



## **BORDER COLLIE CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN**

### **MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 3 MARCH 2024**

**at THE KENNEL CLUB BUILDING, MEETING ROOM A,  
STONELEIGH PARK, KENILWORTH, CV8 2LZ  
AND VIA REMOTE LINK**

**PRESENT:** Pete Simmons (Chair), Nik Knight (Treasurer), Collette Green, Pat Hales, Janeen Longhurst, Pete Longhurst, Helen Murfet, Mandi Oliver, John Preston, Sue Preston, Vonnie Simmons, Annette Walters (Vice Chair), Alison Woodrow, Anita Gowing (Secretary). Via remote link: Marion Hopkinson (President), Jill Spurr, Maureen Cook, Ron & Venessa Jukes, Tracey Wilkinson.

Pete Simmons opened the meeting at 11.10 am.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Rachel Spencer, Phil Surridge, Louise Collier, Hannah Fawcett, Pat Hales, Pat Wilkinson, Marion & Alan Brierley, Jan & Graham Chance, Felicity Snook.

2. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 6 MARCH 2023**

The Minutes were approved as an accurate record – proposed by Annette Walters and seconded by Janeen Longhurst.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

None raised.

4. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Thank you to all those attending in person or by internet link.

Firstly, I would personally like to pay my respects following the loss last year of our Treasurer for many years and a great friend, Doug Collier. I also wish Tracey Wilkinson and Julie Barratt all the best and health in their future ventures away from the Club; both will be hard to replace.

As for the Club in general, we are in a good place with a good working team of helpers of a wide age span, which is needed to keep the Club running as it does.

We now have an Events Team, which has already hosted successful herding and handling days. Future events are already in the pipeline for the year ahead.

The 2023 Championship show was well supported, as was the Open Show; I thank the members and non-members for their support.

Puppy & Veteran Of The Year were also well supported and the Club will ensure that these events continue to be recognised with their own day, separate from other events.

This year we will hold two Championship shows, with the second running alongside the Open show. This will push us to our limits, but I'm sure that we will manage it in our usual professional way.

I would like to thank Anita as Secretary for her sterling work and time given to the Club and also to Nik our Treasurer for keeping the finances in order.

Shows in general seem to be returning to normal with entries on the rise and we have a super entry for our March 2024 Championship show.

I would like to wish Sarah Lea all the luck in the world as she represents the Border Collie in Best Special Beginner at the Pawscars this coming week. Our breed is also nominated for Breed Of The Year and I hope that the representatives have a great night and they can collect the awards at the end of the evening. I would like to thank Anita for creating the video which accompanies the Breed Of The

Year nomination.

Finally, I must thank all our committee for their hard work to make these shows and events happen with such success.

We will strive to keep the high standards our members expect from the Premier Club.

Good luck, stay healthy and have a great year.

#### 5. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Welcome to everyone here and those joining via remote link.

2023 was the end of an era for our Club with the loss of Doug Collier, one of our founder members and Treasurer for forty years. Both the Club and the wider Border Collie community owe a great debt of gratitude to Doug who served the Club and the breed tirelessly; his wise words and entertaining articles in the year book will be much missed.

Our events continue to go from strength to strength. The Photographic Competition drew an amazing entry of 236 top quality images for 2023 and raised £219 for the nominated charity Service Dogs UK. The herding day is so popular that we hosted two days, with both being fully booked.

The 44th edition of our Year Book was again produced in partnership with Amber Print Services. Despite the challenges of cost and obtaining articles, we continue to be able to make the book financially viable to provide members with a free copy and thanks go to all the advertisers for supporting the publication.

2024 is an exciting year with our inaugural second Championship Show being held in October alongside our regular Open Show; Puppy & Veteran Of The Year events move to November. Keep an eye on social media for announcements of other events during the year.

Thank you to all those who continue to support the Club through membership, exhibiting at shows and attending events; I say it every year because it's true: without you there would be no Club.

#### 6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The 2023 accounts show an increased deficit compared to the previous year due in part to donations and losses on the Open show & POTY/VOTY which eat into the surplus made by the Championship show. Hopefully, with the additional Ch show in October this year should be better.

The Club is however in a good financial position.

#### 7. **OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

- President – Nomination received for re-election of Mrs Marion Hopkinson unopposed.
- Chairperson - Nomination received for re-election of Mr Peter Simmons unopposed.
- Secretary - Nomination received for re-election of Miss Anita Gowing unopposed.
- Treasurer – Nomination received for re-election of Mr Nik Knight unopposed.
- Vice-Chair - Nomination received for re-election of Ms Annette Walters unopposed.
- Committee - the following committee members are nominated for re-election: Pat Hales, Janeen Longhurst, Pete Longhurst, Jill Spurr, Phil Surridge

The following co-optees have been nominated for committee:- Collette Green, John Preston, Sue Preston

A block vote was proposed by Annette Walters, seconded by Mandi Oliver and all of the above nominations were approved.

#### 8. **PROPOSALS RECEIVED**

##### **Proposal for Rule Changes:**

**In order to accommodate the hybrid format for AGMs, the following Rule changes are proposed by Anita Gowing and seconded by Jill Spurr: (deleted text in ~~strike through~~, new text in bold)**

MEETINGS – 12 a) The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in March each year, when the Secretary will submit an annual report and the Treasurer will submit the balance sheet prepared by the auditor for adoption. The certified accounts will be made available on request to

members fourteen days prior to the AGM. **The meeting will be in the 'hybrid' format with members attending in person, together with others participating remotely.** Ten members shall form a quorum for General Meetings; **these will be taken from those attending in person and those members attending remotely who, for reasons of location or personal responsibilities, cannot attend in person and have pre-agreed their remote attendance with the Club Chair. Those attending remotely who have not informed the Chair prior to the AGM, will not be counted towards the quorum, but will be able to vote.**

12 e) At all meetings the President or Chairman shall preside. In their absence the Vice-Chairman will preside. **Votes will be taken from both those attending in person and those participating remotely** ~~Every member shall have an equal vote~~ and where the votes are equal the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

The proposal was carried.

## 9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Anita made the following proposal:

It has been 10 years since our Chair & myself were persuaded to stand for election and those years seem to have flown by.

Unlike the positions of Treasurer or Secretary, that of Chair is less well defined; it's not just a case of chairing meetings and certain personal attributes are necessary for the role. Our Chair is a great ambassador for the Club and very good at networking; he does not 'micromanage' but is always available to step in and make decisions when necessary.

As we embark on our second decade, I would like to nominate Pete as a Life Member of the Club, in recognition of his contribution. Our Treasurer seconds the nomination.

The proposal was carried and Pete expressed his thanks for the honour.

Pete closed the meeting closed at 11.23 am.