

National Sheep Association

Northern Region Annual Members Meeting



MINUTES OF THE NSA NORTHERN REGION ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2018, at The Tyndale Function Suite, Hexham

Present: Eddie Eastham (Chairman), Thomas Vickers, Phil Stocker (NSA), Ken Lumley, John Stephenson, Robin Raine, John Bell(H), Matt Bagley, Greg Dalton, Thomas Carrick, Carl Stephenson, Adam Watson, William Watson, John Bell(W), Alan Alderson, Phillip Dawson, Mick Mullins, Susan Aglionby, Maxine Stocker, Rona Eastham, R Henry, Viv Lewis, J Peter Lee, Adam Day, John Waugh, John Geldard, Graham Wilkinson, Stephen Taylor, David Raine, Dennis Salt, Heather Stoney-Grayshon

Chairman Eddie Eastham welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Lord Inglewood, Ted Ogden, Trevor Stoney, Will Rawling, David Brotherton, Fiona Lovatt, Maurice Oxley, Martin & Val Brown, Geoff Lawn, Ian Armstrong, Derick & Jean Wilson, James Raine, Stuart Weatherson
- 2. To confirm the minutes of the last ARMM on 16th February 2017**
The minutes had been available to view on the NSA website and had also been circulated tonight. Proposed as a true and correct record by Thomas Carrick, seconded by Greg Dalton. Signed by Chairman, Eddie Eastham.
- 3. To consider matters arising from the above minutes – None**
- 4. Chairman's Report - Eddie Eastham**

Good evening everyone. It seems to be customary at this stage to mention the weather and the sheep trade. These two things have much in common, both are out of our control and are equally unpredictable. After a dry spring the past year was dominated by rain with continuous wet ground making the harvesting of winter feed difficult. As for the sheep trade, finished animals met a very steady trade last winter. Prices picked up in late spring and remained at a satisfactory level throughout the summer and into autumn. Early breeding sales were good but weakened as autumn progressed. Many hill producers would be disappointed with the prices they received for store lambs.

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To conclude, I would like to thank the many people who help to make our region operate successfully. Firstly, our Regional Manager, Heather for her attention to detail, organising ability and prompt attention to any issues which occur. Our Treasurer Ted Ogden, in his absence for keeping the regions finances on track. Our regional Vice Chair, Thomas Carrick for his help and support throughout the year. Phil and the team at Malvern for advice and support. Our regional committee which contains an abundance of ability and knowledge and is the driving force behind all our activities. Beyond that all the many people who helped to make North Sheep 2017 such a success. Last but not least Rona, for keeping the farm ticking over in my absence. To you all thank you.

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The statement breaks down some of the North Sheep costs to show what was payable in this accounting year, alongside other annual running charges, our Great Yorkshire Show costs, whilst savings have been made in this financial year on managers and members expenses, AGM expenses, Office and Admin costs and Entertaining Costs. This left the region with a surplus for the year of £39,137 against a deficit of £16, 537 in 2016 which was of course not a North Sheep year.

Balance Sheet

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National Sheep Association

Northern Region Annual Members Meeting



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Present: Eddie Eastham (Chairman), Thomas Vickers, Phil Stocker (NSA), Ken Lumley, John Stephenson, Robin Raine, John Bell(H), Matt Bagley, Greg Dalton, Thomas Carrick, Carl Stephenson, Adam Watson, William Watson, John Bell(W), Alan Alderson, Phillip Dawson, Mick Mullins, Susan Aglionby, Maxine Stocker, Rona Eastham, R Henry, Viv Lewis, J Peter Lee, Adam Day, John Waugh, John Geldard, Graham Wilkinson, Stephen Taylor, David Raine, Dennis Salt, Heather Stoney-Grayshon

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National Sheep Association

Northern Region Annual Members Meeting



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Present: Eddie Eastham (Chairman), Thomas Vickers, Phil Stocker (NSA), Ken Lumley, John Stephenson, Robin Raine, John Bell(H), Matt Bagley, Greg Dalton, Thomas Carrick, Carl Stephenson, Adam Watson, William Watson, John Bell(W), Alan Alderson, Phillip Dawson, Mick Mullins, Susan Aglionby, Maxine Stocker, Rona Eastham, R Henry, Viv Lewis, J Peter Lee, Adam Day, John Waugh, John Geldard, Graham Wilkinson, Stephen Taylor, David Raine, Dennis Salt, Heather Stoney-Grayshon

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- 2. To confirm the minutes of the last ARMM on 16th February 2017**
The minutes had been available to view on the NSA website and had also been circulated tonight. Proposed as a true and correct record by Thomas Carrick, seconded by Greg Dalton. Signed by Chairman, Eddie Eastham.
- 3. To consider matters arising from the above minutes – None**
- 4. Chairman's Report - Eddie Eastham**

Good evening everyone. It seems to be customary at this stage to mention the weather and the sheep trade. These two things have much in common, both are out of our control and are equally unpredictable. After a dry spring the past year was dominated by rain with continuous wet ground making the harvesting of winter feed difficult. As for the sheep trade, finished animals met a very steady trade last winter. Prices picked up in late spring and remained at a satisfactory level throughout the summer and into autumn. Early breeding sales were good but weakened as autumn progressed. Many hill producers would be disappointed with the prices they received for store lambs.

The highlight of the year for Northern Region was our very successful North Sheep event which was hosted by the Smith Family at Tow Law, County Durham. Our thanks go to the Smiths and to everyone else involved.

The crazy idea to release Lynx into Kielder Forest has caused much distress within our region. In August we hosted a meeting in Elsdon Village Hall in conjunction with the NFU and the British Deer Society. Providing an opportunity to share information. This meeting was very well attended by local people and illustrated the level of concern which exists. We are still awaiting a decision from Natural England on this issue.

