

These approved minutes of the Farriers Registration Council (FRC) are to be treated as privileged and are for the sole use of current members of the FRC and the FRC Secretariat. These minutes may not be used, published, copied in any form or redistributed without the prior written consent of the Chair of the FRC.

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Farriers Registration Council held as a hybrid meeting on  
Wednesday 29 April 2026, commencing at 10.47am



Present

Appointed By

Dr J Sutton (Chair)

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

Mr A B Charlwood

The Worshipful Company of Farriers

Mr I Davidson

Scottish Enterprise

Mr S Green AWCF

Elected Member

Mr B J Howson AWCF

Elected Member

Mr A Jordan

The Worshipful Company of Farriers

Mr R A Kearn DipWCF

Elected Member

Mr C D McKell DipWCF

Elected Member

Mr H Price DipWCF GradDipELR

The Worshipful Company of Farriers

Mr J Sim AWCF

British Farriers and Blacksmiths Association

Mr L Williams

British Horseracing Authority

Apologies

Operations Superintendent K Colman

Royal Society for the Prevention to Cruelty to Animals

Mr D Harman AWCF GradDipELR

British Farriers and Blacksmiths Association

Mr D Mountford MA VetMB MRCVS

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

Staff

Brigadier D J Greenwood (Registrar)

Mrs N Finck (Deputy Registrar)

Mrs V Jones (Executive Assistant)

Public

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Operations Superintendent K Colman, Mr D Harman and Mr D Mountford.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Council members declared possible conflicts of interest as follows:

*Dr J Sutton* - appointed by the RCVS, FEI Anti-Doping Official and Equine Insurance Underwriter

*Mr A B Charlwood* - appointed by the WCF, WCF Liveryman and Honorary Assistant to the Court of the WCF

*Mr I Davidson* - appointed by Scottish Enterprise

*Mr S Green* - working farrier, member of BFBA and horse owner

*Mr B J Howson* - working farrier, member of BFBA and horse owner

*Mr A Jordan* - appointed by the WCF and WCF Liveryman

*Mr R A Kearn* - working farrier

*Mr C D McKell* - working farrier

*Mr H Price* – appointed by WCF, member of WCF and BFBA, horse owner and working farrier

*Mr J Sim* - working farrier, member of the BFBA and BFBA Executive Committee

*Mr L Williams* - appointed by British Horseracing Authority

**3. Notification of any items to be raised under ‘Any Other Business’ (AOB)**

No matters had been submitted by Council Members ahead of the meeting.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 22 October 2025, and the Extra Ordinary meeting held on 17 February 2026 were noted for reference purposes only; the minutes had previously been approved by the Council out of committee.

**5. Matters Arising which are not Agenda Items**

There were no matters arising to be considered.

**6. To Receive and Consider the following Reports and Associated Papers:**

**6.1 Defra Consultation on new Veterinary Legislation**

The Council noted that the FRC response to the Defra consultation on reform of the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 was submitted through the online portal as requested by Defra on 13 March 2026. A summary of the Council’s submission was subsequently posted on the FRC Website on 19 March 2026. Additionally, the Council had acted as a joint signatory together with 16 other Allied Veterinary Professionals (AVPs) on an agreed position statement that was also submitted to Defra.

In discussion the Chair set out that he had attended a positive meeting with the Minister to discuss the proposals; the Minister had made clear that there was not presently any parliamentary time allocated for the progression of new veterinary legislation. The proposals had been considered contentious and would probably

need significant time to be properly considered and progressed.

Council members commended the Registrar on the summary paper that condensed the Council's position; some members were keen to maintain momentum and use the document proactively to identify reforms to farriery regulation, noting that such reforms may require legislation.

**[The Chair concluded the open session of the Council Meeting]**

**7. THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 7.10, 7.11, 7.12 and 7.13 WERE CONDUCTED IN CLOSED SESSION OF THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER MATTERS OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCIAL SENSITIVITY**

7.1 Report of the Approvals Committee

7.2 Minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee (P&FC) Meeting of 25 March 2026

7.3 Rules of FRC

7.4 The Register of Farriers and Registration Policy and Procedures

7.5 Policy and Procedures for Council Meetings

7.6 Financial Policy and Procedures

7.7 Countering Financial Crime and Risks Policy

7.8 Financial Crime - Money Laundering Risk Assessment

7.9 Investigating Committee Manual

7.10 Disciplinary Committee Manual

7.11 Remuneration Statement for Statutory Committees

7.12 Disciplinary Committee Remuneration Policy

7.13 Council Member Expense Policy

**8. Any Other Business:**

There were no matters of AOB.

*The meeting concluded at 11.44am*

*Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 21 October 2026*

## **Annex A: FRC Policy, Guides and Reports APPROVED during this meeting**

- Risk Register
- Rules of the FRC
- Register of Farriers and Registration Policy and Procedures
- Policy and Procedures for Council Meetings
- Financial Policy and Procedures
- Countering Financial Crime and Risks Policy
- Financial Crime – Money Laundering Risk Assessment
- Investigating Committee Manual
- Disciplinary Committee Manual
- Remuneration Statement for Statutory Committees
- Council Member Expense Policy

Approved: James Sutton 22/05/2026

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