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Regional Group News

The regional groups operate independently of the Society and organise herd visits, social events and herd competitions. Enthusiastic group members are always welcome. Do get in touch with your local breeders group co-ordinator and get involved in group activities

South East Longhorn Breeders Group **Contact: Charlotte Coleman, Chalkney** Mill, Earls Colne, Colchester, Essex, CO6 2PR. Tel 01787 222253. Email: chalkneylonghorns@talktalk.net

Midland Longhorn Breeders Club

Our Herd Competition judging has now been completed. The Presentation Lunch is booked for 1p.m. Sunday 4th November at Horsley Golf and Country Club, Smalley Mill Road, Horsley, Derbyshire DE21 5BL Tickets are available from Rita at £20 per person. Longhorn beef will be served. All welcome

Contact: Rita Poulson. New House Grange, Orton Lane, Sheepy Magna, Atherstone. Warwickshire, CV9 3NJ. Tel 01827 880203.

Email:ritapoulson@btinternet.com

North Western Longhorn Breeders Group Contact: Phil Robinson, Blackden Cottage, Blackden Heath, Goostrey, Crewe, Cheshire CW4 8DG Tel: 01477 571406.

Mid West Longhorn Breeders Group

25th November—Awards Lunch at the Alveston Manor Hotel, Alveston, Bristol, Club sale now rescheduled to 8 December. Entries being taken up to 16th November, open to ALL, and will be held at the new Sedgemoor Agricultural Centre, Bridgwater, Somerset, [Adjoins the M5].

Herd Visit 2008 to The Gupworthy Herd, owned by Mr and Mrs G.Wollatt. Date to be finalised

Contact: Peter Guest, Colaba Lodge, Hamnish, Leominster, Herefordshire HR60ON

Tel: 01568 760251. Email: colabalonghorns@aol.com

Welsh Longhorn Breeders Club

Contact: Bernard Llewellyn, Carreg Cennan Castle, Trapp, Llandeilo, Dyfed Tel: 01558 822291. Email: carregcennencastle@btinternet.com

Northern Longhorn Breeders Club Secretary: Pam Pumphrey, Clonyards Farm, Colvend, Dalbeattie, Scotland Tel: 01556 630246 Fax: 01387 269747 email: clonvard@btinternet.com

LONGH Cattle Society

Newsletter

Issue 54

October 2007

Autumn News and AGM

Inside:

Show results

AGM

Cattle for Sale and Wanted National Show

and Sale report

Southfield. Blackbrook. Fishwick production sale report

Dates for Your Diary

AGM weekend -17 & 18 November.

2nd Mid West Group Production Sale

8 December—new date & new location at Sedgemoor. Somerset

Please note the calf sale scheduled for December in Bristol has been cancelled.

Inside this newsletter you will find show results. a report on the National Show and Sale at Melton Mowbray and a report on the Southfield, Blackbrook and Fishwick production sale, as well as the agenda and final details for the AGM.

Thank you to all those who have already booked for the AGM. For those of you who have still to send in vour forms, it is not too late to do so, although in order to assist with the catering, please could I ask that forms are returned as soon as possible. A further

ute to Libby in this issue. Finally, don't forget to use your vote in the election. Papers are enclosed with this mailing-voting slips must be received by Saturday 10th November

Debbie

John

Contact details Debbie Dann

3 Eastgate, Stoneleigh Park, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire, CV8 2LG Tel/fax: 0845 017 1027 Email: secretary@longhorncattlesociety.com Web: www.longhorncattlesociety.com

booking slip is enclosed

with this mailing, or it can

be downloaded from the

website if you prefer to

keep vour newsletter in-

As you will be aware, Libby

has now handed over the

registrations and accounts

to me, so everything is

Hedges has written in trib-

under one roof.

tact.

