The One Hundred and Seventieth Annual General Meeting of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, held on Friday 5 July 2013, at the Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrews Place, Regent’s Park, London NW1 4LE

The President, Ms Jacqui Molyneux, was in the Chair.

Members of RCVS Council, VN Council, other members of the profession and guests were present.

The Registrar reported that the notice of the meeting had been published in the London Gazette on 1 May 2013. It had also been published in the veterinary press and the agenda was sent to every member during the third week of June 2013 in the RCVS News.

1. **Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting**
   The minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held on 6 July 2012, which had been made available online, were confirmed and approved as a correct record.

2. **Annual Report 2013 and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2012**
   The President formally presented the Annual Report 2013 and the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2012.

3. **Questions**
   As no questions were raised, the President moved the adoption of the Annual Report and the Statement of Accounts for the Year Ending 31 December 2012. This was agreed.

4. **Council elections: New Members and Retirements**
   The Registrar read the report of Electoral Reform Services relating to the election of Councillors, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Thomas Witte</td>
<td>2,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Christopher Gray</td>
<td>1,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Peter Jinman</td>
<td>1,949</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bradley Viner</td>
<td>1,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Christopher Tufnell</td>
<td>1,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jeremy Davies</td>
<td>1,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Christopher Sturgess</td>
<td>1,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Niall Connell</td>
<td>1,596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Peter Robinson</td>
<td>1,366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Robert Ellis</td>
<td>1,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Lewis Grant</td>
<td>832</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Registrar declared that the first six of those named were elected Members of Council for a period of four years, and Mr Christopher Sturgess and Mr Niall Connell were elected for three years and two years respectively, to take the seats of two Council members who resigned to take up places on the newly-constituted Disciplinary Committee.

The President announced that Mrs Caroline Freedman from the University of Edinburgh, and Professor Ewan Cameron from the University of Glasgow, had been re-appointed for a further year.

At the University of Cambridge, Professor James Wood had been appointed to replace Professor Duncan Maskell, who stood down in January 2013.

At the University of Liverpool, Dr Tim Nuttall would be standing down and Professor Malcolm Bennett had been proposed as his replacement.

The President announced that Privy Council-appointed member, Mr Richard Davis, was also re-appointed for a further four-year term of office.

The President formally welcomed Dr Thomas Witte, who was present, as a newly-elected Member of Council.

The President bid farewell to the four retiring Members of Council – Mrs Jill Nute, Mrs Catherine Goldie, Mrs Beverley Cottrell and Dr Tim Nuttall – and thanked them for their hard work and commitment on behalf of the College.

The President reported that Mrs Catherine Goldie and Mrs Beverley Cottrell had taken up appointments on the new Disciplinary Committee.

**VN Council**

The Registrar reported that Mrs Amy Robinson had been elected to the Veterinary Nurses Council and started a four-year term, and that existing member Mrs Andrea Jeffery had been re-elected for a further four-year term.

The Registrar announced two newly-appointed lay members of VN Council, Mrs Alison Carr and Professor Sue Proctor, and the re-election of Mrs Kathy Kissick as Chairman for a further year.

The new members were welcomed to VN Council by the Chairman.

The President thanked retiring members of VN Council, Mrs Jill Nute, Mrs Louise Glysen, Mr Richard Hooker and Rev Tony Birbeck, for their hard work over the years.

The Registrar gave special thanks to retiring member of Council and VN Council, Mrs Jill Nute, and announced a new medal that Mrs Jill Nute had commissioned for VN Council Chairmen to wear, and also a smaller version for past Chairmen. Mrs Jill Nute then presented the medal to current Chairman Mrs Kathy Kissick, and the past Chairmen pins to Miss Liz Branscombe and Mr Roger Eddy.
5. **Presentation of Honorary Associateship**
   Dr Eva Kirsten Elisabet Rausing

6. **Honorary Fellowship by Election**
   Dr Frances Joy Archer VMD MS PhD DipECVCP FRCPath MRCVS
   Mr David Raymond Franklin BVM&S MRCVS
   Mr Colin James Whitaker BVetMed MRCVS

7. **Presentation of Fellowships**
   Michael James Guilliard MA VetMB CertSAO MRCVS
   Prof Iain Martin Sheldon BVSc DCHP DBR PhD MRCVS

8. **Presentation of Diplomas**

   **Diploma in Cattle Health and Production**
   Dr Alastair Ian Macrae BVM&S CertSHP CertCHP PhD MRCVS (not present)
   James Alex Willshire BVSc CertCHP MRCVS

   **Diploma in Sheep Health and Production**
   Dr Fiona Margaret Lovatt BVSc CertSHP PhD MRCVS (not present)
   Mark Alexander Bush MA VetMB CertSAS MRCVS

   **Diploma in Small Animal Surgery (Soft Tissue)**
   Timothy Michael Charlesworth MA VetMB CertSAS MRCVS
   Dr Alistair Iain Freeman BVMS CertSAS PhD MRCVS (not present)

