

***AT THE BULLDOG BREED COUNCIL MEETING HELD 29.09.09 ATTENDED BY 16 OF THE MEMBER CLUBS TO DISCUSS THE INTENDED PUBLICATION ON OCTOBER 1.2009 BY THE KENNEL CLUB OF ITS REVISED BULLDOG BREED STANDARD THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION IN THE DOG PRESS;***

**"THE BREED COUNCIL IS DISAPPOINTED WITH THE RESULT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE KENNEL CLUB REGARDING THE STANDARD. WE ARE PARTICULARLY DISAPPOINTED BY THE STATEMENT EMANATING FROM THE KENNEL CLUB THAT THE HEALTH OF THE BREED HAS DETERIORATED WHEN IN FACT THE OPPOSITE IS CLEARLY THE CASE AS EVIDENCED BY THE SUCCESS OF THE BREED IN GROUP AND BEST IN SHOW COMPETITION AND THE HUGE RISE IN POPULARITY OF THE NATIONAL BREED.**

**, THE BREED COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE KENNEL CLUB TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH OF THE BULLDOG"**

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PRESS RELEASE Re Kennel Club Visit

Four delegates from the Breed Council, Vicky Collins-Nattrass, Peter Janes MRCVS, Norman Davis and Chris Thomas, met with representatives of the Kennel Club on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the proposed changes to the Bulldog breed standard.

The sub-committee we met consisted of Dr. Ruth Barbour (chair), Prof. Crispin, Dr. Jeff. Sampson, Mr. Frank Cain, Mr. Bill Lambert and Mrs. Meg Purnell-Carpenter.

Before the meeting convened the chairman explained that no final decision would be made at this meeting regarding changes to the standard but this meeting was to give us an opportunity to put forward our case for reinstating wording to the standard that we felt to be fundamental.

The chairman also stated that as a result of our meeting their sub-committee would be better placed to explain our point of view to 'the powers that be'. I believe we were all a little surprised by this, as we had erroneously believed that the final decision regarding the standard would be made by the sub-committee we were meeting. We had hoped to have some indication, by the end of the meeting, what amendments to the interim standard would be acceptable, but this was not to be the case.

We proceeded with the meeting as planned and went through the standard item by item, discussing each of the changes made by the KC with a detailed explanation as to why we felt these unnecessary and how they would have no impact on the health of the bulldog.

The panel listened to our reasoning for the reinstatement of wording we felt imperative to the description of the bulldog and during the 2 ½ hour meeting the sub-committee asked questions on all aspects of the breed, especially health.

They wanted to know in depth how many bulldogs had gone through the health scheme and, of course, Vicky had all of these facts and figures at her fingertips, (I believe it is currently around 500). The chairman congratulated the Breed Council on its work in this area and this was seconded by the other panel members. Peter dispelled some of the myths surrounding the breed and its supposed health problems and Vicky was able to give the results of our own health survey which supported Peter's comments, which helped enormously.

Norman and I spoke on behalf of the alterations to the standard and we explained in detail why we felt it imperative that essential wording that has been removed from the standard be reinstated.

At the end of the meeting Dr Barbour thanked us for attending and also for the packs we had supplied for each member of the sub-committee containing line drawings, copies of the standard before and after change, etc. which we hope assisted in trying to explain why bulldoggers are so passionate when it comes to our breed standard.

Chris Thomas.

Press Officer Bulldog Breed Council.

The Emergency Meeting Called to Discuss The Kennel Clubs Proposed new standard for the Bulldog  
,December 30th 2008

The meeting convened and agreed to review the proposed changes and vote on each item after discussing it. At the end a document containing the meeting's proposal was produced which is now being prepared and as I understood it , will be sent to the Kennel club with explanations and a covering letter to be presented to the General Committee. It will state that this document is the product of discussion at an open meeting called by the Chairman of the Breed Council which was attended by forty people as individual bulldoggers which included the Secretary and President of the Bulldog Club Incorporated and who voted on each amendment, in addition a letter of support was received from the Bulldog Club of Scotland and there were over 1000 signatures on a petition which backed the Breed Council decision on how to act following the meeting. This will also be sent to the committees of all clubs for ratification (probably at their forthcoming Agm's) and The KC general committee will be requested to give us more time for this to be done.

Great care was taken to ensure that the conformation of the Bulldog was not changed as a result of these amendments.

This Open meeting was attended by 40 people ,from many breed clubs around the country ,Bulldog Club Inc and many interested bulldoggers ,a letter of support from Bulldog Club of Scotland and a petition collected by the Sheffield and Leodensian online of more than 1,000 signatures in just 24 hours ,contact your local breed club and pledge your support .

See the Bulldog Changes and the proposals NOT YET Ratified by the Breed Council on

<http://www.birminghamandmidlandcountiesbulldogclub.com/>