

University of Nottingham
Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body
Thursday 19 March 2020
MINUTES

15 Members Present, 8 Apologies, 1 in Attendance (on-line Zoom meeting)

20/11 Minutes

RECEIVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2020.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved.

20/12 Matters arising from the Minutes

(a) Action log

The action log from the previous meeting had been presented to AWERB and progress updates provided to members. This included:

- (1) That the visit to Sutton Bonnington had been postponed due to COVID-19.
- (2) That membership of the 3Rs committee and how PPL's for review would be selected would be discussed.
- (3) That lay members would comment on specific applications.
- (4) That refined mouse handling would be discussed with the Home Office Inspector.
- (5) That the Policy for "Governance oversight of designated areas outside BSU facilities" had been circulated.

(b) Applications considered at last meeting [Minute 20/04]

REPORTED: That one application had been submitted on ASPeL. A second was close to being approved as Chair's action.

20/13 Chair's Business

(a) Coronavirus contingency arrangements

REPORTED:

- (1) That plans were in place for this unprecedented situation including what to do if there were resource issues. It was noted that BSU would remain operational. The business continuity plan table indicated the contingency steps in place to safeguard animal welfare according to ASP requirements (PEL Standard Conditions 4 and 5).
- (2) That contractors were doing work in BSU but staff safety would be prioritised over the building work. The Director of BSU would decide how to proceed.
- (3) That the NVS would put contingency plans in place for other vets in their practice or other NVS in the UK to help if required.

(4) That if studies could be done at a later date then new studies would not be started.

(b) Plans for joint AWERB and BSU Users Information Events

REPORTED: That the AWERB and BSU Users Information Events would be combined and arranged after the current situation with the coronavirus had passed.

(c) Future AWERB strategy meeting

REPORTED: That an AWERB strategy meeting would be held once the current situation with coronavirus was over.

20/14 Project Licence Applications

(a) Dr AA

REPORTED: That the proposed work involved investigating the role of ESKAPE pathogens, polymicrobial infections, host immune response and antimicrobial development.

A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused around adverse effects, tail vein procedures and bilateral models.

RESOLVED: It was recommended that the application be approved subject to addressing comments from AWERB.

(b) Prof BB

REPORTED: That the proposed work involved investigating the control of seasonal fertility in sheep.

A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused around experience with sheep, melatonin dose and breed of sheep for seasonality.

RESOLVED: It was recommended that the application be approved subject to addressing comments from AWERB. It was noted that the study would not be able to take place this year due to the coronavirus.

(c) Prof CC

REPORTED: That the proposed work involved cardiac ultrasound and MRI in Xenopus.

A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and NC3Rs representative. Questioning primarily focused around transportation logistics, time between studies and lead attachment.

RESOLVED: It was recommended that the application be approved by Nottingham AWERB subject to addressing comments from AWERB.

20/15 Summary of PPL applications and amendments

REPORTED: That a summary spreadsheet tracking progress of PPL applications and amendments was available.

20/16 Approvals by Fast-Track Procedure for Report

REPORTED: That three project licence amendments had been approved by fast-track procedure.

20/17 Any Other Business

None reported.