   **Diploma in Veterinary Cardiology**
   Stephen Alexander Collins BVetMed CertVC MRCVS

9. **Presentation of Diplomas in Advanced Veterinary Nursing (small animal)**
   Naomi Karen Atkinson RVN
   Emma Jane Batty RVN (not present)
   Jessica Louise Beckett RVN
   Samantha Bell RVN
   Sarah Alma Bloor RVN
   Catherine Budd RVN
   Felicity Christine Caldwell RVN (not present)
   Catherine Jane Cannon RVN
   Ami Hannah Clarke RVN
   Julie Ann Clarke RVN
   Kathryn Cook RVN (not present)
   Emma Copley RVN (not present)
   Mairead Ann Deasy RVN (not present)
   Laura Dickson RVN (not present)
Jennifer Clare Gardner RVN
Charlotte Elizabeth Glasbey RVN
Elizabeth Ann Hanson RVN (not present)
Albert Charles Peter Holgate RVN (not present)
Jackie Hudson RVN (not present)
Aileen Elizabeth Lang RVN
Eibhlin Leahy RVN (not present)
Amanda Claire Ledward RVN
Alison Mann RVN
Caroline Martin RVN
Emma Marion McCluskey RVN (not present)
Samantha Jayne Palmer RVN (not present)
Lisa Pearce RVN
Amy Robinson RVN
Rebecca Louise Skilton RVN
Nicola Jane Smith RVN
Kylie Louise Soar RVN
Charlene Jemima Stowe RVN (not present)
Ashley Suleyman RVN
Emma Jayne Walker-Boyce RVN (not present)
Nicola Jane Ward RVN
Nicola Gail Waring RVN
Beth Louise Worrall RVN (not present)
Sarah Peggy Wyatt RVN

Presentation of Diplomas in Advanced Veterinary Nursing (equine)
Natalie Karla Fisk REVN
Kate Susannah Lomas RVN REVN
Marie Claire Rippingale REVN

10. Rebranding of the RCVS Charitable Trust
The recently appointed new Executive Director of the RCVS Charitable Trust, Mr Nick Royle, spoke about the role of the Trust and how it would change to have three core offerings: historical knowledge, present knowledge and future knowledge. He announced that this had been reflected in a new name for the charity: RCVS Knowledge.

The Executive Director of RCVS Knowledge explained how the charity would refocus to become a global intermediary for evidence-based veterinary medicine.

11. Presentation of books to the RCVS Knowledge Library from the British Small Animal Veterinary Association
Each year, the BSAVA kindly gives the RCVS Charitable Trust (now RCVS Knowledge) Library a copy of all of the books that the association has published in the previous year, plus a selection of books given in memory of Noel Ormrod, who died tragically during his term as Senior Vice-President of BSAVA in 1967.
On behalf of the RCVS Knowledge, Librarian Clare Boulton, received the books from Professor Michael Day, BSAVA President.

12. **Parliamentary Veterinary Internship**
Professor The Lord Trees announced a new one-year rolling Parliamentary Veterinary Internship, and that Hannah Jordon had been appointed to the role for 2013-2014.

13. **President’s Address**
The CEO, Mr Nick Stace, gave a short introduction to the President’s address and outlined activities to date, which included him spending time with vets in practice, making his email address accessible to all and carrying out research into what the College did well and what it could do better, as part of the First Rate Regulator initiative.

The CEO went on to outline proposed changes, which included the development of a three-year strategy plan, an overhaul of the RCVS Charitable Trust, to become RCVS Knowledge, the evolution of the Practice Standards Scheme, and continued moves to enable the RCVS to become a first-rate regulator and Royal College.

The President then made her outgoing address. She discussed the positive changes that had been made during the year, such as the bringing into force of the long-awaited Legislative Reform Order, which meant that members of the Preliminary Investigation and Disciplinary Committees would no longer be members of RCVS Council.

The President also outlined the new governance structures, including the setting up, in 2012, of the new Audit and Risk Committee, and, as of RCVS Day 2013, the establishment of a new Operational Board.

The President described projects underway, including the establishment of a ‘middle tier’ of practitioner, to be known as the ‘Advanced Practitioner’, and she touched upon the review of the Practice Standards Scheme and announced the headline results of a survey into the job prospects of recent graduates.

14. **Meeting of the RCVS Council to elect President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer**

14.1. **Apologies for Absence**
David Argyle
Malcolm Bennett
Karen Braithwaite
Noreen Burrows
Ewan Cameron
Niall Connell
Gary England
Andrea Jeffery
Rachel Jennings
Barry Johnson
14.2. Declarations of Interests
No new declarations of interests were made.

14.3. Matters for Decision by Council

14.3.a. Committee Selection
Council approved the recommendations for committee membership for 2013 / 2014. The President suggested that Council’s approval in June to appoint Vice-Chairmen of committees had not been appropriate given the earlier discussion in March of governance arrangements; she added that committees would elect Vice-Chairmen this year at their first meeting.

[Afternote: The vice-chairmen remain those appointed at the June (and July) Council meetings, because (1) the delegation scheme has not yet been amended to give the committees the power to elect vice-chairmen; (2) the GA Byelaws provide that notice must be given of matters to be considered by Council and no other business may be transacted ‘without the leave of Council as a matter of urgency’. and (3) as regards the statutory committees PIC and DC, these are subject to separate byelaws.]

14.3.b. Approval of the appointment of the Presidential Team and Treasurer for 2013-2014
Council approved the following Office holders for 2013-2014:

President: Col N C Smith
Vice-President: Ms J R Molyneux
Vice-President: Prof S W J Reid
Treasurer: Dr B P Viner

14.4. Date of Next Meetings
Thursday 12 September 2013 at 10am
Thursday 7 November 2013 at 10am

The President said a few words about the departing Vice-President Dr Jerry Davies, thanking him for the support he had given her throughout her term as President, and presenting him with a Past-President’s badge.

15. Introduction of new President
Col Neil Smith, Ms Jacqui Molyneux and Prof Stuart Reid each formally assumed office.

The new President welcomed new Vice-President Stuart Reid to the Officer team and thanked new Vice-President Jacqui Molyneux, for guiding the College through a busy and challenging year.

The President made a few brief remarks in acceptance of the office, and spoke about his plans for the year ahead. He commented on the new strategic plan, his part in taking the
College into the next phase of its evolution and how he was encouraged by the appetite for change shown by his fellow Council members and the profession at large.

16. **Date of next AGM**
   To be confirmed.