



President The Most Hon. The Marquess of Salisbury KG KCVO PC DL
Registered No. 248119
Established 1884
PO Box 251, Exeter, EX2 8WX
Limited by Guarantee

The Conservation Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September 2025 at 7.30pm

Present Guy Kiddy (Chair), Janice Wood, Irving Carter, Chris Hudson, Ali Chew, Tracey Bretherton, Ryan Perry, Sarah Howes

1. Apologies - None
2. Minutes of the last meeting on 01/04/2025 – Agreed as correct
3. Matters arising – No matters arising
4. Survey – This will start on 1st November 2025 and close on Monday 1st December, Sarah Howes explained that the subs will be generated from the survey results with no time-consuming alterations which have happened in previous years. She also explained that Grassroots have improved the system which should make it easier and quicker to produce the results this year. A meeting will be held with the breed reps once the results of the election are known. It is planned to have the meeting online on Tuesday 21st October at 7.30pm
5. Sponsorship – The committee chairman has written 31 letters to various companies asking for sponsorship for BPA conservation activities. As a result of this an expression of interest in helping with printing the annual herdbook has come from the publishers of Pig World. Ryan Perry suggested we should speak to Dawn Newman to see if there are any grants available
6. Herdbooks – Guy Kiddy & Sarah Howes are looking to get 2022 & 2023 printed as soon as possible in the hope that from 2024 we can get some sponsorship for this important activity
7. Annual Awards – These are made at the AGM each year

John Millard is to be made an Honorary Life Member in recognition of his outstanding support for pedigree pigs and his many export achievements (see attached letter)

Greenmeadow Community Farm will receive a 25 years of pedigree breeding award

8. Breed Rep Elections – These opened on 28th August and close on 1st October 2025. The results will announced during week beginning 13th October to allow time for any elections that may need to take place and as already mentioned in item 4 a meeting will take place



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on Tuesday 21st October to explain to the breed reps how the position will function over the next 3 years

9. Late Payment of Subs –

10. New Grassroots system – Janice Wood gave a brief presentation about the new Kinship programme. She has found one of the biggest changes to be inbreeding mean which is now over 20 years and has changed the figures considerably, for example one pig has gone from 2.78 to 11.47. This is taking a bit of getting used to. Also, cannot do kinships on same sex matings or dead animals which includes the boars in the Gene Bank. It is planned to have training session for all kinship users with Grassroots where we can also bring up some of these issues. Users to be informed when a date has been set.

Kinship access has been given to the following Reps

Berkshire – Chris Hudson
British Saddleback - Janice Woods
Duroc – Jan Walton
Gloucestershire Old Spot – Guy Kiddy
Hampshires – Guy Kiddy
Landrace – Nigel Overend
Large Black – Janice Woods
Large White – Nick and Guy Kiddy
Mangalitza – Lisa Hodgson
Middle White – Tracey Bretherton and Sarah Howes
Oxford Sandy and Black – Jane Mathews
Pietrains – Janice Woods
Tamworth – Ryan Perry and Ali Chew
Welsh – Corrina Taylor

11. Junior Pig Club – Tracey Bretherton gave a verbal report that members had had a good summer and are looking forward to the climax of their year at Malvern over the weekend of 27/28 September 2025
12. Grant for Mangalitza import of pigs (see forwarded email) – this was discussed at length by the committee who decided to not give the requested grant. Members of the committee had various reasons which included applying retrospectively rather than in advance which is the correct procedure and one member applying for 5 grants which is not in the spirit of the grants which are one grant of £250 to each breeder. Some members felt that Mangalitza should not be a priority compared to our traditional breeds. The grant application specifically says it is for native breeds



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13. Huntsham Herd – Guy Kiddy hosted a meeting in August of Middle White breeders concerned about the conservation of genetics from the largest herd of middle whites which is being dispersed due to the retirement of Richard Vaughan.
14. Any other business – Large White BPA/RBST project, Tracey Bretherton to write a paper and submit as soon as possible on the progress of this project
15. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 9th December 2025