NSA representatives from both Malvern and the Northern Region attended the Westmorland Show. This included a lamb tasting opportunity in the food hall.

In December we hosted a joint meeting with AHDB at Barnard Castle Auction Mart. This event was also well attended and featured finished lamb selection alongside an insight into AHDB promotional activities and marketing trends. We also had a presentation by Phil Stocker which covered many topics of interest relating to the sheep industry. Our thanks go to Libby Bell, Phil and AHDB.

There are many ongoing issues and concerns within our industry, and these are without doubt dominated by our future trading relationship with Europe. The shape of future industry support by the UK government comes a close second.

Within NSA, both regional and national, much time and effort has been put into creating policy and lobbying government and others who are in positions to influence our future. We are determined that whatever happens, our industry has a viable future. One that protects our culture, our way of life and provides financial stability.

To conclude, I would like to thank the many people who help to make our region operate successfully. Firstly, our Regional Manager, Heather for her attention to detail, organising ability and prompt attention to any issues which occur. Our Treasurer Ted Ogden, in his absence for keeping the regions finances on track. Our regional Vice Chair, Thomas Carrick for his help and support throughout the year. Phil and the team at Malvern for advice and support. Our regional committee which contains an abundance of ability and knowledge and is the driving force behind all our activities. Beyond that all the many people who helped to make North Sheep 2017 such a success. Last but not least Rona, for keeping the farm ticking over in my absence. To you all thank you.

5. To view the accounts for 2017 – HSG read out the following report on behalf of Treasurer Ted Ogden: NSA Northern Region Treasurers Report for Financial Year to 31st December 2017.

It is important to point out that this years' set of accounts that you are looking at include the Bi-Annual North Sheep Event, and this is of course the Northern Regions main source of income that allows us to function in the way we do and so a note of caution to newer members is to point out that this effectively has to fund the region for a two-year period.

P&L Report for North Sheep 2017

It is good to report that North Sheep 2017 was not only a very successful event in terms of visitor numbers, but also trade stands taken up and the quality of the venue. As a consequence, you will see from the P&L sheet that overall income was nicely maintained at £137,973 a modest increase of £817 from the 2015 event. The expenditure for these events can be spread over a longer period, as deposits and other associated costs etc will have to be paid well in advance once the event location has been chosen. Heather has done a great job in her first year of being in full charge for an event and has been able to keep a close check on expenses during the run up to the event. Each event is of course different due to the nature of it moving around, and some will cost more than others to stage. This decrease in costs highlights how good The Smith Family were as our hosts. There were some major savings in precious high cost areas and Heather with the help of all of the committee at the event managed to shave 25% off the overall expenditure list, a hefty £30,000, leaving the region with an overall profit for the event of £46,203.

Northern Region Income and Expenditure Statement

The statement breaks down some of the North Sheep costs to show what was payable in this accounting year, alongside other annual running charges, our Great Yorkshire Show costs, whilst savings have been made in this financial year on managers and members expenses, AGM expenses, Office and Admin costs and Entertaining Costs. This left the region with a surplus for the year of £39,137 against a deficit of £16, 537 in 2016 which was of course not a North Sheep year.

Balance Sheet

Fairly self-explanatory, showing the region now has reserves of almost £70k, the rise of £39,137 shown in the income/expenditure statement.

6. Election/Re-approval of Officers:

- a. **Chairman** – Carl Stephenson nominated to elect Eddie Eastham. Seconded by Thomas Vickers
 - b. **Vice Chairman** – Graham Wilkinson nominated to elect Thomas Carrick. Seconded by John Stephenson
 - c. **Treasurer** – Philip Dawson nominated to elect Ted Ogden. Seconded by John Geldard
 - d. **Representative to NSA English Committee** – Adam Watson proposed to re-approve Greg Dalton and Thomas Carrick. Seconded by Matt Bagley
Thomas Carrick proposed to re-elect Eddie Eastham, seconded by Greg Dalton
- NSA Regional Trustee** – Adam Watson proposed to re-approve John Geldard, seconded by Carl Stephenson

7. **Presentation of the TI Allinson Memorial Award 2018** – Graham Wilkinson announced the winner as Alan Alderson having nominated him alongside John Stephenson on behalf of the Swaledale Sheep Breeders Association. Chairman Eddie Eastham presented Alan with the crystal rose bowl.

8. Any Other Business – None

The meeting continued with presentations from Phil Stocker (NSA) giving an overview of BREXIT and the Livestock Identification Programme (LIP). Thomas Vickers gave a presentation on his background and his year on the NSA Young Ambassadors Scheme. This was followed by Adam Day, Managing Director at The Farmer Network and Freelance Auctioneer. Adam entertained with what The Farmer Network does and stories from his auctioneering and rugby past.

Meeting closed 9.30pm

National Sheep Association

Northern Region Annual Members Meeting



MINUTES OF THE NSA NORTHERN REGION ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2018, at The Tyndale Function Suite, Hexham

Present: Eddie Eastham (Chairman), Thomas Vickers, Phil Stocker (NSA), Ken Lumley, John Stephenson, Robin Raine, John Bell(H), Matt Bagley, Greg Dalton, Thomas Carrick, Carl Stephenson, Adam Watson, William Watson, John Bell(W), Alan Alderson, Phillip Dawson, Mick Mullins, Susan Aglionby, Maxine Stocker, Rona Eastham, R Henry, Viv Lewis, J Peter Lee, Adam Day, John Waugh, John Geldard, Graham Wilkinson, Stephen Taylor, David Raine, Dennis Salt, Heather Stoney-Grayshon

Chairman Eddie Eastham welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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