



**National Sheep Association  
South East Region**

**Minutes of the NSA South East Region Annual Members' Meeting 2019  
Held at the Angel Hotel, Gosport Road, Privett, Hampshire, GU34 3NN  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm**

**1. Apologies for absence.** Nigel Durnford, NSA South East Region Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting and accepted apologies for Angus Baird, Lisa Dunning, Phil Hart, James Hamilton, Ian Lockwood, Susannah Parkin, Marie Prebble, Ian Robertson, Trevor Samways, Louise Silk, Sam Stannistreet, Richard Taylor, Alan West and Nerys Wright.

**2. Minutes of the 2018 ARMM.** With the minutes having been made available before the meeting, Nigel asked if they could be accepted as a true and correct record. This was proposed by Tim Armour and seconded by David Barber with no objections.

**3. Matters arising, not otherwise on the agenda.** None.

**4. Reports from regional officers**

- **Chairman's report:** Nigel said his first year in the role had been very interesting and he was pleased by the quality of events organised and held across the region. Some had been better attended than others, but all had been very useful for the people who had gone. Events had culminated with NSA South Sheep in September 2018, which had been successful for the visitors there but had been disappointing in that attendance hadn't been greater. It had not been as profitable as the event in 2016, but finances would be covered in the treasurer's report, and Nigel commented on how much went on during the day and how good an event it was. He went on to thank the NSA South East Region Committee for its support through the year and particularly thanked Bob Blanden, NSA South East Regional Manager, who was at this meeting as his final one before retiring. Nigel said Bob's help, support and mentoring had been invaluable and that the region owed him a great debt for his 10 years in the role and everything else done. Nigel's thanks was echoed by fellow committee members, with Tim Armour, George Horne and Tony Cave-Penny all taking to the floor to add their gratitude. Nigel presented Bob with retirement gifts, which included a token for Bob's wife Kate.
- **Treasurer's report:** John Britton, NSA South East Region Treasurer, gave his first report since taking on the role, referring those present to copies of a profit-and-loss sheet and a balance sheet to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018. He said the events had not generated enough money in 2018 to keep the region afloat, resulting in a £3,900 loss on the year and a balance of only £3,230 to go into 2019. Annual expenditure for the region was in the region of £7-8k and so, following a committee meeting that afternoon, which had been attended by NSA Operations Director Joanne Briggs, the committee would be presenting a 2019/2020 budget to NSA Head Office to outline the financial situation and make representation for support to get through this year and into 2020 until NSA South Sheep was held again. This would include some predicted income from the NSA South East Region Health & Wealth Conference, which would be held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019. John thanked Jim Page, NSA Accountant, for his help preparing the accounts and opened the floor for questions. A question was asked about how the financial situation compared to other NSA regions and why NSA Head Office did not pay a percentage of membership subscriptions back to the regions. John said similar questions had been asked at the committee meeting that afternoon and, as NSA South East Region found



Chief Executive: Phil Stocker  
A company limited by Guarantee. Registered in England. Registration No. 37818.  
Registered charity in England and Wales (249255) and in Scotland (SC042853)



National Sheep Association is an organisation which represents the views and interests of sheep producers throughout the UK.  
NSA is funded by its membership of sheep farmers and its activities involve it in every aspect of the sheep industry.

**your business your future**

itself in a difficult position in holding its event in the same year as the national event at Malvern, the region's concerns would be presented alongside the 2019/20 budget. Nigel invited Joanne to also comment on this, to which Joanne explained that many NSA regions had very comfortable reserves so paying a percentage of membership subs back to regions was not a model that worked across the whole organisation. The accepted model was that regions strove to be financially self-sufficient but NSA Head Office would support any region that found itself struggling. Another question from the floor was if NSA South Sheep had to fall in the same year as the national event, which was answered by a few different committee members in terms of the struggle of finding a date in a year when there were already six NSA regional events and securing sponsorship. John asked if his report was to be adopted. This was proposed by Martyn Fletcher and seconded by Matt van der Borgh with no objections.

#### 5. Election and/or confirmation of regional officers:-

Position	Current holder	Action taken
Trustee	Andrew Barr, beginning second year of three-year term.	Approved by all to continue in existing role.
Chairman	Nigel Durnford, served one year.	Bob proposed Nigel to continue for another year; seconded by Andrew Barr.
Vice Chairman	Yann Le Du, served one year.	Nigel proposed Yann to continue for another year; seconded by Tim Armour.
Treasurer	John Britton, served one year.	Nigel proposed John to continue for another year; seconded by Bob Blanden.
English Committee reps	Martyn Fletcher, beginning second year, and Bob Blanden, beginning third year of three-year terms.	Approved by all to continue in existing roles.
	Nigel Durnford, standing for re-election to maintain regional rotation of one rep standing down each year.	Andrew proposed that Nigel stood again; seconded by Yann Le Du. No one else was proposed to stand so Nigel was elected.
Committee	All existing members eligible to continue, apart from Alan West who had chosen to step down after many years	Excluding Alan, committee approved en-bloc by all. Bob asked for the record to state thanks to Alan for his services over the years; approved by all.
Junior Vice Chairman	New position.	Bob said James Hamilton had been approached earlier in the year and, following a discussion at the committee meeting earlier, he proposed James for the position; seconded by Susie Parish.

**6. Election of any new committee members:** Bob suggested Trevor Richards, NSA member and current British Wool Chairman, joined the committee to represent sheep farmers and the interests of British Wool. Trevor thanked Bob for the suggestion but said Kent was already well represented, that he already had too many commitments, and the NSA-British Wool relationship was going from strength to strength without him joining the regional committee.

**7. Any other business:** None

**8. Date of the next meeting:** This was set for 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

As there was not further business, Nigel closed the meeting at 6.45pm. Bob then introduced four guest speakers - Dr Kenton Hart, Scotmin, Matt Van Der Borgh, British Sheep Dairying Association Chairman, Sergeant Tom Carter, Sussex Police, and Joanne Briggs, NSA Operations Director.