

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT VETERINARIANS

Action Note

Council Teleconference 1700 – 18th May 2016

Present

Kate Sharpe	KS	Chair
Linda Smith	LiS	
Lévon Stephan	LeS	
Rebeca Garcia	RG	
Adrienne Conroy	AdC	
Jane Clark	JaC	

Apologies

Cath McVicar	CM
Fred Landeg	FL
Amanda Carson	AmC
Edwina Thirkell	ET
Joana Crisostomo	JoC

Council Telecon 7th April and Matters Arising

Action

Matters arising covered under action points below

BVA Council update

AdC covered main points in a note circulated after BVA Council. Full minutes circulated to AGV Council.

Governance Review: Option B1 (as per previous e-mail exchanges between Kate and I below) was favoured at BVA Council.

Vet Futures, para. 32: Scottish rep made the point that CVO(S) had sent a letter to BVA two weeks previously expressing concerns that there was no Scottish rep on Vet Futures and a response was still awaited. BVA seemed to indicate that (i) Simon Doherty (NI) had international responsibilities and therefore covered Scotland(?) and (ii) they would respond to CVO(S) in due course. Will be interesting to see what is reflected in the minutes on this point!

Welfare at slaughter, paras 2-5: VPHA reiterated that birds should be stunned effectively. BVA to investigate if post-cut stunning carried out in other MSs. Also, BVA hope to meet with SoS on this topic in the near future.

NAG elections: AGV were not picked in the draw.

Encls. 8, Membership report: BVA indicated that there had been double counting of deceased members in the table.

AWF, update on LINKS initiative: Well supported by Council. It was mentioned by Council that other police forces throughout the country would be potentially interested. AGV suggested relevant organisation to contact.

Update from AGV/VPHA conference.

- Conference was fully booked with 120 delegates attending and VPHA have credited working with AGV as the reason for the record attendance.
- About 20 were from APHA, some of whom are not yet AGV members.
- The presentations were good and the social aspects excellent. Much feedback was around the friendliness of the event and the opportunity to network with others in different aspects of the veterinary profession.
- Very professional photos and a promotional video was made-on VPHA site. I have a link but couldn't open it on my system so will try to find another route. To share it so we can add to our website also.
- The AGV treasurer has been promised about £5-700 as the surplus from AGV delegates after our speakers' expenses have been paid. This for the first 2 joint conferences and we hope there will be some more from this one given the fact that we were operating at full capacity.
- The next conference is already being planned for Saturday 5th November, probably in the Cambridgeshire area. The developing theme will be something on the modern technology and effective Communication... with some sort of the provisional title like
" VPH/ One Health... Communication, Communication, Communication..... "
Our suggestion of a one welfare/one health theme will be taken forward at the major conference in April 2017.

Further thoughts on topics and speakers that could support the data and communication theme to Kate please **All**

EASVO

JaC CM and KS met with Milorad and Jason to discuss this. They agreed that the offer made previously was still available. Jane's note of the meeting is attached for full detail but the main points are:

- VPHA has kindly deferred the previously agreed offer (attached document) to support AGV attendance at EASVO and is content to apply those conditions for 2016 onwards
- AGV will therefore start to pay membership of AGV and Jane will attend the 2-4th June FVE General assembly and (hopefully) any coordination meetings that will be arranged
- Likely cost of £1000/year subscription plus £500 for each meeting for the representatives T&S so we still need to consider how to meet future costs. We will approach BVA as they wasn't wider representation in Europe and we are one of their specialist divisions. We still need to increase our membership (or subscription rates) or both.

JC gave an update on the UKECG meeting:

- UK membership of EVERI (education gp) by LAVA – ongoing discussions on support by BVA and VPHA and I took the opportunity to thank VPHA for their support of AGV along with the request that

we are involved in these discussions in case there is BVA support available in the future

- Coccidiostats – there will be a BVA medicines gp meeting before the GA to refine the UK position
- AW – the UK is likely to raise a point on lobbying for slaughter labelling and also about trade in reptiles/amphibians. There was broad support for the principles of the paper on AW and AMR but the language may need some work – aspiration vs commitment etc.
- Sustainability – all agreed this needed more work and UK to intervene to suggest the concept of food security is included
- Education – general support for the principles but needs some tweaking
- Please see Jane's full emails sent on 28 April 2016 19:23 and Mon 16/05/2016 11:13. **Any comments to Jane by 25th May please so she can them to EASVO.**

All

Mini-council meeting

Members of council attending conference (**KS, JaC, CM, JoC, LeS, RC and ET**) met during the VPHA AGM to discuss the LVS and World Vet Association options.

- We agreed that we should confirm that we all provide content during the LVS. Options were discussed and the consensus was that we should concentrate on a one welfare/one health banner and Rebeca has agreed to lead on this but will need support from the rest of council.
- We will take up the WVA offer (previously circulated) and work out the best way of using this as we go forward. Joana has agreed to be our lead on this.
- Simon Hall attended and was impressed with the turn out and enthusiasm shown by delegates. I took the opportunity to speak with him and ask what he would want from AGV in order to support more APHA attendance.

We agreed this would be around providing twice yearly conferences with programme showing the bigger vet public health picture so APHA vets can see synergies which will enhance day to day delivery and also provide opportunities for personal development plus networking opportunities and Study tours.

He would also like us to encourage vets who would be interested in working in Government (signposting opportunities, offering support on competences, application form completion and interview)

Any Other Business

LS mentioned the APHA 'ambassadors' and will encourage them to join AGV.

JoC will encourage new APHA staff in the SW and we will have further opportunities at the induction training and the APHA veterinary conference on 20th September in Solihull.

KS proposed that we hold our next AGM in person during the November joint conference and Council agreed. We can stick to this timetable and plan going forward.

Date of Next Meeting

The next telecon will be preparation for the BVA July Council meeting. The date already circulated as an Outlook Calendar email was Thursday 14th July – proposed time now 1700

Kate Sharpe

25 May 2016