

# National Sheep Association

## Northern Region Annual Members Meeting



### MINUTES OF THE NSA NORTHERN REGION ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020, at The Tyndale Suite, Hexham

**Present:** J Stephenson, T Ogden, M Oxley, G Wilkinson, T Vickers, J Bell (w), J Reed, JP Lee, TWB Gospel, R Frankland, A Lumley, K Lumley, RG Dalton, DR Raine, M Bagley, J Henry, R Stanton, E Eastham, R Eastham, J Dawson, P Dawson, R Henry, V Lewis, JA Alderson, P Gentry, R Buckle, R Taylforth, S Charlton, D Taylforth, J Edwards, D Lumley, M Porter, J Porter, A Bateson, I Armstrong, M Hewitson, C Adamson, T Carrick, H Stoney-Grayshon

Chairman Thomas Carrick welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** John Geldard, Julie Sedgewick, Fiona Lovatt, Jayne Knowles, Geoff Lawn, W Rawling, J Raine, A Watson, M Brown
- 2. To confirm the minutes of the last ARMM on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019**  
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 C Stephenson, seconded by G Wilkinson. Signed by Chairman, Thomas Carrick.
- 3. To consider matters arising from the above minutes – None noted**
- 4. Chairman's Report - Thomas Carrick**

Thomas noted another year of turbulent weather with a relatively favourable spring leading into a decent summer before a very wet autumn into winter. Following the beast from the east and very dry summer of 2018, 2019 had allowed for fodder stores to be suitably replenished.

2019 prices had remained firm despite on-going uncertainty of BREXIT. There was some 'softening' leading into the summer as the political saga rumbled on.

BREXIT failed to happen in March and then failed again in October. A General Election in December finally brought some end to the non-stop press coverage at Westminster. Now BREXIT is only just over a day away and things seem much calmer.

It is important that as an industry we educate the Government and public about where their food comes from and how UK farming practices vary from those around the world. Phil Stocker as NSA CEO has a grip on this and has done much work on this.

2020 sees us moving nearer to the new movement database -LIP. It has been designed with consultation from farming organisations such as the NSA. It is hoped it will be an improvement.

NSA North Sheep at Settle in June was one of the most successful events held with a very strong attendance figure. Business who attended with a stand or sponsorship were very happy with the day.

Sadly, farming is being victimised at present by climate and vegan activists. NSA works tirelessly to counteract these messages which in many cases are false.

Finally, Thomas concluded by thanking the committee, members and Regional Manager Heather for their support to him as Chairman over the year.

**5. To view the accounts for 2019**

**NSA Northern Region Treasurers Report for Financial Year to 31st December 2019.**

A copy of the accounts was circulated to everyone in the room. 2019 had been a North Sheep Year hence there was an income of £35,021 from this. Costs remain very controlled with an overall surplus for the year of £29,591.

**6. Election/Re-approval of Officers:**

- a. **Chairman** – Thomas Carrick, proposed by E Eastham, seconded by J Reed
- b. **Vice Chairman** – Matt Bagley, proposed by C Stephenson, seconded by T Ogden
- c. **Treasurer** – Ted Ogden, proposed by A Alderson, seconded by M Oxley
- d. **Representative to NSA English Committee** – Eddie Eastham, and Thomas Carrick to re-approve on block. Proposed by G Dalton, seconded by C Stephenson  
M Bagley elected, proposed by G Dalton, seconded by C Stephenson  
**NSA Regional Trustee** – John Geldard, M Bagley proposed to re-approve, seconded by J Reed

**7. Presentation of the TI Allinson Memorial Award 2018 –**

Mr J Porter of the Riddings was awarded the award having been nominated by Mr C Stephenson. C Stephenson spoke of Mr Porters long standing and loyal involvement with the Swaledale, North of England Mule and Blue Faced Leicester Sheep breeds. He described him as a gentleman held in high esteem by sheep breeders throughout the UK.

**8. Any Other Business**

None noted

The meeting was followed by a presentation from Chris Adamson at NSA on the on-going work being undertaken by NSA. The evening was then rounded off by Mr Richard Frankland of Frankland Farms reminiscing and entertaining about his time as North Sheep Host 2019.

Meeting closed 9.10pm

Signed: ..... (Chairman)

Date: .....