

Clydesdale Horse Society

Council Meeting 5th June 2026

This document records a summary of the decisions taken at the **Council meeting of the Clydesdale Horse Society** held on 5th June 2026. It covers attendance, governance matters, finance, memberships, show planning, correspondence, and future dates. The full minute has been sent to all Council Members.

Key points

- **Opening and constitution**
 - The meeting opened with reports and papers circulated in advance.
 - New Council members were welcomed.
 - A **minute's silence** was held for **Honorary President, the late George Skinner**.
 - **Peter Keron** was reappointed to the Disciplinary Committee for a further three years.
- **Previous minutes**
 - The minutes of the **14 March 2026 Council meeting** were approved.
 - The Directors' meeting minutes were noted.
 - The AGM draft minutes were presented and noted.
- **Regulatory and administrative matters**
 - No further progress had been made on renewal of the Society's **PIO status**; a response from **Defra** was still awaited.
 - Discussions were ongoing with the **Scottish Government** regarding registration issues involving **Russia**.
 - A new requirement was noted for breeders in **Northern Ireland** to provide **Equine Establishment Numbers** with registrations.
 - The Society's new **Articles of Association** were approved by **Companies House** and **OSCR**.
- **Shows and breed matters**
 - The Society noted developments around **Great Yorkshire Show** rules on clipped tails.
 - Approval was given to pursue a registration arrangement in the **Netherlands** for Clydesdale horses.
 - For the Society's **150th anniversary in 2027**, ideas included gifts for members, a special two-day show, anniversary rosettes, a dinner dance, and a podcast. A commemorative logo offer was accepted.
- **Area meeting reports**
 - Responses from the Board to area meeting recommendations were circulated and **all recommendations were approved**.

- **Finance**
 - The Society's financial position was reported as **sound**.
 - Lapsed member lists for the UK and EU were noted.
 - Investments showed an increase of **nearly £12,000** since December 2025.
 - The **Barclays investment review** report was approved.
- **Memberships and stud prefixes**
 - Several **new life and annual members** were approved unanimously.
 - A new stud prefix, **Metheringham**, was approved.
- **Judges panel**
 - **Helen Carr** was approved for the judges panel.
 - Other applications remained incomplete or had not yet progressed.
- **Show planning**
 - Detailed arrangements were discussed for the **Royal Highland Show**, including staffing, the soiree, class stewards, sponsorship, risk assessment, and licensing.
 - Officials and arrangements were also agreed for **Winter Fair 2026**, including judges (**Sandy Aitken - Winter Fair and Annette Noble - Champion of Champions**), stewards, commentator, and a new **£50 best presented horse award**.
- **Correspondence and policy**
 - A new **Social Media and Internet Policy** was adopted unanimously after an incident involving criticism of a CHS appointed judge.
 - The Society agreed to invite a presentation on the **Sparks** breeding tool at the next Council meeting.
 - Correspondence about steward treatment was noted, with a strong statement that negative comments towards stewards are unacceptable.
 - Other correspondence, including from **Adam Young**, was noted with no further action.
- **Future events**
 - The Society agreed to support the **World Clydesdale Show 2028** and invite its committee to present at a future Council meeting.
- **Any other business**
 - A horse which was Champion recently at an Affiliated Show was disqualified from the **2026 Champion of Champions class** for being shown with a clipped tail contrary to the Society's rules. A complaint had been received and was upheld.
 - Directors agreed to ensure the wording of the clipped-tail policy cannot be misinterpreted.
- **Dates**
 - Future Council meeting dates were listed for **September 2026, November 2026, and March 2027**.
 - Secretary leave and office closure dates were also noted.
- **Closure**
 - The meeting closed at approximately **11:45 am** with thanks to the Chair.