



The [REDACTED] Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body

Monday August 23rd 2pm
2pm [REDACTED] Microsoft teams
Minutes

1. Attendance and apologies.

Apologies
[REDACTED]

New appointments: two new members have been appointed to the committee with expertise in large animals and poultry it was noted that the committee were delighted with these new appointments.

2. Minutes of last meeting:

The AWERB committee minutes were accepted as true record of the previous meeting that took place on the 21st June 2021.

3. Matters arising/Action points

- **Communications assistant/intern:** examples of non technical summaries to be made available on our websites, this should be actioned shortly: *Action to be completed pending final revision of NTS and photos for website*
- **Lay member:** have requested that the lay member will have an earlier input into the PPL applications which should be beneficial to all concerned - this will be at the point of NVS/AWERB review. *Action complete [REDACTED] to implement from August 2021*

4. Lay member input: a meeting was convened to discuss lay member input. Agreed that the lay member would have more input at an earlier stage and [REDACTED] to action earlier involvement of the lay member for example in discussions and licences.

5. Retrospective review: agreed to re-establish the process of retrospective and/or midpoint reviews of PPLs. PPL holders will be contacted shortly once the process and forms are in place. The aim is to commence this by the end of 2021. The committee would welcome any feedback on this process.

- The aim would be for every project licence holder to complete a form at the end of a licence term.
- Once in place the form would be sent to AWERB for consideration and the PPL holder invited to present a summary of progress made, such that the harms and benefits of the research can be properly appreciated.

6. Structure of AWERB: agreed that facilities reports could be put at the start of the meeting to allow protected time for these reports.

7. **New members**: new members will be formally introduced and provided with a formal letter of invitation and an information pack with details on the role of the AWERB.
8. Licences *submitted* to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting

New Project licences

none

Amended Project licences

none

9. **Project licence applications under consideration**

None

10. **PPL amendments under consideration by the AWERB**

PPL amendments approved by the sub-committee of the AWERB

- A51-21 [REDACTED] : approved
- A52-21 [REDACTED] : approved
- A53-21 [REDACTED] approved

11. **OS5-21**: [REDACTED]: this proposal includes agricultural species, including sheep, cattle and pigs. There were no concerns raised and similar work is carried out in the UK. Sampling volumes were within standard limits and raised no issues, ethical approval (or similar) will be sought in Uganda to obtain approval for this work.

Outcome: approved

12. **Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care:**

Student projects: there will be a call shortly for post-grad student projects within the poultry facility.

13. **Statistics and experimental design**: no report tabled

14. **NTCO update**: there has been a good response to the request for personal licence holders to consider the use of and whether they require a personal licence. Some requests for revocation or removal of redundant species already received.

15. NVS update

NVS Poultry:

Vaccines: The use of live attenuated vaccines in the [REDACTED] facility can potentially impact unrelated studies. Where unvaccinated status is a prerequisite, researchers should consider use of the [REDACTED] facility instead.

- 16. PEL Holder update:** updates on the changes from ASRU were given. It was noted that one (remote) audit has been conducted at another establishment. No details disclosed of any proposed audits for Edinburgh yet. Under new engagement strategies two meetings will be delivered for PEL holders: one in October (which will not allow for questions) and one in October which will be a Q and A session.

17. Reports from Facilities

Farms & LARIF update ([REDACTED]):

LARIF Report

- Facilities currently very busy, CT scanning involving 30 sheep in progress.
- [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) weaning of lambs is underway, with work going well.
- Remedial work is ongoing at the [REDACTED], not major works just snagging concerns.
- [REDACTED] project: first studies are in progress, no issues have been encountered.

Poultry ([REDACTED]):

- [REDACTED]: no facility issues raised, all working well.

Avian egg facility:

- No report tabled.

Aquaculture facility updates ([REDACTED]):

- Registrations for fish work to conduct infectious studies are underway.
- Other commercial work is underway (Agri-EPI)
- Work with un-regulated species, oysters and shrimp are underway without issues.

- 18. A.O.C.B:** Animal rights groups have figured prominently in the news recently – mostly in relation to issues south of the border. Members reminded to maintain awareness of security both within and around animal facilities.

- 19. Date of next meeting:** September 28th 2pm, Microsoft Teams.