

LEDBURY HUNT PONY CLUB MINUTES  
Of Annual Meeting held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Present:**

Sophie Jones, Lucy Middlecote, Sue Clements, Sarah and Lucy Davis, Alex and Georgie Holmes, Tessa and Georgie Spurling, Jess Thwaite and 2 children, Natasha, Aimee & Isabella Dodane, Jo watts and Sam, Lavinia Westlake and Caroline ,Sarah Bowness, Ellie and Emily Watkins, Alison Cupper and Emily, Vanessa and Tom Roxburgh, David Ettridge and Fliss. Jenni & Isabel Clements.

**Apologies:** Janet Hughes, Audrey Brewer, Katie Baker, Pauline Williams, Wendy Grimsby, Catherine Chinn, Heather Westgate, Julie Mansell, Dinah de Witt, Bev Owen, Judy Evans

**Minutes & Matters Arising:** There were no formal minutes from 2020 due to COVID 19 – we sent the reports out by email. There were no matters arising.

**Lucy Middlecote read out the annual report (below)**

***Annual Report 2021***

*As the Pony Club year comes to an end, I would like to look back at the successful year that was 2021 for Ledbury Hunt Pony Club.*

*Over the year we have had rallies and training at various venues, including Gadbury, Moores Farm, Lincomb, Ace Cross Country, Hooze Farm, Broadfield Farm, and Hartpury College. Through this training we have taught children general horsemanship at their appropriate level, prepared them for progressive tests from E – A, trained for competition in specific sports (cross country, polocrosse, dressage, Show jumping, Mounted Games) and we have had a couple of racing rallies to enable children to go Pony racing. We have also joined with the hunt for hound exercising and some childrens' meets. Dismounted rallies have covered stable management and enabled members to gain achievement badges. The tetrathletes also take part in regular swimming and shooting practices. We are hoping to add a few new venues for training onto our regular list with Hooze Farm, Eldersfield already hosting rallies in the next few months.*

*We have enjoyed a great hog roast party at Gadbury and hope to enjoy a bonfire night in a few weeks' time. We have also run a team Eventer Challenge, 2 tetrathlon competitions, The Regional One Day Event, an evening dressage series, the summer show, a mini ODE and 2 Christmas shows in order to raise money for the club to spend. This year a large amount of that money has gone on updating and improving the cross country facilities at Gadbury. Next we are looking at the show jumps and hoping to update those.*

*Our Pony Club relies on volunteer help and we would like to extend a very big thank you to all those who have given their time to set up events, maintain equipment and organise rallies, camps and competitions, for those of you who have stepped up to the mark this year, thank you - it does make a huge difference. Our 'volunteer rota' seems to mostly work and those of you who do over and above the days allocated to you, we are truly grateful as we could not run the events without. The PFA committee of Catherine, Alex & Sarah have done a stirring job over the last few years and are now standing down, so we have a new chairman who is Sarah Bowness. Eugenie is staying on as treasurer but we will need some more parents to step into other PFA roles this year. Everyone whose child is a member of Pony Club is automatically a member of the PFA – please go along to the meetings when you see them announced on Facebook as they are a great way to meet others, have a*

*social evening and contribute to pony club at the same time. I would also like to thank Jacqui Jenkins who has spent the last few years helping by keeping track of all the cups we are about to present and making sure that they are all returned for the next year clean and engraved! She is now stepping down from this role and Julie Harper will take over from her.*

*We ran 4 camps this year.*

*Junior Camp was very well attended by 50 children and mini camp by the under 5's. All the junior members enjoyed some interesting talks and demonstrations at lunch, took part in a quiz and some riding competitions, enjoyed swimming in the pool as well as lots of riding! Thank you so much to Sue and her helpers for all their work.*

*Camping Camp was also at Gadbury for our 10-14 year olds over 3 days. The ponies all settled in well to their pens and the children (& some helpful parents) "roughed it" in tents or horseboxes! Thanks to Sophie and her helpers for organising, feeding and caring for all.*

*Senior Camp took place at Lincomb at the end of August. There were 30 seniors who really enjoyed the brilliant facilities at Lincomb including 2 arenas, show jumps, a cross country course, stabling for the horses and an indoor classroom. Thank you so much to Wendy and her helpers who organised this brilliant camp.*

*We fielded teams at our area competitions in Dressage, Eventing, Show jumping, Tetrathlon, Mounted Games and Horse & Pony Care and everyone who took part gave 100%. We had 9 children qualify for the National Championships in Tetrathlon and Eventing – well done to all those members! We also sent a show jumping team to Barbary Castle.*

*Due to the Covid restrictions in place at the beginning of the year, both the Area Quiz and Horse and Pony Care Competition took place a little later than usual.*

*The Area Quiz was carried out, for the first time ever, as an online competition via Zoom. The Ledbury Hunt team did a fantastic job against tough competition to come a brilliant 6<sup>th</sup> place.*

