



# ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

## Minutes

20 May 2021

18 Present, 5 Apologies, 5 In Attendance

### 21.30 Declarations of Interest and Quoracy

- .1 The Committee made no declarations of interest.
- .2 The Committee was quorate for the meeting.

### 21.31 Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 March 2021

- .1 The minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

### 21.32 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

#### .1 Action Log

- .1 The action log from the previous meeting had been presented to AWERB and progress updates provided to members. This included:
- .2 That a commercial client had agreed to implement refined mouse handling techniques.

ACTIONS:		Action Owner	Due Date
.3	To investigate outstanding long-term actions	Chair, Director BSU	July 2021

#### .2 Applications considered at last meeting [Minute 21.21]

##### .1 Dr AA

- .1 The Committee NOTED that the application had been submitted and was awaiting approval.

##### .2 Dr BB

- .1 The Committee NOTED that the application had been submitted and was awaiting approval.

**.3 Dr CC**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that the application had been submitted and was awaiting approval.

**21.33 Chair's Business**

**.1 Membership**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that two Committee members had resigned. The Chair thanked the Committee members for their service.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that replacement members of the Committee had been identified but not confirmed.
- .3 The Committee NOTED that there were memberships terms due to finish shortly.
- .4 The Committee NOTED that the Director of BSU was due to retire. The Chair thanked the Director for his contribution to the AWERB and the University.

<b>ACTIONS:</b>		<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
<b>.5</b>	To confirm new committee members	Chair, Director BSU	July 2021
<b>.6</b>	To notify the AWERB secretary of intention to renew membership or stand down	Committee Members	July 2021

**21.34 Project Licence Applications**

**.1 Dr AB**

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED papers AWERB/21/46a and AWERB/21/46b presented by Dr AB. The proposed work involved creating a model of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), in order to study COPD at a whole-body level and identify differences in COPD symptoms and progression between the sexes.
- .2 A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused on the suitability of the pilot study and the proposed severity level.
- .3 The Committee AGREED that the application be approved subject to addressing comments from the AWERB.

<b>ACTIONS:</b>		<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
<b>.4</b>	Applicant to be informed of decision and once comments had been addressed to the satisfaction of the AWERB, then the application could be submitted to the Home Office.	HOLC/AWERB Readers	July 2021

## .2 Dr AC

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED papers AWERB/21/47a and AWERB/21/47b presented by Dr AC. The proposed work involved investigating the genomic basis of variations in phenotypes that facilitate adaption to different environments.
- .2 A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused on the clarification of the severity limits, and how to identify when they had been reached.
- .3 The Committee AGREED that the application be approved subject to addressing comments from the AWERB.

<b>ACTIONS:</b>		<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
.4	Applicant to be informed of decision and once comments had been addressed to the satisfaction of the AWERB, then the application could be submitted to the Home Office.	HOLC/AWERB Readers	July 2021

## 3 Dr AD

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED papers AWERB/21/48 and AWERB/21/48b presented by Dr AD. The proposed work involved the assessment of the safety of potential new medicines.
- .2 A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused on the proposed end points and animal usage numbers.
- .3 The Committee AGREED that the application be approved subject to addressing comments from the AWERB.

<b>ACTIONS:</b>		<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
.4	Applicant to be informed of decision and once comments had been addressed to the satisfaction of the AWERB, then the application could be submitted to the Home Office.	HOLC/AWERB Readers	July 2021

### 21.35 Policy for Post-mortem Examinations

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED paper AWERB/21/41 presented by the NVS. The revised paper addressed all the concerns of the Committee.
- .2 The Committee APPROVED the policy.

### 21.36 BSU Staffing Levels

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED paper AWERB/21/49 presented by the BSU Director.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that the BSU staff complement was appropriate for the activity levels in the Unit.

- .3 The Committee NOTED that arrangements were in place for the retirement of the BSU Director.

**21.37 Rodent Health Screening – Additional Results**

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED paper AWERB/21/50 presented by the NACWO.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that the final results of the comprehensive non-sacrificial 2021 annual health screening, using PCR testing, were negative for all agents that had been tested for. These included viruses, bacteria, mycoplasma, fungi and endo-parasites.

**21.38 Summary of PPL Applications and Amendments**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that a summary spreadsheet tracking progress of PPL applications and amendments was available.

**21.39 Approvals by Fast-Track Procedure for Report**

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED papers AWERB/21/35, AWERB/21/36, AWERB/21/37, AWERB/21/38, AWERB/21/39, AWERB/21/40, AWERB/21/42, and AWERB/21/43.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that eight project licence amendments had been approved by fast-track procedure.
- .3 The Committee AGREED to include an overview of approved non-ASPA applications at future meetings.

<b>ACTIONS:</b>		<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
.4	Provide summary of Non-ASPA applications to AWERB at future meetings	NTCO	July 2021

**21.40 Project Licences Granted by the Home Office**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that one project licence had been granted by the Home Office.

**21.41 Any Other Business**

**.1 Consideration of work undertaken at Third Party Establishments**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that an MS Teams meeting between University of Nottingham scientists, their European collaborators and the Named Persons had taken place to provide reassurance about how procedures were conducted in the European Facility.

**.2 NC3Rs Programme Manager**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that this post had been advertised.

**.3 Use of Data from International Studies**

- .1 The Committed NOTED that this work was no longer being carried out. Historical data would be analysed but this would not take place at the University of Nottingham.