

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF THE JACOB SHEEP SOCIETY LTD**  
held at **10 am** on **27<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

In attendance: John Emberton (Chairman), Janet East (Vice Chairman), Jean Simmons (President), Clive Richardson (Field Officer), Lesley Pope (Treasurer), Melanie Harper (Scotland RCM), Matthew Kehoe (Ireland RCM), Kay Carpenter (Central RCM), Siwan Harries (Wales RCM), Richard Fenwick (South West RCM), Tom Green (Eastern RCM), Peter Gorringe (Southern RCM), Nicola Fletcher (Assistant Secretary) and 49 members of the Jacob Sheep Society.

**1. Chairman's Welcome:** The Chairman, Mr John Emberton, welcomed all attendees to the meeting. He thanked the Wales region, and the Wales RCM, Siwan Harries, for hosting the AGM. He said that members had had a very good time at the visits yesterday and were looking forward to the flock visits today and tomorrow.

**2. To receive apologies for absence:** Apologies are available in the Minutes Book.

**3. To approve the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023.** Twenty two members present, who were also present at the 2022 AGM, voted in agreement that the minutes were an accurate representation of the 2023 AGM, with no members voting against approval of the minutes.

**4. Matters arising.** No matters arising.

**5. To receive the Chairman's report.** Mr Emberton said that his past three years as Chairman have been very interesting and have included some enjoyable experiences. He enjoyed travelling to events in various Regions, and meeting new people. He said that JSS activities and membership participation is better in some regions than others but the JSS is committed to encourage members to attend meetings in every Region.

**6. To receive the Field Officer's report.**

Mr Richardson said that the Society has faced some challenges in recent years, reminiscent of the foot and mouth epidemic of 2001. We survived that as a Society and we have survived Covid and thankfully the Society and its members are getting back to normality. He highlighted the effort Society volunteers make to organise open days, young handler events and other activities, and he encouraged members to make every effort to attend if possible. He said that we have some Board members retiring this year and he will be sorry to see them go but welcomed our new President, Chairman, Vice Chairman and the other new Board members. Mr Richardson reaffirmed our commitment to be the friendly, inclusive society that Lady Aldington envisaged when she set up the Society 55 years ago.

**7. Treasurer's report, and presentation of 2023 Accounts.** Mrs Pope presented the Accounts for the year to 30th September 2023, which had been previously circulated to all members. Mrs Pope gave a report on Society finances and activities.

**8. To re-appoint the reporting accountants for 2024:** EQ accountants were proposed as the reporting accountants by Mrs Lesley Pope, seconded by Mrs Shirley Leonard.

**9. Handover to the incoming Chairman.**

Mr Emberton handed over to Mrs Janet East, the new Chairman.

Mrs East thanked Mr Emberton and introduced herself.

She said that she is committed to continue to drive the Society forward. We are fortunate to have strong membership and a strong Board. The Society also has a strong marketing team who are working hard to maintain and increase our profile. She introduced our new webmaster, Mr Terry Barker, who has introduced several new initiatives including Google workspace. Mrs East said that at the heart of what we do is promoting our Jacob Sheep. Showing is our shop window but lots of members enjoy keeping sheep and she will not forget that. Mrs East concluded by reiterating her intention to work towards achieving the fundamental aims of the Society.

**10. To propose a vote of thanks to the retiring members of Council**

Mrs East presented gifts to Mrs Jean Simmons for her work as President, and Mr Emberton for his work as Chairman of the Society. She offered her thanks to Mrs Siwan Harries who is retiring as the Welsh RCM and all who have supported her.

**11. To receive the result of the election for officers at this AGM:**

- Vice-chairman: Mr Scott Dalrymple elected unopposed.  
Mr Dalrymple had sent a message to thank all members who encouraged and supported his nomination to stand as vice-chairman of the Jacob Sheep Society. He looked forward to working with members over the coming months and hoped to meet up with many members at Sales and Open Days this summer.

**12a. To receive the results of elections for Regional Council Members:**

- Central Region – Mrs Kay Carpenter re-elected unopposed
- Northern Region – No nomination
- Wales Region – Mrs Alison Ross elected unopposed

**12b. To record Board appointments made during the year**

- Company Secretary and IT director - Mr Terry Barker

**13. Questions from the Floor:** No questions had been received.

**14. Close of Meeting:** Mrs East formally closed the meeting.

**Handover to the new President and remarks:** Mrs Simmons thanked Board members past and present, volunteers, and Siwan Harries and her team for organising such a fantastic AGM weekend.

Mrs Simmons has visited all Regions during her term as President, and has met many people and their sheep. She said the quality of Jacob sheep is excellent and the breed has made huge advances over the past number of years.

Mrs Simmons presented the Wand of Office to the incoming President, Mrs Pat Black. Mrs Black said that it was a fantastic honour to take over from Mrs Simmons. She mentioned the many wonderful Presidents of the Jacob Sheep Society including the Duchess of Devonshire, and Lady Aldington. She felt the Society is in good hands and mentioned the benefits that Mr Terry Barker will bring to the Society in his new role. She said that we have had a fantastic day yesterday and thanked Mrs Siwan Harries, who is a wonderful organiser backed up by a great team. She thanked all members who have hosted flock visits. Mrs Black said that she has been a member since the 1980s, and she and her husband Trevor enjoy attending one day shows and AGM weekends. She is looking forward to attending events over the next three years.

**Presentation of the Pat Bromley Trophy:** Caitlyn Carpenter

**Presentation of the Journal Prize:** Tom Green