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Newsletter

Show Results 2007

Ashby Show 15 July 2007 Judge Mr M Day

Bull, any age (10 entries) 1st Blackbrook Ouantum Mr & Mrs JW Stanlev 2nd Blackbrook Philosopher Mr & Mrs JW Stanley 3rd Gorse Narcissus Messrs JS & JW Brigg

Female, born before 01.07.04 (5 entries) 1st Charnwood Carpathia Mr JA Warner 2nd Blackbrook Moonstone Mr & Mrs JW Stanley 3rd Wellhead Willow Mr J Barber

Female, born between 01.07.04 and **01.01.06** (11 entries)

1st Gorse Mia Messrs JS & JW Brigg 2nd Waltham Nightjar Miss R Heard 3rd Pokerleys Finnicky Mrs S Hallifield

Female, born on or after 01.01.06

(7 entries) 1st Blackbrook Queen Bee Mr & Mrs JW Stanley 2nd Barlings Greta Mrs GS Thomas 3rd Charnwood Grace Mr JA Warner

Pairs (7 entries) 1st Mr & Mrs JW Stanley 2nd Messrs JS & JW Brigg 3rd Mrs EM Hallifield

Breed and Female Champion Charnwood Carpathia Reserve and Male Champion Blackbrook Ouantum Blackbrook Quantum Junior Champion Reserve Junior Champion Gorse Mia



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Exhibitor Support Grant

Don't forget to apply for your **Exhibitor Support Grant if you** showed your cattle this year—a claim form is available from the office.

Maydencroft Perpetual Trophy

The Maydencroft Perpetual Trophy for the bull that has accumulated the most points over the show season will be announced and awarded at the AGM on 17 November

WANTED

A member is looking to buy both of the Limited Edition Naturecraft models—the cow and calf. and the bull

If anyone has either of these models that they wish to sell please contact Debbie at the office

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Southfield/Blackbrook/Fishwick Production Sale

Upbeat trade in Bradford

Buyers from all points of the compass bought cattle at the Southfield, Blackbrook and Fishwick joint production sale in October at Southfield Farm, Drighlington, Nr Bradford. Even though the sale had been postponed twice due to FMD restrictions the sun brought out the buyers when it really mattered. 51 lots were catalogued, representing 27 animals from the Southfield herd, 18 from Blackbrook and six from Fishwick. The cattle looked a picture and all credit had to go to those involved to keep the animals looking so good during the two months hiatus since the original sale date of 11 August.

The first lot of the day to be sold was Southfield Gem. The entire sale proceeds of this 2006 born Blackbrook Neb sired heifer were donated to Cancer Research UK in grateful recognition of the treatment David and Angela's son Richard received and will be receiving in the foreseeable future. The heifer was knocked down to John Harrison from the Settrington Herd in Yorkshire for 2500gns.

Top prices of the day went to three Blackbrook females who all made 3000gns or over. Blackbrook Pearl had a successful year in the show ring in 2006, taking 2nd place in the Junior Heifer class at the Royal Show and Junior Female Champion at Newark; the quality of the heifer was reflected in the highest price of the day at 3500gns, to D & A Blockley. Blackbrook Quaint made 3200gns and Blackbook Pearl made 3000gn, both to the same buyers.

New faces were amongst the buyers with new herds being establish in Suffolk and Yorkshire. 10 lots were purchased by Messrs West. The Wests are one of the largest herb producers in the country and are going into beef production having sold the dairy herd a number of years ago. Three Blackbrook lots - Blackbrook Phoenix (2200gns), Blackbrook Passion (2700gns) and Blackbrook Quaver (1200gns) decided that living in Yorkshire is to be recommended and they went to new breeder Mr Peter Bayles who lives near York.

Established breeders also liked what they saw with Southfield Briar, a 6 year old cow with a cracking bull calf at foot by Southfield Awesome going to Nicky Luckett for 1050gns. The same buyer also took home Southfield Elite II. a 2004 born second calver with an impressive pedigree for 920gns. Nigel Fortun, buying for Prof. Craft in Devon took home a lorry load, and also heading South were Southfield Diamond (110gns) and Blackbook Quiggle (1300gns), going to David Sheppy in Somerset.

Closer to home the Walker family from York bought Fishwick Dianthus (1220gns) and Heyworth Geraldine (820gns) for their Newton herd.

Two bulls were catalogued, but only Southfield Flint was forward. This 2005 born Southfield Cobalt bull out of Southfield impulse was an impressive sight in the ring full of power and presence - and whilst he did not make his reserve in front of the crowd he was later consigned to Nicky Luckett for 2500gns.

