions

Lindsay Hills finished by saying that, if re-elected tonight, this would definitely be her last year as Chairman.

Item 5: Adoption of Accounts

Copies of the accounts prepared by Claire Arnold, Treasurer, for the Club financial year 2021 were distributed to the attendees.

Surplus:	<u>£ 6,904</u>
Income:	£30,776
Expenditure:	£22,940
Depreciation:	<u>£ 931</u>
Fixed Assets:	£ 5,273

The accounts were accepted.

Proposed: Fiona Webb.
Seconded: Juanita Coulson.
Accepted unanimously

Item 6: Appointment of Auditor/External Qualified Accountant

Lindsay proposed that Andrew Horsnell be appointed as auditor again.

Proposed: Lindsay Hills
Seconded: Claire Arnold
Carried unanimously

Claire agreed to check with Andrew that he would be happy to audit the accounts even after they had been transferred to the “Zero” accounting system.

Item 7: Subscriptions for 2023

BRC had not increased their rates for 2022 but were likely to for 2023. After some discussion the following rates for 2023 were agreed:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
New members	£40	£38
Additional family members	£32	£30
Renewals before 15 February	£32	£30
Non riding members	£16	£16
1 st September-1 st December	£52	£50

Proposed: Elizabeth Peerless
Seconded: Gemma Leggatt
Carried unanimously

Item 9: Any Other Business

The Chairman outlined the idea for the Quiz to be held in the Lion on Friday 28 January and asked for a show of hands for those who would be minded to support it in the current Covid climate given that there could be up to 60 people in the AGM room. Everyone was supportive and it was agreed to go ahead.

Andrea Meikle asked if we would have competitions at the lower jumping heights (eg 2'), not just Clear Round, even at the Novice Show, as she would not want to compete higher. She also asked if it were possible in the Combined Training. Lindsay explained why it was difficult to programme in an extra class for the CT, given the need for the dressage arenas to feed competitors into the SJ,

Louise Makepeace expressed her concerns about putting her name down for jump clinics, thinking that she might be expected to jump 1m. Juanita Coulson and others gave assurances that all clinics started with poles on the ground and progressed up, taking into account the needs of the riders.

Louise Makepeace also suggested that she might be able to arrange for the Club to get more access to Larkhill arenas and XC course as her partner was taking on a job involved with the RA Saddle Club.

The Chairman stated that membership forms were available for anyone who wished to renew.

Item10: Presentations

Lindsay Hills read out this year's trophy winners:

BVRC Trophy Winners 2021			
Brocks Farm Trophy	Novice Rider	NP	
Linda Juniper	Novice Horse Trials	Vanessa Martin	Helsington It's For Free
David Packman Memorial Trophy	Intermediate Horse Trials	Stephen Coulson	Powerkin
Doorsteps Open Horse Trials Trophy	Open Horse Trials	NP	
Shield with horse on front	CT	NP	
Florin Cup	CT	NP	
Ruby Seward	CT	NP	
Marilyn Haisman Cup	CT	NP	
BVRC Cup	Dressage Walk & Trot	Joanna Phillips	Bean
BVRC Lloyd Dressage Cup	Dressage Prelim	Antoinette McKeowen	Bean
Streaker Cup	Dressage Prelim	Charlotte Opperman	Lily
Highland Fling	Dressage Novice	Katey Cuthbertson	Prosecco
BVRC Dressage	Dressage Novice/Elem	Lynn Mead	Mexico's Mission
Bluebell Cup	Riding Club Horse	Lesley Dale	Amigos Boy
BVRC Novice Hunter Trial	Hunter Trials	Kay Pogson Lesley Dale	Something Special Amigo's Boy
Romance Challenge Cup	Hunter Trials	NP	
BVRC Open Hunter Trial	Hunter Trials	Tessa Broadhead	Ballinagore Flash
Be Fair Cup	Annual Competition points	Susie Pool	
Caballine Trophy	Annual Helpers points	Ros Kershaw	
Caballine Rose Bowl	Annual Helpers points – non committee	Sandra Groves	

