

SBA Board meeting held on Thursday 15 August 2013

Present: Mr S Henderson (Chairman), Mr J Bell, Mrs J Hutchison, Mr N McCorkindale, Mr J Stewart.

In Attendance: Mr D Todd.

Apologies were received from Mr D Barron, Mr M Gibson, Mr D Mitchell, Mr G McFadzean, Mr A Wright.

A brief summary of the issues discussed, information reported, decisions taken and points raised are as follows: -

Minute

- The minute of the previous meeting was approved.

NBA Update

- The Heads of Terms had been approved by the NBA Board subject to some minor amendments.
- The current Chairman of the NBA had served a full term and would therefore retire at the AGM.

Finance / Membership Report

- An update was given on the current financial position of the SBA.
- A number of new members had joined the SBA at the Highland Show.
- The winner of the prize draw was Emma Davidson.

Market Report

- It was reported that the price of finished cattle and cull cows had fallen since the last meeting.
- It was hoped that the reduction in feed prices would compensate to some degree.

Website

- Copies of the outline design of the website were circulated with favourable comments made.

Events

- The two farm walks had been held and both had been well received.
- A discussion took place on the events that the SBA should take a stand at, with AgriScot, the Winter Fair and Scotsheep considered to be the key events.
- A promotional brochure would be compiled that could be handed out at these events.

Sponsorship

- A number of companies had indicated that they would be willing to sponsor specific events.
- The possibility of holding a major event within the next 2 years was discussed with the agreement that the idea should be investigated.

Stakeholder Groups

- A meeting of the Weather Aid committee had been held but it was unlikely that any payments would be made before the end of August.

CAP Reform

- A meeting of a cross industry group had resulted in a joint statement on CAP reform.
- The SBA was to request a meeting with the Cabinet Secretary to discuss coupled payments.
- Concern was expressed at the disproportionate penalty for lost cattle tags compared to lost sheep tags.

Any Other Business

- Possible sponsorship of cattle classes at some shows was to be investigated.