

ELISABETH CURTIS CENTRE RIDING FOR THE DISABLED

Minutes of the Coaching Committee 6.30pm Monday 15th November 2021 Microsoft Teams

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

1. Apologies for absence: Victoria Liston (**VL**). **KP** extended a welcome to **DS** who is a Green Coach, with 30 years' experience of RDA activities. She has volunteered to help out with coaching and will be starting the Thursday sessions again. A volunteer training session is planned for 18/11/21, schools will attend for preliminary administration on 25/11, then sessions are planned to start on 2/12/21. 9/10 volunteers have come forward to help, **GD** may be able to help on some Thursdays and **RW** will also be available to help with some tasks. ECC is extremely grateful for **DS** help so that schools can get back to riding.

2. Minutes of last meeting: Approved

3. Update and Matters arising since last meeting:

1. Carriage Driving: **MC** has given permission for **KP** to continue his feasibility study into this new possible activity with a potential RDA partner. **Action: KP**
2. Christmas Dressage: 7 participants have signed up so far. Once entries have been received, times will be sent with a request for payment. **KP** will send out a reminder email to potential participants. **PF** has requested that Christmas Rosettes are used for both the Dressage Competition and sessions. Rosettes only for dressage use, ECC will not purchase additional rosettes. **Action: KP**

4. Management update: KP

1. Events at the ECC: Sunday 28th November Dog Show (Independent organisation); Sunday 5th December 'ECC Coffee Morning'; Thursday 9th December Volunteers Christmas Dinner 7pm, Prince of Wales Bromham; Sunday 12th December, ECC Christmas Dressage.
2. Land Management: a local farmers son, TM, will meet **KP** to discuss and develop a Land Management programme. **Action: KP**
3. DEFRA will be meeting with MC at ECC to discuss pollution of the stream that runs between the road and fields. **Action: MC**

5. Pony Welfare Officer Report:

PONY WELFARE REPORT 13/11/2021

09/10/21 - Rio arrived on trial. Rio was quite unsettled during his isolation period; he was much happier once he had a field companion. Rio currently has Dixie and Sam as field companions. Rio has been more relaxed in the stable now that he has a pony either side of him. Rio has been gradually introduced to sessions; his progress is quite slow. Rio readily accepts a leader and side helpers but he can be rather unsure of new situations. Rupert has taken a distinct dislike to Rio which has slowed down Rio's introduction to more of the herd. Rupert must be kept away from Rio in the school.

09/10/21 - The vet attended in the evening as Lolly had mild colic. This was probably caused by the arrival of Rio. The vet advised that in future, Lolly should have a sachet of bute whenever a change is planned.

10/10/21 - Ellie returned to her breeder, Julie, in North Wales for her retirement. Ellie has settled really well, enjoying being reunited with her daughter, and doing a little light hacking with Julie's grandchildren.

15/10/21 - Farrier attended.

19/10/21 - **Saddler** attended, she adjusted most of the saddles and changed Bobby's saddle. Bobby's saddle can still occasionally slip, depending on the rider, he is therefore using the gel pad under his numnah. Muscadeu is to continue with a pad underneath the back of his saddle, and Lolly requires a padded numnah.

03/11/21 - Vet attended in the evening as Muscadeu had mild colic.

Since the vet treated Huggy in September, Huggy has been kept outside 24/7, and his breathing has been stable.

26/11/21 - Farrier due.

Thank you to our grooms for all their hard work, and thank you to the volunteers who help exercise the ponies.

Gina Dunn - PWO

15/11/21 - Rio has been having problems in the mounting block and has been slow to settle. The general consensus is to persevere with him and re-evaluate at Christmas. **GD** has suggested he would settle better in the herd and that the owners could perhaps come in and help with him. **Action: GD**

6. Session Updates:

Monday: all OK. 3 sessions; 2, 3, 3 riders, 13/14 volunteers

Tuesday: 3 sessions; 5, 5, 4, riders. Possibly 1 space. Volunteers: sometimes low but at best 8

Wednesday am: 2 potential Meet and Greets, 2 riders, 2 more Meet and Greets planned hopefully starting w/b 22/11/21. Need more volunteers as previously, school staff would help.

Wednesday pm: 2 sessions; 2, 3 riders. 8/9 Volunteers

Saturday am: 3 sessions; 2, 3/4, 2 non riding. Shortage of consistent volunteer numbers.

7. AOB:

1. **GD** asked if another Tack Sale has been organised as surplus tack will need to be removed from the spare stable. **Action: MC**
2. **GD** asked if there was an update on levelling the school regularly. **KP** updated that he is happy to provide tractor training and had some lined up but no take as yet, Grooms to be trained ASAP. **Action KP/MC**
3. **CD** asked if there was an update on a memorial for Eileen Nash and Paula Morris. **Ongoing MC**

Meeting finished at 20.17pm

Date of next meeting: Monday 13th December 2021 6.30pm via Microsoft Teams