

CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF THE 18/04 AHDB DAIRY BOARD MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 26TH JULY 2018 AT 08:30

BOARDROOM, AHDB STONELEIGH PARK

PRESENT:

Gwyn Jones (GJ), David Cotton (CD), Janette Prince (JPr), Tim Gue (TG), Richard Soffe (RS), Peter Rees (PR), David Craven (DCr), Scott Shearlaw (SS), and Mary Quicke (MQ) – attending via Skype.

APOLOGIES:

Oliver Hall (OH) and Andrew Fletcher (AF).

IN ATTENDANCE:

Paul Flanagan (PF), Natalie Reynolds (NR), Richard Laverick (RL, item 8), Ken Boyns (KB, item 8), Jenny Gibbons (JG, item 9), Derek Carless (DC, item 10), Stu Baker (SB, item 11) Anna Farrell (AF, item 11 and 12), Matt Catlin (MC, item 12), Alistair McLaren (AMcL, item 13), Ray Keatinge (RK, item 14), and Jon Parry (JP, item 15).

Meeting Governance

AGENDA ITEM 01. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

- 1.1 The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed those present and in attendance.
- 1.2 Apologies received from Oliver Hall and Andrew Fletcher.

AGENDA ITEM 02. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 The chair reminded the board that they should declare any conflicts. Richard Soffe noted partnership between Duchy and AHDB, although not a conflict, but worth noting that Duchy are sub-contracted by AHDB.

AGENDA ITEM 03. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, HELD ON 23 May 2018

- 3.1 AHDBDA18/04/03. Subject to two minor changes, the board accepted the minutes of the last meeting held on the 23 May as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Changes required under agenda item 11. Correct the numbering from 6.1 and 6.2 to 11.1 and 11.2. Under 6.1 (11.1), change PR to PF.

Action: Under agenda item 13. Point 13.2, the board requested wording to change to ‘... and why AHDB are involved.’

AGENDA ITEM 04. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS, HELD ON 23 May 2018

Jan 2018, agenda item 12, point 12.1: Scottish Dairy Hub – Paul has instigated a review around key points that Board requested in January. More detailed outline for the hub will be prepared for July Board meeting.

Mar 2018, agenda item 05, point 5.2: Stakeholder Engagement – PF to meet with JK post Board meeting to discuss vision for stakeholder management. Part of the vision is to work with partnerships (i.e. processors, vets, NFU) and more specifically have strong account management in place. As important is establishing KPI's to measure performance with those partnerships. Work is progressing.

Mar 2018, agenda item 09, point 9.2: Farmbench - provide the Board with progress update at each Board mtg. With the view of previewing systems in Sept / Nov Board meeting.

Mar 2018, agenda item 10, point 10.1: Campaign Update – the board requested an update on the proposed ongoing support and funding post the Dairy UK Board meeting. Gwyn should send note to Dairy Board on DUK Board decision to delay decision until May. Update available post Dairy UK meeting on the 24th May 2018.

May 2018, agenda item 08, AOB: British Dairy Farming Video - social media numbers. The board would be interested in seeing what the numbers look like at the July board.

Standing Agenda Items

AGENDA ITEM 05. CHAIRMANS REPORT

5.1 The report emailed prior to the Board meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 06. DIRECTORS AND OPERATIONAL REPORT

AHDBDA18/04/06. Directors and Operational Report

6.1 PF ran through the Directors Report, discussion about Wales.

6.2 PF ran through the Operational Report, focus given to those items that are flagged Red and Amber.

AGENDA ITEM 07. FINANCE MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS – JUNE 2018

AHDBDA18/04/07. Finance Management Accounts – June 2018

7.1 PF took the board through the figures for year to date. Noting key variances, surplus and reserves.

Items scheduled for the meeting

AGENDA ITEM 8. LIVESTOCK INFORMATION PROGRAM (LIP)

8.1 The chair welcomed Richard Laverick (RL) and Ken Boyns (KB). RL provided the Board with an update on the progress of LIP and the current timelines as previously discussed. LIP profile to be increased in Wales.

Action: RL to provide the share the structure with the Board, look at RL attending the September 18 Board meeting.

8.2 KB covered the plans for spend and split across the sectors involved.

Action: KB to provide three (worst, likely and best) scenarios based options for the Board to consider. Invite KB to attend the September 18 Board meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 09. HOUSED SYSTEMS, BULL CALVES, CALF TO CALF PROGRAMME REVIEW

9.1 The chair welcomed Jenny Gibbons (JG) to the board. JG provided the board with an update on the calf to calving programme, which is in its second year. A workshop was held on the 16th August, relating to bull calves topic, JG to look at the data from that workshop and formulate a plan of action. Lastly, provided an update on the activity and timeline on the agreed recommendation to establish a national welfare standard to assess and support continuously housed dairy farms.

