

ELISABETH CURTIS CENTRE RIDING FOR THE DISABLED

Minutes of the Coaching Committee 6.30pm Thursday 20th May 2021 Microsoft Teams

Present: Kyle Palmer (**KP**) (Chairman), Charlotte Dunham (**CDu**) (Secretary), Gina Dunn (**GD**) (PWO), Pearl Farr (**PF**)

1. Apologies for absence: Victoria Liston (**VL**) Bella Craven (County Coach) (**BC**)

2. Minutes of last meeting: Approved. 2021 Minutes are now on the website. (Final accounts will go on at a later date.)

3. Update and Matters arising since last meeting: KP

1. Volunteer Training has started successfully and the timetable works well. It is good to have a mix of volunteers and for them to meet new people too.
2. With regard to tacking up, the saddle can be put together before being put on the pony, as long as all parts are sanitised properly.
3. Some sessions had to be cancelled but there are two new dates in June: Short 15/6/21, Long 16/6/21 **Action: GD**
4. Anna Gillespie, our part time groom will be leaving on 25th May 2021 and Midnight Blue will be covering until a new replacement is found. Our grateful thanks to Anna for all her support to the centre. **Action: MC**

4. Management update: KP

1. As the ECC can no longer source Dodson and Horrell feeds, a rep from Spillers came to the Centre to have a look at the ponies and discuss their requirements. They are now all going to have chaff and a balancer which replaces their current supplements.
2. A potential Treasurer is going to have a trial for 6 months. **Action: VB**
3. Fundraising: FRG met and discussed distribution of Collection boxes. The Summer Fair is planned to go ahead in October 2021 as an Autumn Fair.
4. Work in progress on the Website is good. Thanks to KP and others who have contributed articles. **Action: KP**

5. Pony Welfare Officer Report: PONY WELFARE REPORT 19/05/2021

The ponies are generally well and continue to enjoy their ridden exercise.

As the grass is now growing, we are currently experimenting with the track system in the fields. This involves erecting a temporary fence around the field, parallel to the permanent fencing, creating a track around the perimeter of the field. This enables us to restrict the grazing area while encouraging the ponies to keep moving. In recent years, Lolly and Ellie have been separated from the herd during the spring/summer, in an attempt to keep their weights down. Using the track system, it is hoped that we can keep the herd together all year round.

30/04/21 Farrier attended.

Rupert was doing well in the giraffe house until the rain arrived and his enclosure became far too muddy. 14/05/21 Rupert was stabled with Sam as a companion.

16/05/21 Huggy completed equihaler treatment and is now using his original inhaler, 8 puffs twice daily, with a view to reducing the dose to 8 puffs once daily. Huggy was ridden in walk for 10 minutes 15/05, he coughed a lot at the start and his breathing was quite laboured after being ridden.

18/05/21 Spillers feed rep visited. Ponies were weighed and condition scored, and the rep advised on the best feed for the ponies.

The saddler is due 26/05/21.

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.

RDA UK are starting a new process of helping to source and purchase ponies for Centres across the UK and ECC is hoping to be part of this scheme in the future.

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

1. Some 'Meet and Greet' dates have been agreed by coaches and parents/carers/participants will be sent a link to Eventbrite to book. (Not on 29/5/21 as stated in MC minutes)

CDu: June 7,14,21, 28. **KP:** June 5, 12, 19, 26. **GD:** TBC in conjunction with ET **Action: KP**

2. **CDu** to contact **BC** with a view to attending 7/6/21 in order to then help out with extra dates **Action: CDu**

3. Coaches will need to contact volunteers who have done the training sessions to help at the Meet and Greets. Parents/carers will be asked to help with measuring hats.

7. AOB: None

Meeting finished at 19.57pm

Date of next meeting: 6.30pm Monday 14th June 2021 via Microsoft Teams