*In June, three teams took part in the Horse and Pony Care competition at The Cotswold Hunt Kennels in Andoversford. The Mini team were a wonderful 5<sup>th</sup>, and the two Junior teams finished in a credible 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> place. Unfortunately we didn't have a Senior team this year but we are very determined to encourage some of our older members to get involved and show off their theoretical and practical knowledge at next years' competition.*

*Mounted Games is going from strength to strength, with rallies and training a key feature of our winter and spring programme in preparation for the Area competition which takes place in April - the earliest of the Area ridden competitions.*

*Ledbury teams qualified for the grassroots championships in dressage, Show jumping and eventing with individual and team placing.*

*We also had 2 current members of our branch, Seren Myall and Josh Smith who represented UK in an international polocrosse tournament .*

*Many members were successful in all our pony club tests this year from E – A. We are hoping to progress even more members through the levels next year.*

*Looking forward to winter 2021 & 2022*

*We already have winter lessons booked at Moores Farm and some Christmas rallies at Hartpury College.*

*The seniors have training organised with Louise Harwood and Karen Nicholas  
There are 2 Christmas shows booked – juniors at Moores Farm and Seniors at Hartpury College on the 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> December.  
Area 9 are organising all sorts of subsidised training – please take advantage of this when you see it emailed to you.  
Next year is the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ledbury Hunt Pony Club. We are beginning to think of ways that we can celebrate this, but would also welcome any ideas that you have – please let us know. We would also like to form a sub-committee to coordinate the celebrations, so please let us know if you would like to be involved.*

*There will be some big changes in the personnel in our committees next year. You may have already noticed that Hilary Barfoot-Saunt has stepped back (a little bit!) from the tetrathlon managers role, after over 40 years – we enjoyed a great thank you party in her honour in September and cannot imagine how we will fill such big shoes – luckily she is still helping in many capacities to keep the tetrathlon going! Katie has been doing the manager's job in the interim but now Vanessa Roxburgh is stepping up to fulfil this role – we are very grateful to her and hope she will enjoy it!*

*Audrey has decided also to step down as DC. She has fulfilled this role since 1997 – so about 25 years. I can't even begin to count the amount of children who have grown up and gone through Ledbury Pony Club through that time but there are many, some of whom are here tonight with their children! No words can thank Audrey for her time, knowledge and patience but you all know how much she has done for this pony club over all those years to keep it thriving and fun. We are very grateful to Sophie and Lucy who will now begin to take over as joint DC's of the Ledbury, Audrey will still be there in the background to guide them and I'm sure that we will see her in lots of new roles throughout the years to come.*

*We are also very grateful to Janet Hughes who has been working as our treasurer for the last 10 years or so. She will be stepping down at the end of the year and we are delighted that Victoria Northcott is going to take over as our treasurer from then. I am sure that you will give all these new volunteers all the support that they need to fulfil their roles.*

*We still have some unfilled roles that we look to all of you to find someone:*

*Show Jumping Manager*

*Camping Camp organiser*

*Paypal person*

*PFA secretary*

*Rosette orderer*

*Please come and talk to any member of the committee if you are interested in taking up these roles and find out what they entail.*

*Finally, thank you to all of you who support our Pony Club, we hope that all your children have learnt some horsemanship this year while making friends and having fun! If you have any questions or suggestions to make please don't hesitate to ask at any time. You will have an opportunity in a moment at this meeting in AOB.*

### **Treasurer's Report for 2021 AGM**

Summaries for the PC income & expenditure for 2020 & 2021 up until the end of September are attached. This covers the main account and not the Parent's account which mainly covers fundraising and equipment purchase.

You will see the 2020 figures are significantly less, not surprisingly due to the pandemic. But this year they are more or less what they usually are as we have been lucky enough to run our normal activities.

One major change between the two sets of figures is the Capitation data. Capitation is the part of the PC subscription that goes to the PC HQ. In previous years subscriptions have been paid to the branches & then the Capitation part is part in a chunk to the HQ. New to this year subscriptions have been paid directly to HQ & the branches then receive their part, which is shown 'Subscriptions' in the income.

A very big thank you must go to Julie Harper who has dealt with the membership so efficiently in the past.

Account Transfer out (in Expenses) was to the Parent's when event entry fees had been paid into main account by Horse Events.

Account Transfer in (in Income) was from the Parents to ease cash flow during a tight time paying for camps.

**Comments from meeting: Accounts - main expenses Gadbury rent, loo hire and funding events such as BBQ and firework night**

### **AOB**

Sarah Bowness offered to run Camping Camp next year.

Vanessa Roxburgh asked on behalf of Heather Westgate if more could be done to have a maroon and gold kit. Sweatshirts to be available. Lucy Middlecote to see what colour Wainwrights had that was suitable.

Running attire for the tetrathlon and maroon numnahs

**Post – meeting note** – Hilary still has tetrathlon kit (sweat shirts, swim caps etc)