Action: JG to share evaluation plan and outcomes for calf to calving programme.

Action: JG and Izak Van Heerden (IzH) to look at incorporating calf to calving programme into the Strategic Dairy Farm programme.

Action: JG and Matt Catlin (MC) to ensure that all calf to calving tools are readily available online.

Action: JG to provide a breakdown analysis of bull calves, not reaching the beef supply chain and how big a factor is TB.

Action: JG to share, once developed, next steps and timelines on bull calves from workshop held on 16th August.

AGENDA ITEM 10. FARMBENCH

10.1 The chair welcomed Derek Carless (DC) to the board. For the benefit of the new members, DC provided a quick overview of Farmbench. More specifically the development for Dairy Farmbench, he talked through screenshot to demonstrate the systems functionality in anticipation for launch in October 2018. The board are interested in understanding its compatibility with other key farm software, i.e. accounting software. Reassurance was given that this is something they will be looking at in phase two development.

Action: PF to set up a meeting with Welsh Government.

Action: DC to set up a time for the Board to see an interactive version of Farmbench, prior to launch. Potentially, invite DC to attend September Board.

AGENDA ITEM 11. DAIRY MARKETING – DAIRY CAMPAIGN

11.1 The chair welcomed Stu Baker (SB) and Anna Farrell (AF) to the board. SB began by presenting to the Board and update on the year 1 of the campaign. DairyUK have signed up for joint funding.

Action: SB to share details year 2 plans at September Board meeting.

Action: AF to provide tools for farmers to combat Vegans & Vegan-unary.

Action: AF to set up cross-sector group on CRM and include JPr from Dairy Board.

AGENDA ITEM 12. PROJECT BLUE

12.1 The chair welcomed Matt Catlin (MC) to the board. MC provided the board with an update on the development of the new website for AHDB and subsequent plan and timeline for the staged development and integration for sector specific web pages.

Action: MC to send board members a link to the new test website.

AGENDA ITEM 13. COMMUNICATIONS DASHBOARD

13.1 The chair welcomed Alistair McLaren (AMcL) to the board. AMcL presented to the board a visual update on the numbers for all four Dairy strategic priorities across all communication channels, i.e. press/social media/email and video.

Action: AMcL to provide similar to the board with monthly reports.

AGENDA ITEM 14. RESEARCH

14.1 The chair welcomed Ray Keatinge (RK) to the board. Mainly for the benefit of the new members, RK presented a background update on Research and Development programmes within Dairy. A number of topics were discussed to demonstrate how the Dairy programmes have evolved and continue to do so.

AGENDA ITEM 15. SCOTISH DAIRY HUB

15.1 The chair welcomed Jon Parry (JP) to the board. Robust discussion about the two papers provided in the pack - especially, around the proposal for NFU Scotland to take over the Hub. PR and DCr noted that they would

like some background information on the Hub's role and objectives prior to making a decision. SS provided a very candid insight from a farmer's perspective into AHDB's operations in Scotland. Specifically his critical assessment into the lack of strong management of the KE staff. Noting that historically there were two very competent and strong people on the ground, but since they have left the organisation, there has not been the focus needed.

Action: PF to meet with NFU Scotland CEO at the end of July to progress discussions

Action: PF/JP to pull together a details plan for September Board with options based on a best, middle and worst-case scenario. The Board are expecting the plan to include a recommended approach.

AGENDA ITEM 16. AOB

16.1 RB209. PF noted that they are looking for a volunteer chairperson.

Action: PF to send background information and asked if anyone is interested to let Paul know.

16.2 UK Dairy Day. Focus on the day will be on Optimal Dairy Systems and Strategic Dairy Farms.

16.3 Pork eMedicine Book. Looking at doing an equivalent version for Dairy and Beef farms. PF asked if this is something that the Board would be interested in, the board responded positively.

16.4 KPIs. A process is underway to reduce and consolidate a number of activities and KPIs. PF proposing to add to the September Board agenda.

16.5 Sector Board Conference. Scheduled for 02nd October 2018.

Action: NR to send out specific information.

16.6 The chairman noted that this would be the final meeting that Natalie Reynolds will be attending and would like to formally, on the behalf of the Board members to thank her for her support and work undertaken over the past two and half years and to wish her well in her future endeavour.

Items for information only - PAPERS

AGENDA ITEM 17 and 18. For Information – Paper Only

17.1 18/04/17 – AHDB Review, Call for Evidence, provided by Christine Watts

18.1 18/04/18 – Dairy Governance Schedule, provided by Natalie Reynolds

Dates of future meetings

- Thursday, 20th September 2018 at 08:30, Boardroom, AHDB Stoneleigh Park
- Thursday, 15th November 2018 at 08:30, Boardroom, AHDB Stoneleigh Park

Signed

Gwyn Jones, Chairman