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Melton Mowbray National Sl			how & Sale 7/8 September 2007			Libby Henson	
 Following hard on the heels of the recent FMD movement restrictions unfortunately made for uncertainty over whether the event would take place which had a marked effect on the attendance levels; the price of grain along with the lack of quality dry fodder no doubt also knocked buyers' confidence as winter feed costs look set to increase. As a consequence many lots went back home having not reached their reserves, but those lots that did by Mr & Mrs D & A Blockley. Southfield' herd. by Mr & Mrs D & A Blockley. Southfield' herd. by Mr & Mrs D & A Blockley. Southfield' herd. by Mr & Mrs D & A Blockley. Southfield' herd. Heifers were much in dema Carreg Genevieve finally knocked down to Bell Farm 1600gns. Hot on her heels w reg Fantasy and Carreg Gemin ing 1450gns and 1000gns resp and both going to Derbyshire. Mullard' herd of Mr T Mills buyer Mr I M Crane from Mar borough took home four heif 			r bull Blackbrook Newt, con- by Mrs S Coleman and bought & Mrs D & A Blockley for the eld' herd. were much in demand with Genevieve finally being down to Bell Farming for . Hot on her heels were Car- asy and Carreg Gemima, mak- Ogns and 1000gns respectively h going to Derbyshire for the l' herd of Mr T Mills. Local fr I M Crane from Market Har- took home four heifers, two rs N Luckett, and two from Mrs	 I first became involved with Longhorn cattle in 1991 when we set up the herd at Wormsley. At that point it soon became obvious that if any information about the Breed was required the person to ask was Libby Henson. Libby had been Breed Secretary of the Longhorn Cattle Society since 1984 and, as sole officer, was responsible for registrations, the Herd Book, the accounts and other tasks too numerous to mention. Simultaneously, Libby was also involved with the preservation of rare and minority breeds in the USA and a consultant to the US National Academy of Science on the conservation of global genetic resources, as well as having an involvement at home with the Cotswold Farm Park where her studies in Zoology at Oxford and Animal Breeding at Edinburgh were invaluable in setting up breeding programmes for forty various breeds of cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, horses, poultry and waterfowl, and in providing educational material for schools and the public in general, on such matters. Libby is currently a Director of Grassroots Systems Limited which develops, markets and supports software for the pedigree livestock industry and is currently working with over 70 breeds, including of course the Longhorns. As well as this, the DEFRA Breeds at Risk Register and the National Show and Sale for Traditional Native Breeds are administered. If you add to this the publication of various journals, manuals and books, including, in 1985, the first National Census of North American Livestock, and her time as an elected Parent Governor and Chair of Governors for a school in Exeter, it is obvious that Libby has been extremely busy over the last 25 years. 			
Averages	No	Top (gns))	Average (gns)		volvement with, and contribution to the fant the Longhorn breed has been truly outstandir	
Cows Senior Heifers	13 7	2100 2200		1532	to take this	s opportunity to thank her for this, on behalf rell in all her future projects.	
Junior Heifers	16	1450		1130 912		e great pleasure to announce that on behalf	of the members a
Bulls	5	2500		989	trophy for 'Elizabeth	the Champion Longhorn at the Royal H Henson Perpetual Challenge Trophy', is to b ognition of all Libby has done for the breed ov	ighland Show, the commissioned in

John Hedges

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1	AGM Weekend Booking Form					
	I/weHerd No Tel No					
	 Plan to come to the AGM Weekend Send our apologies 					
	We wish to book:					
	(No.) Lunches on Saturday 17 November @ £12.00 each Total					
	(No.) Dinners on Saturday evening @ £27.50 each Total					
	I enclose a cheque for Total £					
	For planning purposes can you indicate your plans for Sunday					
	I/we will be visiting the following on Sunday 18 November					
	□ Stonehenge					
	The Homington Herd of Longhorns at Homington Farm, Salis- bury courtesy of Sir Haydon Phillips					
	 The Tripps Herd of Longhorns at Sherborne, Dorset courtesy of Mr & Mrs DA Lawrence 					
	This form can also be downloaded from the website: www.longhorncattlesociety.com/library/AGM_Booking_Form_2007.pdf					

