



**National Sheep Association  
South East Region**

**Minutes of the NSA South East Region Annual Members' Meeting 2020  
Held at the Angel Hotel, Gosport Road, Privett, Hampshire, GU34 3NN  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm**

- 1. Apologies for absence.** Yann Le Du, NSA South East Region Vice-Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting and accepted apologies from Nigel Durnford, Clover Crosse, James Hamilton, Ian Lockwood, Harry Morgan, Susie Parish, Louise Silk, Sam Stannistreet, Richard Taylor, and Nerys Wright.
- 2. Minutes of the 2019 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 Tom Gibbon and seconded by Marie Prebble with no objections.
- 3. Matters arising, not otherwise on the agenda.** None.
- 4. Reports from regional officers**
  - **Chairman's report:** In the Chairman's absence Yann read out a report submitted by Nigel. Much of this year has been taken up with the need to resolve the Region's financial position, which after negotiations with the Head Office staff at Malvern has resulted in the provision from HQ of a £10,000 grant to the Region. This will enable the Region to carry on its activities for the benefit of members whilst allowing the long term financial position of the region to be established. I would like to thank John Britton our treasure and Phil Stocker the CEO of the association for the part they played in coming to this arrangement. We have had a number of interesting and informative events during the year, Ram compare, Farm Walk / Visit to Plumpton College Farm, Sea Eagles, Setting the record straight, to name but a few, culminating in what I hope now has become established as the regions bi-annual Sheep, Health, Wealth and Production conference. This year's event was very well received, with excellent presentations which gave thought for all those involved in the sheep industry, in addition to being a financial success, as will be seen from this year's balance sheet. Our thanks for this event being so successful must go to Bob who undertook the organisation of the event. Bob thank you for your hard work. Looking forward to this year, it is proposed to hold a number of Field days on farm with various themes as opposed to a South Sheep 2020 I would like to thank all our sponsors who supported the Region in various ways last year and to Farm and Country for the generous support for the supper tonight. Thank you to all the committee for their support during my time as Chairman, and finally a big thank you to Sarah for her hard work and support as Regional Secretary.
  - **Treasurer's report:** John Britton, NSA South East Region Treasurer, gave a report for his second year in the role, referring those present to copies of a profit-and-loss sheet and a balance sheet to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019. John thanked Phil Stocker for the financial support from NSA. The SHWAP conference in November 2019 had made approx. £1,300 profit. The bank accounts are looking healthy but this is due to the grant from NSA. The Field Days planned for 2020 need to generate enough income to keep the region going but it should be



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remembered that the region will still owe NSA £10K. Following a committee meeting held that afternoon it was agreed that Phil Stocker would be invited to meet the SE Region committee to discuss ongoing financial help for the region. John thanked Jim Page, NSA Accountant, and Karen Sumner, NSA Bookkeeper, for their help in preparing the accounts and opened the floor for questions. A question was asked about how the financial situation compared to other NSA regions and how other regions coped. The grant from NSA was described as a bandage and perhaps other models should be considered. Phil Stocker explained that all regions and ram sales were tracked each quarter. Big and strong regions, such as the Welsh and North regions, were able to hold big events, which attracted sponsorship. The SE, Central and Eastern regions have lower numbers and the SW falls in between. Some NSA regions have 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. Bryan Griffiths, Chairman NSA and SW Region, emphasised the fact that whilst NSA is divided into regions it is a National organisation. The SW had faced a similar situation in recent years and the region is in a much stronger position currently. Bryan stressed that NSA is all part of the same team. John asked if his report was to be adopted. This was proposed by Bob Blanden and seconded by Matt Blyth with no objections.

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

Position	Current holder	Action taken
Trustee	Andrew Barr, beginning third year of three-year term.	Proposed by Bob Blanden, seconded by John Gibbon, approved en-bloc by all.
Chairman	Yann Le Du beginning two-year term.	
Vice Chairman	Susie Parish beginning two-year term.	
Treasurer	John Britton, served two years.	
English Committee reps	Martyn Fletcher, beginning third year, Yann Le Du, starting first year and Andrew Barr starting first year of three-year terms.	
	Nigel Durnford, standing for re-election to maintain regional rotation of one rep standing down each year.	
Committee	All existing members eligible to continue.	Committee approved en-bloc by all.
Junior Vice Chairman	James Hamilton has stepped down. Role vacant.	

**6. Election of any new committee members:** Susie Parish proposed Anita Tackley from Oxfordshire, seconded by Yann Le Du and approved by all.

**7. Any other business:** None

**8. Date of the next meeting:** This was set for 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

As there was no further business, Yann closed the meeting at 6.45pm. Yann then introduced three guest speakers – Georgina Croxford, Cargills Premix & Nutrition; Adriana Vaux, Tenant Farmer Association and Bryan Griffiths, Chairman NSA.