Be Fair & Caballine

Be Fair and Caballine results were announced and those present collected their rosettes, and trophies where relevant:

CABALLINE Committee			CABALLINE Non-Committee			BE FAIR POINTS		
1	Ros Kershaw	50	1	Sandra Groves	57	1	Susie Pool	99
2	Fiona Webb	39	2	Dee Hodson	44	2	Julia Croombs	65
3	Becky Miles	38	3	Sue Baker	35	3	Tommie Gross	45
4	Juanita Coulson	31	4	Liz Derbyshire	30	4	Janet Burnett	43
			5=	Alison Coleman	26	5	Vanessa Martin	40
			5=	Claire Arnold	26	6	Danielle Storer	37
			7	Sam Shepherd	24	7	Antoinette Mckeowen	36
			8	Ella Birch	23	8	Lynn Mead	35
			9	Meredith Baker	20	9=	Gemma Leggatt	33
			10	Helen Vernon	17	9=	Jemma Manders	33

Last year Victoria Smith had been presented with a vase after her time on the Committee. Briony Tarlton had also been sent a thank you gift after having to leave the Committee mid-term, for personal reasons.

Presentations of cards & gifts were made to Claire Arnold, and out-going Committee members Ros Kershaw and Susie Pool.

Susie Pool

The Chairman paid tribute to the incalculable contribution that Susie had made to BVRC

'I first met Susie when BVRC held a show at Cholderton EC. Sorrell Warwick was in residence & Susie had horses at livery there. At the time she was sporting a broken arm.

She was persuaded to join BVRC – I am not sure what year that was.

Susie was elected to the committee in November 2000, at this very venue, in the days when it was Red.

At the time we were unaware of her horsey & work background and her vast experience in organisation & planning. She had previously spent time on BRC National Executive Committee representing the Armed Forces.

Soon Susie went from committee team member to team leader.

In November 2004, she undertook the role of Chef d'equipe, a job she made her own.

With meticulous planning & attention to detail, members were always well informed of all aspects of representing BVRC at BRC Area 17 Qualifiers & Championships and well supported on competition days. We were the envy of and set an example to other Area Clubs.

The role entailed keeping abreast of the, ever increasing, number & variety of BRC competitions and constant rule changes.

Together with the Chef d'Equipe duties, she represented BVRC at Area Qualifier & attended National Championship on many occasions. The pinnacle was with Marion Watt, being crowned National Pairs Dressage Champions, at moment none of us will forget.

Susie was also ever present at domestic competitions – towing, setting up, acting as secretary, organising and whenever possible competing.

She also became a Social Ride leader.

In August 2016, Susie added another hat & took over as BVRC Secretary, after the sudden departure of Helen Mulingani.

During this period, determined that we should keep in touch with modern technology, she instigated the update of BVRC website, the move to email as primary source of communication, a Facebook presence, the introduction of online entries system (MRL) and use of Zoom to keep in touch during Covid lockdowns.

Susie also set up BRC Area17 Flu Vacc Checking system, so that certificates didn't need to be completely re-checked at every Qualifier.

I could go on & on.

Suffice it to say, Susie has become the heart of BVRC.

It has been a joy working with her over the years, always in the knowledge that things were in safe hands.

Her diligence has alleviated my work load and she has shared the responsibility of maintaining all aspects of the club, always prepared to go above & beyond the call of duty.

She will be sorely missed as BVRC Secretary & committee member.

She doesn't escape entirely as she will continue in Chef's role whilst overseeing her replacement(s).'

Susie was presented with a Harriet Glen bronze statuette of a horse
She was also made an lifetime Honorary member of BVRC after completing 21 years on the Committee.

The Chairman was also thanked, especially for getting the Club back onto a strong financial footing by organising the Hunter Trial and Horse Trials, and presented with a bouquet of flowers.

The meeting closed at 2120 hours.