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Longhorn C	Longhorn Cattle For Sale and Wanted						
BULLS FOR SALE (cont)	WA	NTED					
Phil Evans, Hollybush Farm, Mat Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, S 5LG Tel: 01348 831512 email: <u>info@lintonlonghorns.co.u</u> Linton Harry Born:10/03/2007	A62don Road, Horkesle Tel: 01206 272300 M email: daniel@west kSteers for finishing wD C Greaves The C	Daniel Bunting, Westwood Park, Lon- don Road, Horkesley, Essex, CO6 4BS Tel: 01206 272300 Mobile 07889 640199 email: <u>daniel@westwoodpark.co.uk</u> Steers for finishing wanted D C Greaves, The Coppice, Hextall					
Sire: Southfield Bandit (10576/B04 Dam: Parc Grace Dieu Betty (2586 Show quality bull calf. More details www.lintonlonghorns.co.uk Linton Hector	Lane, Ranton, Staff	fs ST18 9JU ed for rare and tradi-					
Born:01/04/2007 Sire: Southfield Bandit (10576/B04 Dam: Linton Betty (9902/B0112) Show quality bull calf. More details www.lintonlonghorns.co.uk	Bredy, Dorchester,	Dorset DT2 9HF					
STEERS & STORES FOR SAI Mr B Manchester, 18 Greaves Av Old Dalby, Melton Mowbray, Lei LE14 3QE Tel: 01664 823889 Purebred Yearling Steers, 3/4 bred y heifers and 1/2 bred yearling heifers	enue, cs, yearling enue, Cs, Tel: 01600 890296 Looking for store cat grown for finishing.	•Wye, Hereford ttle, male/female, well Will pay Continental					
Mr P Morgan, Bradley Cross Farm, I Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3YU Tel 01934 741771 Email: bradleyxfarm@btinternet.com 5 Majestic pure homebred Longhorn for sale. Born 2003 & 2004 Very suitable for a park setting or fo servation grazing. Priced "to live", open to offers. Picture on Longhorn site, photos available	Michael Davies, Av Waltham Abbey, E Tel: 020 8508 2579 Requires cattle for co 30months—10years but	ssex EN9 3QJ					

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Longhorn Cattle For Sale

BULLS FOR SALE (cont) K & C Morgan, Cwrt Henllys Farm, Henllys, Cwmbran, NP44 7AS Tel: 01633 612349 Mobile 07734 063821 email: info@cwrthenllysfarm.com Cwrt Henllys Footloose Born:14/03/2005 Sire: Mayhil Secundus (9119) Dam: Colaba Quartz (6013) Very quiet, docile well mannered on the halter. Dloadlings include Fishwick King

halter. Bloodlines include Fishwick Kinsman and Rousham Goliath. Male Champion RWAS 2007, Breed Champion Melton Mowbray 2007. More images at www.cwrthenllysfarm.com

Charles Sutcliffe, The Garth, Little London, Tetford, Horncastle, Lincs. LN9 6QL Tel: 01507 533697 Mobile 07771 611718 email: <u>ctd.sutcliffe@btinternet.com</u> Tetford Indiana Born:16/03/2001 Sire: Tetford Bilbo Dam: Fishwick Petra Main stock bull for the past 3 years. Very quiet and easy to handle. Too many daughters in herd so reluctantly for sale. 4 year TB testing area

D.P. Osborne, 10 Warren Road, Yardley Gobion, Towester, Northants, NN12 7TR Tel: 01908 543240 Frondeg Duke Born:18/07/2003 Sire: Charnwood Terminator (7401) Dam: Linton Miranda (4138) Messrs Vaughan, Penlan-Uchaf Farm Gardens, Gwaun Valley, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire, SA65 9UA Tel: 01348 881388 Mobile 07773 789850 email: <u>robert@carnedward.co.uk</u> Mavville Druid

Born:12/07/2003 Sire: Roxton Ifor (9210) Dam: Ardenlea Farina (8373)

Mrs. N. A. Luckett, Well Head, Mealsgate, Wigton, Cumbria, CA7 1DJ Tel: 01697 371487

email: <u>nickyluckett@aol.com</u>

Wellhead Grasmere Lad Born:28/03/2006 Sire: Bollin Darrell (12791/D0343) Dam: Wellhead Maggie (4032) Best Junior Bull at Royal Highland 2007. Easy to handle

J Harrison, Settrington, Malton, North Yorkshire Tel: 01944 768441 or 768476 evenings email: ruth@hhands.co.uk

Southfield Cobalt

Born:15/07/2002 Sire: Parc Grace Dieu Two Tone (4141) Dam: Twyford Sylvia (5893) Very good conformation and well muscled

LONGHORN CATTLE SOCIETY AGM Weekend 17—18 November 2007

Amesbury, Wiltshire

Hotel: The Holiday Inn, Midsummer Place, Solstice Park, Amesbury, Wiltshire, SP4 7SQ. Reservations 0845 241 3535.

