

University of Nottingham
Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body
Thursday 17 May 2018

MINUTES

14 Members Present, 13 Apologies, 3 in Attendance

18/22 Minutes

RECEIVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2018.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved once a name was removed from 18/16.

18/23 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) Drafted letters were almost ready to be sent.
- (2) That the Lay Members would read the non-technical summaries in advance of the AWERB meetings and this was to be included in the new process.
- (3) That speakers and posters were still required for a 3Rs event at a central location in the Autumn.
- (4) That at least one CRO has validated the refined handling in-house and is now switching over to it. Links to the refined handling videos, resources and papers have been sent to the Chair of AWERB.
- (5) That additional analysis of figures had been undertaken and discussions held with facility managers. MRC and BBSRC funding levels would be checked.

(b) Applications considered at last meeting [Minute 18/11]

REPORTED: One of the applicants had been approved on ASPeL and two of the applicants had been submitted on ASPeL.

(c) Demonstrations [Minute 18/10(c)]

REPORTED: That the demonstrations went ahead on 28 April 2018 in Nottingham city centre involving ~350 people.

18/24 Project Licence Applications

(a) Prof AA and Dr BB

REPORTED: That the proposed work involved understanding the compatibility of novel biomaterials when placed subcutaneously in rodents.

A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS, members of the AWERB and the NC3Rs Representative. Questioning primarily focused around number, position and types of implants, analgesia post-surgery, options for imaging and translation to other species.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the AWERB comments being addressed.

(b) Dr CC

REPORTED: That the proposed work involved enhancing recovery from stroke.

A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS, Scientific Reader, a member of the AWERB and the NC3Rs Representative. Questioning primarily focused around appropriateness of rodent model compared to larger animals, how it was recognised when humane end points needed to be applied, and justification of specific minor protocol steps.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the AWERB comments being addressed.

(c) Dr DD

REPORTED: That the proposed work involved the assessment of efficacy and any associated side effects of novel drugs.

A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS, Establishment Licence Holder and the NC3Rs Representative. Questioning primarily focused around details/duration of the test sessions, and power calculations.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to AWERB comments being addressed.

(d) Dr EE and Dr DD

REPORTED: That the proposed work involved the assessment of drugs with activity in the CNS: determination of novel targets, pharmacokinetics, efficacy and safety.

A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS, Scientific Reader and the NC3Rs Representative. Questioning primarily focused around the training protocol and maximum and typical scenarios for individual animals.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to AWERB comments being addressed and Dr EE and Dr DD being invited back to AWERB in one year to report on proposed piloting of protocol refinements.

18/25 Summary of PPL applications and amendments

RECEIVED: A summary spreadsheet tracking progress of PPL applications and amendments.

This item would be taken at the next meeting.

18/26 3Rs update

RECEIVED: A summary from a recent 3Rs fish workshop.

This item would be taken at the next meeting.

18/27 PPL application process working group

RECEIVED: A paper which set out recommendations for streamlining the project licence application process.

RESOLVED: That the letter to users would be circulated by academics on the AWERB.

18/28 Research Activity in BSU

This item would be taken at the next meeting.

18/29 BSU Staffing Update

RECEIVED: A paper on BSU Staffing Update.

This item would be taken at the next meeting.

18/30 Approvals by Fast-Track Procedure for Report

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

18/31 Project licences granted by the Home Office

REPORTED: That one project licence had been granted by the HO.

18/32 Any Other Business**(a) Open AWERB Sessions**

REPORTED: That the sessions went well so would be repeated in October and more notice given.

(b) Project Licence Applicants attending the AWERB

REPORTED: That Project Licence Applicants attending the AWERB were often nervous as they were intimidated by the situation.

RESOLVED: That a means of preparing applicants for the meeting would be considered. Information would be made available for applicants in order to increase awareness of the AWERB meeting format before the formal AWERB meeting.