

ELISABETH CURTIS CENTRE RIDING FOR THE DISABLED

Minutes of the Riding Committee 6.30pm Tuesday 13th April 2021 Microsoft Teams

Present: Kyle Palmer (**KP**) (Chairman), Charlotte Dunham (**CDu**) (Secretary), Gina Dunn (**GD**) (PWO), Bella Craven (County Coach) (**BC**)

1. Apologies for absence: Victoria Liston (**VL**) Pearl Farr (**PF**)

2. Minutes of last meeting: Approved

3. Update and Matters arising since last meeting: KP

1. Veronica Bradley (**VB**) is now a Trustee.
2. A Panic Alarm for the grooms is being trialled via an App called 'Safepoint'. It works from a wearable Bluetooth band which is connected to a 24/7 call centre should the need arise. Trustees have approved the purchase of a licence.
3. Newsletter is delayed and will probably be sent out in May.

4. Management update: KP

1. The Riding Establishment Licence has been extended until June.
2. Fundraising: The Summer Fair is planned to go ahead in September 2021 as an Autumn Fair.

5. Pony Welfare Officer Report:

The freelance groom reported Rupert's lameness to **KP**. **GD** went to assess Rupert and called the vet who removed a shoe with some hoof and diagnosed a bruised sole. Rupert had 4 days of wet poultice, and 3 days of dry poultice.

Ellie was unlevel when trotted on the right rein. MC have agreed for Ellie to have full body Thermal Imaging in June. The vet is happy for her to go on short term bute when needed.

Equine Training (ET) started at the end of March and the ponies are enjoying being ridden but it will take some time to get them fit. With better weather they can go outside for some hill work. At the moment they are ridden twice a week by volunteers. **GD** would like the saddler in 3-4 weeks as the ponies will change shape.

BC needs Pony Emergency pack for details about ponies. **Action: KP**

PONY WELFARE REPORT 11/04/2021

The ponies resumed ridden exercise 24th March. Thanks to our volunteers for their commitment to Equine Training. The ponies are working well and enjoying their ridden work. We started to introduce a little trot work 10th April; Ellie was unlevel in trot on the right rein. She is having a short course of bute as previously agreed with the vet, and she is being monitored. Rupert has struggled with maintaining his weight and was a little lethargic on his first ridden exercise. He is currently being fed conditioning cubes, he's gradually improving, and he is much more his usual self when ridden. Huggy has been coughing more. His inhaler dosage has been increased.

In March, all bedding was removed and stables cleaned to reduce dust in the yard.

19/03/21 Farrier attended. Rupert's front feet have been splitting, he now has shoes with side clenches in place of toe clenches, and copper nails. The farrier advised continuing this for the next couple of times and monitor.

The weather has continued to be challenging but the fields are much improved since they have been power harrowed. Thanks to Kyle for the follow up harrowing that he has done.

Gina Dunn - PWO

Many thanks to **GD** for all her extra work on-site, such as exercising the ponies and being in attendance when the vet and farrier are at the centre.

6. Re-opening: will be in line with Government and RDA NO guidelines and subject to change.

Sign-off on Preliminary e-learning

> 3 courses will be offered: 'Welcome to RDA', 'Safeguarding' and 'Health and Safety and First Aid'. Courses will be in modules and linked back to ECC. On completion, a digital certificate will be supplied by ECC. **Action: KP**

Final Review of Participant Assessment form

> on the form 'Rider' to be changed to 'Participant'. **Action: KP**

> It is hoped that volunteers from the same sessions as the participants will be available for the Meet and Greet sessions

> Meet and Greet Sessions will be for data collecting. Coaches will need to meet after to discuss participants needs.

> Possible trial of 'calendfy" app or "eventbrite" to book volunteers and participants into sessions. **Action: KP**

Agenda for Walk Through Saturday 17/4/21 10am prompt – 12.30

All trustees are attending.

> Review RA.

> Confirm paperwork.

> Go through Covid cleaning procedures.

> Go through updated Fire Regulations.

> Where/what to do with ponies for Meet and Greet.

- > allocating jobs for volunteers.
- > assessing numbers for who will attend session.

Training

- > A date has been decided for volunteer training. Saturday 1st May 10am – 2pm which will involve all coaches.

Getting back in touch

- > there has been a good response to surveys
- > this will be shared with coaches on Excel in Teams **Action : KP**

7. AOB:

1. **CDu** asked if badges for volunteers/coaches can be used at sessions. **KP** suggested hoodies with names on. Ongoing.
2. **GD/KP** suggested that the Riding Committee should be renamed as the Coaching Committee to reflect the change in services provided by the centre such as non-ridden activity and other possible ventures. It was agreed by all to change the name.

Meeting finished at 20.25pm

Date of next meeting: 6.30pm Tuesday 27th April 2021 via Microsoft Teams