Please mention the Longhorn Cattle Society to get discounted rates as follows: £85.00 per room per night, room only

£90.00 per room per night, bed and breakfast

FRIDAY 16 NOVEMBER

Arrive at Hotel and have informal dinner.

SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER

By kind invitation of Natural England

- 09.30 Meet at Cherry Lodge Farm, Shrewton, courtesy of Natural England view the Stoke herd of Longhorn cattle and then travel by tractor to visit the Big Field of ancient chalk downland to look at the management of such an important habitat.
- 13.00 LUNCH at Shrewton Sports and Social Club
- 14.30 AGM

Presentation of the Bull of the Year Award and the President's Award

7.30 for 8pm DINNER at the Hotel Our after-dinner speaker will be Poul Christensen, Deputy Chair of Natural England

SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER

Three options are available to members Visit Stonehenge Visit the Homington Herd of Longhorns at Homington Farm, Salisbury courtesy of Sir Haydon Phillips Visit the Tripps Herd of Longhorns at Sherborne, Dorset courtesy of Mr & Mrs DA Lawrence

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Longhorn Cattle For Sale

FEMALES FOR SALE

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D.P. Osborne, 10 Warren Road, Yardley Gobion, Towcester, Northants Tel: 01908 543240 **Birbury Angel** Born:02/01/1995 Sire: Rousham Goliath (1268) **Dam:** Fawsley Fynesse (4125)

Birbury India Born:20/02/2004 Sire: Gorse Imperial (10923/B0033) Dam: Birbury Freckles (10033/B0533)

Birbury Freckles Born:23/03/2001 Sire: Charnwood Windsor (8998) Dam: Roxton Clarissa (4667)

Birbury Freda Born:13/03/2001 Sire: Charnwood Windsor (8998) Dam: Birbury Angel (5844)

Woodcote Anthea Born:21/05/2000 Sire: Linton Narcissus (5213) Dam: Stixwould Claire (3425)

Ulverscroft Crocus Born:04/03/2002 Sire: Fishwick Optimist (5051) Dam: Ulverscroft Buddleia (8598)

FEMALES FOR SALE (cont)

P Pumphrey, Clonyard Farm, Dalbeattie, Scotland Tel: 07749 476181 email: clonvard@btinternet.com 4 year TB testing area

Clonyard Vermillion Born:24/05/2006 Sire: Fishwick Archer Dam: Clonyard Osprey

Clonvard Violet Born:01/06/2006 Sire: Fishwick Archer **Dam:** Clonyard Lily

Mr B Manchester, 18 Greaves Avenue, Old Dalby, Melton Mowbray, Leics, LE14 3QE Tel: 01664 823889

6 Heifers. Born 2006. All registered

BULLS FOR SALE

I.K Clark, Glebe Farm, Broadmayne, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 8PW Tel: 01305 852332 **Holcombe Gringo** Born 05/05/2006 Sire: Linton Ulysses 8330) **Dam:** Meon Valley Nightshade II (7217)

xxx

Warm Treacle Tart with clotted cream

Exotic Fresh Fruit Salad with Passionfruit Sorbet

xxxx

Please let Debbie know if you require a vegetarian alternative or have any special dietary requirements

Directions to the AGM venues

The Holiday Inn Stonehenge is on the A303 at Amesbury. Take the exit • for Solstice Park-the Hotel is easily seen from the road.

For Cherry Lodge Farm head to Winterborne Stoke on the A303. If • coming from Stonehenge direction turn right to Shrewton. Look for a long line of beech trees on the ridge: these trees line the farm approach drive. Directional signs will also be up.

Shrewton Sports and Social Club is in Shrewton Village. From Cherry • Lodge Farm turn left, then turn left into the village. Go left at the roundabout and the Social Club is about 1/4 mile on the left.

Directions to Homington and Tripps herds will be available at the AGM

Dinner at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Salisbury, Wiltshire

Soup of the Day

Salad of Poached Pear and Goats Cheese served with mixed seasonal leaves

Roast Longhorn Beef with seasonal roast vegetables and Yorkshire pudding

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5. Election of Officers

Three members had retired by rotation and five members had been nominated for possible election: David Bevan, Kerry Long, David Sheppy, Charles Sutcliffe, Geoff Wild. They were all thanked for offering themselves for possible election. A paper ballot had been distributed and the results counted. Mr Bevan, Mr Sutcliffe and Mr Sheppy were duly elected for a three year term.

