



The [REDACTED] Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body

Monday 25th May 2020

2pm [REDACTED] Microsoft teams

Minutes

1. Attendance and apologies.

Apologies
[REDACTED]

2. Minutes of last meeting:

The AWERB committee minutes were accepted as true record of the previous meeting that took place on 20/4/2020

3. Matters arising/Action points

- *Action:* [REDACTED] /AWERB: presentation to AWERB by [REDACTED]: *Action* [REDACTED] to contact [REDACTED] to arrange a suitable meeting to present at.
- *Action:* AWERB: preparation of a poster emphasising the role of the AWERB (for example at open days): *Action* [REDACTED] to discuss with [REDACTED]

4. Licences *submitted* to Home Office since last AWERB meeting

New Project licences

- None

Amended Project licences

- AWERB [REDACTED] A08-20

5. Presentation to the AWERB

2.15pm: [REDACTED] PPL renewal: [REDACTED]

2.40pm: [REDACTED] amendment: Mapping features of [REDACTED] and the consequences of its treatment using [REDACTED].

6. PPL review

PL13-20 [REDACTED]: approved

Comments and discussion:

- NTS: some clarification required and provided on what the purpose of the gene editing is for - specifically this to understand the function of the gene. Some examples of how this informs science would be considered helpful - for example using knockouts in influenza research. Other noted points to be forwarded to the applicant for information.
- Grammar: there are some minor points throughout which need to be addressed.
- Hatch rate: clarify the hatch rate in more detail and explain benefits of this research as this is not completely clear in the application. Protocol 3 will specifically focus on hatch rate efficiency and focus on improvements and new areas of research, the benefits of this need to be made clearer in the application.
- Action Plan: some revision needed here, mainly to clarify objectives.
- NTS: remove reference to other species, for example turkey and geese, as these have no relevance to the current application.

7. PPL amendment review:

- **A22-20** [REDACTED] **amendment**: further discussion put forward to June 2020 meeting.
- **A27-20** [REDACTED] **: approved**
- **A30-20** [REDACTED] **: approved** pending completion of sub-committee review and circulation to the AWERB, final review date 2nd June 2020.

8. Overseas research proposals: OS7-20: approved

- Request that the director or supervisor signs the form and not the student.
- Artificial rearing: although not provided at the point of submission, clarification on the method of rearing (hand rearing after birth) was made available during the meeting.

9. Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care: consider the production of a poster showing the effectiveness of paracetamol on pecking issues in birds and its effectiveness.

10. Statistics and experimental design: no report tabled

11. NVS and NTCO update

NTCO update:

- Online learn course: currently being completed and new online Scotpil training module being developed to run for September 2020. This course will require accreditation which will hopefully be completed July 2020.

NVS update:

- Covid-19 impact: all teams working well together, using online resources if possible but unit visits have happened where required.
- Research return plan: forms circulated for completion, large animal requests being handled and coordinated directly by the farm staff. This is just for planning purposes at this stage, experimentally things are quiet.
- [REDACTED]: no [REDACTED]-specific studies in place at the moment.
- [REDACTED]: husbandry issues in [REDACTED] line now resolved by reducing stocking densities.

12. PEL Holder update:

New PEL holder: no report tabled.

13. Reports from Facilities

Farms () – update () :

- Minimal experimental studies ongoing, some work with lambs ongoing.
- Planning stage for return to work in progress, this will take some time to implement due to issues with social distancing.
- : hoping for contractor to re-commence work shortly at the will take 5-6 months for final completion.

Poultry ()

- supervisor post: successfully completed interviews over MS teams and appointment made, also planning to commence modern apprentice's interviews shortly.
- Chick Embryo room – () No updates
- Aquaculture Facility - future plans for aqua-culture room middle room are currently being finalised. Update: confirmation that the middle wing can be used presently for additional aquaculture studies.

14. A.O.B.

15. Date of next meeting: 22nd June 2pm, Microsoft Teams.