

# **DEVON & CORNWALL COCKER SPANIEL CLUB**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 4th May 2018 at 1.46pm  
at Calverleigh Village Hall near Tiverton, Devon**

**Present:** Chairman: Mr A. Reed, Secretary: Miss S. Ellison; Treasurer: Mrs L Cheetham, Mr F Bard, Miss J King, Mrs V Sheppard, Mrs L Ratcliff, Mrs J Sweet, Mr R Owens, Mr S Kew, Mrs J Kew, Mrs J Norris, Miss J Norris, Mr P Meaker

1. **Apologies for absence** – Apologies were received from Kimberley Wannell

2. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 5th May 2018**

On a proposition by Mrs J Sweet seconded by Mrs J Kew the minutes of the 2018 AGM were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. **Matters arising** The Secretary referred to the amendments made to the Constitution agreed at the previous AGM on 5th May 2018, and in particular article “16 Federation – The Club shall not join any federation or society.” The amendments confirmed deletion of this wording as the Club had been a member of the Breed Council since its inception. However upon submission of the Annual Return, the Kennel Club had confirmed that it was not appropriate to delete this article as the rule did not apply to membership of a Breed Council.

4. **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported yet another great year for the club – despite the on-going disappointment in terms of entries.

The Club had delivered well on all the events including the Family Dog Show and all had made a profit – something to be proud of. That said – there had been a financial loss over the last two years, despite it being a Champ Show year in 2018, and the annual fixed expenses put the long-term financial situation under pressure if sound management did not continue to be borne in mind.

The Club would continue to run as many events as possible to bring both the opportunity for our members to learn and grow and have fun while enjoying our great breed.

As always, the club was wholly dependant on the support of a small dedicated Committee and its Members who participate at the shows and events.

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank the Members and especially the Committee for their continued dedication and work.

At this point the Chairman expressed thanks to Wendy Cullen, who had stepped down from the committee, for her long term hard work and support. Wendy would continue to be a major part of the Club for many more years to come upon confirmation of her appointment of President.

Finally the Chairman wished everybody a good a successful showing year.

5. **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary welcomed Members to the AGM and said the Club continued, albeit in difficult times – with entries declining throughout the sport and the complexities of the KC JCF which would come on-line in July, when the transition period began, and the various changes being made added to the mix.

She was pleased to report the Committee had worked hard over the past year to promote the Club and generate finances; a well managed Facebook page, kept members and exhibitors up-to-date and well informed about up and coming shows and other goings-on: the three events held in 2018 head enthusiastically supported and each produced income over expenditure; however, it was to be noted that with the reduced entry at the Championship Show, the finances confirmed a loss over the two years 2017 and 2018. The Club was not wealthy and members should be conscious that continued annual losses could not be sustained. Although there were new exhibitors in the South West, their welcome support did not replace the great numbers of Cocker folk who could be relied upon to attend the shows and events on a regular basis in the past, but who are now lost to the breed. It was difficult to know what was to be done.

On the Cocker front ... this year the KC, in its review of Stud Book Bands, had moved the Cocker Spaniel from Band E to Band D. This impacted upon Stud Book qualifying class placings at Ch Shows and the knock on effect – until the KC JCF takes over in 2022 - was that changes had been made to the Criteria for the Judges Lists B and A3 – the amendments were available on the Breed Council website.

In spite of a somewhat gloomy report, the Club was still keeping its head up ... the Secretary wished everyone luck in the year to come.

**6. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer presented the audited accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018, copies having been circulated. The current account balance stood at £4,163.00 to date. The Chairman, having previously highlighted the potential for on-going annual deficit and the need to keep mindful of the financial position, said that even under the worst circumstances the Club should be in a position to continue operating for a further 20 years until funds were depleted. The accounts were accepted and approved unanimously.

**7. Appointment of Auditor for 2019**

The Treasurer confirmed that the Auditor, Mr J.H. Angus, had agreed to carry out the audit of the accounts for the coming year. The appointment proposed by Mrs F Bard and seconded by Mrs L Ratcliff, was unanimously approved.

**8. Review of Honoraria**

The Secretary and Treasurer were asked to leave the room. The Honoraria to be paid for the year 2019 was confirmed at £350.00 for the Secretary and £200.00 for the Treasurer.

**10. Election of Officers and Committee**

The following Honorary Officers and the Committee were proposed without contest for election, en-bloque:

**President:** Mrs Wendy Cullen

**Chairman:** Mr A Reed –

**Vice- Chairman:** Mrs F Bard

**Treasurer:** Mrs L Cheetham -

**Secretary:** Miss S Ellison –

**Committee,**

Miss J King; Mrs V Sheppard; Miss Kimberley Wannell; Mrs Laura Ratcliff;

The Honorary Officers and Committee were unanimously confirmed in post.

**11. Any Other business:**

Honorary Life Membership – after many years of continued support of both the Breed and The Club, the Chairman was pleased to confirm that Mrs Jackie Norris be awarded Honorary Life Membership. Unanimously approved.

**12. Close of meeting**

The Chairman thanked members for attending and the meeting closed at 2.00 pm.

Signed .....

Dated .....2020