



Note AGV AGM 2015 Teleconference Thursday 17th September 2015 16:30

1. Record of Attendees

Adrienne Conroy	Alan MacPhee	Arjen Brouwer
Cat Man	Catherine McVicar	Deborah Alexander
Edwina Thirkell	Jane Clark	Jane Gibbens
Kate Sharpe	Laura Cosa	Lévon Stephan
Linda Smith	Rebeca Garcia	Sheila Voas(part of meeting)

2. Acceptance of new members

The following new members proposed by Kate Sharpe and seconded by Fred Landeg were accepted unanimously *en bloc*

Cat (Catherine) Man

Eva Joris

Laura Cosa

Amanda Carson

Frank Busch

3. Apologies for Absence

Graeme Cochrane

Edward Varley

Paul Honeyman

Jim Scudamore

Eva Joris

Richard Griffiths

Beverley Hopkins

Enrique Fernandez-Gomazo

Nigel Gibbens

Rob Paul

Theresa Phillips

Mike Watkin Jones

Peter Gray

4. Minutes of the last AGM

The minutes of the last AGM (April 2014) are posted on the AGV website. They were accepted.

5. Matters Arising

It was asked whether there had been any developments on a joint membership fee for AGV. Kate Sharpe said that while there had been discussions on the issue and initially both AGV and VPHA had been keen to develop the idea, analysis had shown that they were potential risks to both AGV and VPHA in terms of membership and subscription income. The idea would however be kept under review.

There were no other matters arising that would not be dealt with in the rest of the Agenda.

6. President's Address

As outgoing President after 4 years, Linda Smith thanked the council members for their support and hard work during this time in supporting the Associations survival by exploring potential joint working arrangements with the VPHA. This resulted in a well-attended joint conference in Spring 2015.



Linda then handed over to Kate Sharpe who has been acting president for the last 3 months.

Kate thanked Linda for her commitment in getting AGV through its difficult time and spoke of the more hopeful environment we are moving into as a result of BVA's Governance review.

The most relevant aspect of this has been around BVA re-defining its relationship with its specialist Associations and signing up to a new way of working in partnership (see attached documents for more detail). AGV has already used this partnership to share our priorities in order to influence national BVA priorities:

- maintenance of veterinary expertise in APHA and central government departments
- working with VPHA on joint conferences and FVE/EASVO representation
- developing joint working relationships to contribute to policy development with BVA and other specialist Associations
- working with the new OV tendering arrangements challenging APHA and Defra to direct the required veterinary outcomes from surveillance, disease control (exotic and TB) and animal welfare.

Kate said that, in addition to this, Council have also been considering ways of attracting new members and referred to the following agenda items on the acceptance of 5 new members and the proposed change in the AGV constitution to open membership to vets principally engaged in the delivery of government services rather than just vets directly employed by government.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report for the calendar year 2014 was published on the AGV website. The accounts were accepted but Jane Gibbens pointed out that the year of the dated Treasurer's signature was incorrect; this was a typing error and should have read 19th January 2015.

8. Secretary's Report

Membership report for 2014 was published on the AGV website. There was a discussion on how membership could be increased. Amanda Carson suggested it would be useful if there was a leaflet explaining the benefits of membership of AGV. Linda Smith said that she had written one and the Secretary agreed to publish it on the web for members to use when recruiting new members.

9. Election of the AGV Council

The nominations for Officers and Council members did not exceed the available posts. There were two block votes one for Officers and one for Council members. Both blocks set out below were elected unanimously with no abstentions.

Officers

President	Kate Sharpe
Senior Vice President	Linda Smith
Junior Vice President	Lévon Stephan
Secretary	vacancy
Treasurer	Fred Landeg



Council Members

Adrienne Conroy
Cath McVicar
John Lawrence
Edwina Thirkell
Jane Clark

Rebeca Garcia
Enrique Fernandez-Gamazo
Anne-Marie McDowall
Amanda Carson

10. Position with European Association of State Veterinary Officers (EASVO)

Cath McVicar reported that she had continued to serve in a holding role as an observer (no vote and cannot become an officer) and have attended one meeting (November 2014) of the EASVO.

EASVO organisation membership fees – can't be definitive; a recent discount to all members was followed by a raise of 15%. There is a range of fees (approx. €350 – €1100) as these are calculated for each member organisation by a method involving number of active vets (and population).

I attended the UKCG by telecom (a useful meeting) in advance of this Brussels meeting. Much of the agenda centred on FVE draft position papers especially those for vote in the FVE General Assembly and including: -

- voting rights and internal rules:
- Medicines: - antimicrobial resistance (there was debate around decoupling of prescription and supply);
- Zinc Oxide (should this be a Veterinary Medical Product);
- Aquaculture (the veterinary role vs technician role);
- Veterinary Education (some discussion on the training of the designated veterinarian);
- a paper on stray dogs (neutering, vaccination etc.)

EASVO is concerned about other MSs which are not members and do not send representatives and have set up a working group to try to improve contact and aspects of this with a view to encouraging membership.

A second working group with a short term remit is considering whether any specifics for action could be identified within the umbrella of our broad contribution to One Health.

Presentations on European lobbying were held in a joint session with UEVH.

FVE continues to lobby effectively eg for the veterinary role in the development of the new Animal Health Law.

Recent topics on which FVE have published include FCI; Herd Health Planning (Public Health); Reasons for regulating the profession; Animals in Travelling Circuses.



11. Changes to the constitution

One voting Paper received from Jim Scudamore who indicated his acceptance of the proposed changes. Rob Paul sent an email indicating his acceptance of the changes.

The suggested changes to Rule 4, Rule 10 and Rule 11 were agreed unanimously without abstentions after an explanation and discussion on each rule.

12. Any other business

No items of any other business notified to the Secretary by the deadline 11th September 2015.

13. President's Closing Remarks

Kate closed the AGM by noting that there were new challenges ahead, especially around emphasising the value that the veterinary profession can add to society and that she was looking forward to working with the newly elected council to take these forward with BVA, with AGV championing the value of government vets.

She said that AGV will continue to develop the links we have made with VPHA and reminded members of the next joint conference in Leeds on 7th November which will provide an opportunity to contribute our particular interests to the BVAs Veterinary Futures work.

Kate concluded by inviting members to contact her or council members with any additional suggestions about how they would like AGV to develop and engage with and represent its membership and also the Vet Futures project which has been reported on in the Veterinary Record.

14. Date of next meeting

To be advised.