

The Canary Council for Great Britain and Northern Ireland

AGM Agenda

Saturday 1st April 2023 at 1030 am
At The Fieldhead Hotel, Markfield Lane, Markfield,
Leicestershire LE67 9PS.

- 1 Apologies
Andy Early, Malcolm Neale - Hoso Alliance
Kevin and Ann McCaluum - OVCA
Saviour Camilleri - Norwich
Tony Horton - LCA

- Present
Barry Mills, Adam Roper - Yorkshire CC
Adam Raine, Henry Cooper - Fife Council
Charlie Gardiner, Paul Gillott - Fife Federation
Dave Allen -- Blue Lizard Club
Keith Ferry - Norwich
Maurice O'Connor - Irish Fancy
Chris Smith - Kernow (Rare) Club

- 2 Minutes of AGM - 10th April 2022 accepted as true record.
- 3 Matters Arising - none

- 4 President's Report - as always I will keep it short.
Welcome to new faces around the table. It has been a challenging couple of years and we face more difficulties with the rising cost of seed and the presence of avian flu leading to the cancelling of shows. I wish everyone a good breeding season.
- 5 Chairman's Report - echo the President's comment, we seem to be back to some form of normality. Clubs are hanging on and looking for new ways of running their meetings and events. Avian flu has indeed caused problems with shows having to be cancelled, and the problem is not going to go away. We need to consider the DEFRA consultation later on the agenda, in particular the human safety and health aspects. The Canary Council is a pillar of the NCA and we need to join others to formulate a response on behalf of both organisations.
The Canary Council supports the National Exhibition, some consider it too early for the show, but it is the only available

date for the whole weekend that is required, and we are grateful to the Parrot Society for organising it.

The NCA is giving free insurance to those clubs who purchased it the previous year, as a gesture to help out struggling clubs, and which is to be applauded. Some 78 clubs are believed to have taken this up already.

We need to get younger people involved in the fancy if things are to change. Social media is a way forward and if used properly will change the fancy. Stafford Spring show was again busy with a lot of people interested in birds, we need to tap into that pool of people.

6 Secretary's/Treasurer's Report

I have held this position of secretary for over 20 years now and have been involved with The NCA for 43 years, recently 10 years as Chairman and 2 years as President. It is now time to call it a day. My general health is poor and I am advised to take it easy. I have decided to give up canaries after this season.

So we are looking for a new secretary and treasurer when we come to elect officers. The DEFRA consultation on registering bird keepers needs careful consideration to formulate a response. We need someone to come forward to do the judges adjudicating at the National Exhibition, Adam Raine put himself forward, someone to procure the National trophies – Barry Mills volunteered to undertake this role and give out the rosettes.

Turning to our finances and the treasurers report , we now have 14 member groups, so if they all sent delegates we should have 28 people around this table, we barely reach double figures. We do need to consider the future of the Canary council. Our main source of income is from subscriptions, though the id coded ring scheme does bring in £200 plus. We purchased rosettes last year which should be sufficient for the next couple of years. Our income and expenditure of around £1000 each means that our balance remains pretty much the same each year at just under £800. A number of groups have yet to pay their fees due and a reminder will be sent out following the meeting. The balance sheet was agreed.

7 Election of officers

President - Maurice O'Connor

Chairman - Barry Mills

Vice Chairman - Dave Allen

Treasurer - Adam Raine

Secretary - Charlie Gardiner

Ring Secretary - Chris Smith

NCA delegates

Saviour Camilleri

Keith Ferry

Adam Roper

Charlie Gardiner

NE Judges Adjudication - Adam Raine

8 Correspondence.

Text received from the Fife Fancy Federation expressing concern about the presence of three different models for the fife fancy, one from the FFF, one from the Fife Council and the COM model. It was considered confusing for novices and judges and exhibitors in the fancy. After lengthy discussion it was accepted that one model would be preferable but how to achieve this was problematical. A suggestion to consult all exhibitors was not acceptable to some. The Canary Council offered to mediate in any future separate discussions to resolve this issue and it was thought some progress was made in bringing the two sides together for further discussion.

A request was received from Darren Hadley for sponsorship of the Irish Fancy club show. Given the level of funds in the Canary Council account it was agreed that financial sponsorship was not an option but that rosettes would be provided for the show.

- 9 National Exhibition. – the Parrot Society were minded not to hold the spring meeting for participating clubs as things were running smoothly for the past few years. However if any club has an issue to raise then contact Les Rance or the show co-ordinator direct.

10 Canary Council Ring Scheme – around 20 fanciers order id coded rings each with about 1200 rings issued, raising a surplus of £200 plus for the Canary Council

11 CC Web Page - again we have paid £110 for web site maintenance for the next year and no one is using the site to promote their breed or club, this cannot be considered value for money.

12 COM UK – World Show

COM UK president and secretary visited the World show in Naples on behalf of British fanciers though numbers of exhibitors and birds were down. Current discussions with DEFRA suggest it will be 2025 before legislation is changed to permit UK birds to attend without the need for quarantine. The 2024 World Show is to be held in Telavera de la Raine, Spain in January.

14 NCA Report

- Insurance – over 78 clubs applied for the free insurance scheme to date with 20 new clubs as well, though an update will be given at the NCA meeting in the afternoon.

- Defra update – as above and Charlie Gardiner gave an insight into the registration scheme operating in Northern Ireland whereby bird keepers were issued with a flock number which had to be submitted with an entry to any show in the province. This has been in place for about ten years and does not appear to cause any problems.

- CITES / SUN meetings continue with DEFRA via Microsoft teams though they are still concentrating on CITIES legislation at the moment.

15 AOB

It was reported that people were attacking shows and venues on social media and it was agreed that this will not be tolerated and action taken against those individuals carrying this out.

16 Date of next meeting 6th April 2024 at 1030am venue to be determined