The Chairman thanked all the candidates for standing. He also asked Suzannah Coke to convey to Kerry Long (who was unable to attend) the Society's appreciation for her term of office and the work she had undertaken.

6. Any Other Business

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and the Breeds At Risk Register

Libby Henson reminded members that Defra has a Breeds at Risk Register for Traditional and Rare Breed herds and Flocks. Only herds which are already registered on this register will be considered for derogation from a cull, should that be deemed necessary in the event of an outbreak.

There are presently only 25 Longhorn herds on the register, and she would urge all those who have not already registered to do so. She confirmed that this list is <u>not</u> open to the public.

Sale in October 2007

Peter Guest advised that the Mid West Group had held a very successful sale at Taunton in October 2006, and that the event would be repeated in 2007. He emphasised that the sale was open to all.

Improvement of the Breed and the Importance of Showing

Andrew Nelson said it was important to understand how the breed has improved, and the part that showing has played in that. There is a potential issue as not enough people are showing. He said that Council would welcome ideas how to improve that.

The Chairman reiterated that Council was there to work on members' behalf.

Maydencroft Perpetual Trophy.

The secretary reported that there had been 32 bulls shown during the year. In third place with 14 points was Mr & Mrs J W Stanley's Blackbrook Philiospoher. In second place with 16 points was Mr and Mrs Stanley's Blackbrook Odin. In first place with 30 points was J S & JW Brigg's Gorse Monsignor. The Maydencroft Perpetual Trophy, a beautiful tapestry made by Past President Bob Williams was presented by Mr Williams to John Brigg to keep for a year.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

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The Longhorn Cattle Society AGM will be held at The Shrewton Sports and Social Club, Shrewton, Wiltshire at at 2.30pm on Saturday 17th November 2007

Agenda

- 1. Apologies for Absence
- 2. Approval of Minutes of 2006 AGM (enclosed)
- **3** Chairman's Report
- 4. Treasurer's report and approval of accounts
- 5. Election of Officers
- 6. Any Other Business

Minutes of the Longhorn Cattle Society Annual General Meeting, held at Three Swans Hotel, Market Harborough, Leicestershire at 2.45pm on Saturday 11th November 2006

Present were: J W Brigg (Chairman)	S H M Slade (Secretary)
E L Henson (Treasurer)	

90 members and friends including:

R Adams, Mr & Mrs D & A Blockley, D Bevan, J S Brigg, Mr & Mrs J Bruckel, Dr P & Mrs L Cleland, P. Close, Mrs S. Coke, Mrs S Coleman, Miss C. Coleman, Mr & Mrs P Froelich, P. Guest, Mr & Mrs G R Hallifield, Mrs S Hallifield, Mr & Mrs J & S Harrison, Miss R Heard, Mr & Mrs J & P Hedges, Mr S Hollier, Mrs L Hutton, Mr & Mrs I & L Kett, Mrs A Laing, D Lawrence, Mr & Mrs B & M Llewellyn, Mr & Mrs A & J Nelson, Mr & Mrs M & S Pope, Mr & Mrs R & R Poulson, W Schweitzer, Mr & Mrs Seery, Mr & Mrs D & L Sheppy, Mr & Mrs J & P Stanley, Mr C Sutcliffe, F. Sutton, Mr & Mrs M Thomas, P Till, Mr & Mrs Vaughan, Mr & Mrs R Williams, Mr & Mrs M Winterton, Mr & Mrs J & S Zentis.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from: J Barber, J Beechy, Mr & Mrs Brownbridge, Mr & Mrs R Carter, Mrs Carter, P Clifton, R Close, Mrs R Close, Miss S Coleman, C Cook, Mr & Mrs C Cottrell-Dormer, M Davies, Mr & Mrs M Day, J Henson, W Higginbotham, S Jenkins, Mrs N Luckett, Mr & Mrs A & P Neads, P Pitchford, Mr & Mrs Pumphrey, C Roads, Mrs D Sutcliffe, J Sutcliffe, F W Sutton, Mrs L Sutton, M Thompson, Mr & Mrs R Vaughan, J Warne, J Warner, R Warner, Dr D C & Mrs P A Williams, Mr & Mrs G Woollatt

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2. Minutes of last AGM

The Minutes of the last AGM had been circulated with the October News Letter. There were no amendments and the minutes were signed as a correct record.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman then read his report which appears in full in the 2006/7 Year Book. He thanked particularly Andrew and Jill Nelson and their family for hosting the visit that day, and John and Pat Stanley for their willingness to host on Sunday.

4. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer read her report for the year:

This has been another very successful year for the breed, with sustained high levels of ac-tivity.

Sarah has continued to upgrade the promotional materials and breed literature to include a new leaflet in German and we have increased representation at a number of show most notable with a most impressive presence in the main livestock concourse at the Royal Show.

In terms of the accounts, income from subscriptions has continued to increase as the number of active members increases. We also continue to see an increase in registration, transfer and semen sales. The sustained increase in late fees continues to reflect the increased value of breeding animals, making the payment of late fees worth while. All calves should be notified within three months of birth to avoid double registration fees. Animals registered after a year of age are charged £50 for animals 1 to 2 years of age and £100 late fine for animals over 2 years of age.

Thanks to the continued support of those members who advertised in the Year Book and to Kerry Long and Sarah who were able to raise enough revenue for advertising to almost cover the cost of both the Year Book and the Herd Book. Now the Year Book has become established it is hoped that more members will wish to join in and support the publication of the 2006 issue.

Merchandise sales have increase with the introduction of a number of new promotional products including caps, ties, and sweat shirts. We are happy to take orders for Christmas.

Members who have signed a Gift Aid declaration enable us to reclaim the tax they have already paid on their subscriptions resulting in a refund of over £2,800 this year. Any member who pays tax and is willing to sign this form should please ask for one.

Member meetings are normally run at cost but in 2005 the auction of promises helped to offset the additional costs of hiring a marquee for the AGM. Our thanks to all those members who host these events and to those members who regularly attend meetings, workshops, herd visits and outings.

In terms of expenditure, running costs have once again been kept to a minimum and were within budget. Council did budget expenditure for new merchandise materials, new promotional materials including the breed video and a major development of the web site.

The latter has represented a significant capital expenditure but has created a flexible tool for the promotion of the breed, education of the public and members, and enables interactive communication with the membership, special thanks to Charlie Sutcliffe. If you are not yet familiar with the site, please do visit

www.longhorncattlesociety.com. There will also be a short presentation after this meeting to show members how to access the 'on line' herd book and register their calves.

Despite a budgeted deficit of $\pounds 11,000$ the increased Society activity have resulted in our achieving all the planned projects and a final balance of $\pounds 2,119$ deficit. This leaves us with a balance of $\pounds 73,695$ in the bank.

Our increased turnover also means that we will finally have to register for VAT. All subscriptions, registration fees and other business carried out by the Society will therefore attract VAT. I had hoped that this would not come into force until 1st January 2007, but in fact it begins immediately. Council will be holding a meeting during November to review all the Society fees in the light of this change and their decisions will be published on the web site and in the Christmas New Letter. In the meantime all existing fees will attract VAT as from Monday.

As a charity, the trustees are entrusted with the role of ensuring the monies we hold are well managed and that we have a prudent reserve. Beyond this they are expected to ensure that funds are used to carry out the principal objectives of the Charity. Council policy is to ensure the routine running costs of the Society are self funding, and that the Society has a financial cushion roughly equivalent to a years annual expenditure. Thanks to many years of prudent management our existing reserves currently exceed this requirement.

We have been advised that council will need to continue to budget to make incursion into this capital reserve to ensure we are carrying out the charitable objectives of the society including breed promotion and public education.

Bernard Llewellyn was concerned that the Society would have to register for VAT and that this would affect members who were not able to claim VAT back. He also wondered what costs would be affected. Libby Henson explained that the reason for the next Council meeting was to look at the VAT issue in depth. It was hoped that we will not have to add VAT to the subscription which should assist smaller members. She also explained that VAT registration means that the Society will be able to reclaim VAT on items, which it has previously been unable to do. Therefore that will benefit the Society.

There were no further questions on the accounts. It was proposed by Bernard Llewellyn and seconded by Peter Guest that they be adopted. All were in favour.