



ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Minutes

28 January 2021

20 Present, 2 Apologies, 3 In Attendance

21.1 Declarations of Interest and Quoracy

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

21.2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 December 2020

- .1 The minutes of the meeting 3 December 2020 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

21.3 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:
 - .1 That the BSU Annual report was approved by the Committee.
 - .2 That the depreciation costs of the axolotl equipment are being covered until the end of the current financial year.

.2 Applications considered at last meeting [Minute 20/52]

.1 Dr AA

- .1 The application had not been progressed by the applicant since the previous meeting.

21.4 Chair's Business

- .1 The Chair REPORTED that one member had resigned and a replacement would be sought by the NACWO. The Chair thanked the member for their contribution to the AWERB.

- .2 The Chair REPORTED that the AWERB Chair would be leaving the University. A replacement Chair had been sought.

21.5 SVMS Care Report

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED paper AWERB/21/3 presented by the Chair of the SVMS Committee for Animals and Research Ethics. The presentation covered the role of the CARE and a summary of the applications they had dealt with in the previous year.
- .2 The Committee NOTED the infection control safeguards that are in place, the training of animal care staff and the monitoring and management of the potential risk of students posting to social media.
- .3 The Committee AGREED that the communication between the CARE and the AWERB was working well.

ACTIONS:		Action Owner	Due Date
.4	Arrange a tour of the facility when regulations allow	NACWO	December 2021
.5	Share SVMS SOPs for training with the NTCO	NTCO	April 2021

21.6 Project Licence Applications

.1 Dr AA

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED papers AWERB/21/4 and AWERB/21/5 presented by Dr AA. The proposed work involved investigating the potential application of existing antiviral drugs and vaccines to respiratory diseases involving RNA viruses in both animals and humans.
- .2 A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused on clarification of the benefits and potential adverse effects of the work, the routes of administration and ensuring that the protocols would not be unintentionally prohibitive to the work being carried out.
- .3 The Committee AGREED that the application be approved subject to addressing comments from the AWERB.

.2 Dr BB

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED paper AWERB/21/6 and AWERB/21/7 presented by Dr BB. That it was proposed to transfer existing licence authority to this establishment and therefore full AWERB scrutiny was appropriate. The proposed work involved studying the underlying psychological and neurological basis of learned behaviour and applying this knowledge to developing novel behavioural treatments for psychological disorders.
- .2 A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused around the dose concentration and frequency of the aversive agent and the supporting

calculations for the proposed animal usage numbers. Satisfactory reassurances were provided by the licence holder.

- .3 The Committee agreed that the application be approved subject to addressing comments from the AWERB and the inclusion of an example power calculation on the AWERB cover form.

21.7 Presentation on Non-Animal Derived Antibodies

- .1 Dr CC made a presentation to the Committee. The presentation informed the Committee about the emerging use of non-animal derived antibodies, the benefits of using them and ways in which the University could support the transition to using them.

ACTIONS:		Action Owner	Due Date
.2	Investigate the potential for using non-animal derived antibodies at Nottingham	NACWO, Chair	June 21

21.8 Update and Changes to the PPL Application Process in line with Changes to ASPEL

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED paper AWERB/21/11 presented by the NACWO and NTCO.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that the PPL application process had been reviewed and updated to reflect the changes in the ASPEL system and provide clarity to both applicants and AWERB members.
- .3 The Committee AGREED that the change to the process should be supported.

21.9 New Home Office Inspector

- .1 The Chair introduced and welcomed the new Inspector. The Chair thanked the previous Inspector for their help and support.

21.10 Home Office Annual Risk Review Meeting Report

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED paper AWERB/21/8 presented by the NACWO.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that the annual Home Office Risk review had taken place. There were no non-compliance issues in 2020. The report recognised the contribution of the AWERB and Named Persons to ensuring compliance. The report also highlighted areas of potential high risk which will be monitored closely.

21.11 Recruitment of New Director of BSU

- .1 The Committee NOTED that the recruitment process for the New Director was underway.

21.12 Summary of PPL Applications and Amendments

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

21.13 Approvals by Fast-Track Procedure for Report

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED papers AWERB/21/19 and AWERB/21/10.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that two project licence amendments had been approved by fast-track procedure.

21.14 Project Licences Granted by the Home Office

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

21.15 Any Other Business

.1 Retirement of Chair

- .1 The Committee thanked the Chair for his successful management of the AWERB.

.2 Sharing of PPLs on ASPeL System

- .1 The Committee NOTED that the best practice for sharing project licences with research colleagues is to use the ASPeL system.

ACTIONS:		Action Owner	Due Date
.2	To communicate to PPL holders how to share PPLs on the ASPeL system	NACWO	March 2021