



# Inspection Report

Date of inspection:  Date report completed:

Name of applicant or current licence holder:

Name and address of zoo:

Tel no:  Licence Number:

Date of last formal inspection:  Type of last formal inspection:

Timing of next formal inspection:  Type of next formal inspection:

**Type of inspection**    **Statutory composition of inspection team**    *Please tick appropriate box*

**Section 10 Periodical:** 2 Defra/Welsh Government nominees; 1 LA vet; option of up to 2 more from LA..

**Section 11 Special:** Any number of competent LA authorised appointees .....

**Section 14(1)(b) dispensation renewal under section 6(1A)(a) (where a direction has been made that section 10 shall not apply):**  
 Defra/Welsh Government nominee/s.....

**Section 14(2) dispensation Periodical:**  
 Defra/Welsh Government nominee/s.....

**For a licence inspection (Section 4(1A)(b)) and a significant change inspection (Section 9A(8)) please use the inspection form at Appendix 11A of the Standards.**

Name and designation of inspector(s)	Name of zoo representative(s)
Dr.M J Fielding MRCVS (SoS List 1 Zoo Inspector)	Mr Carl Grimshaw, Director
Ms Gill Patell, Environmental Health Officer, Bolton Council	Ms Louise Blundell, Manager,
	Ms Jenny White, Farm Maager.

**When this form has been completed and signed the original must be sent to the local authority. If the zoo is owned by the local authority, the local authority must send a copy of the completed form to Defra where the zoo is situated in England or to the Welsh Government, where the zoo is situated in Wales.**

## Preamble to inspectors' report

Information and guidance about the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (ZLA) is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/protecting-biodiversity-and-ecosystems-at-home-and-abroad/supporting-pages/species-protection> and <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/zoos/?lang=en>

Preamble to inspectors' report\*, including any comments about the current dispensation status, if applicable.

The zoo is in part a working open farm park and part Zoo and has been established and expanded over several years with additional commercial developments and the addition of an eclectic group of exotic species now on site. The business is owned by one family through a limited company and offers an educational and recreational experience to view the processes of a milk and meat producing farm as well as breeding several rare domestic species and exhibiting a variety of birds, small mammals and reptiles. The attendance is approaching 200K persons per annum and now operates almost entirely on a pre-booking system to allow better management of the public. It is situated in a large public owned park in Bolton Lancs, and is currently leased to the zoo licence holder.

The Pre-Inspection Audit form was completed and received with very comprehensive background material and other information was mostly available on the day of the Inspection.

### Note for Licensing Authority:

1. Any reference in this report to SSSMZP indicates The Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice, the ZLA indicates the Zoo Licensing Act 1981, HaSaWR -Health and Safety at work Regulations and CJA, indicates the Criminal Justice Act.
2. A copy of any licence granted together with any conditions attached must be forwarded to The Cites, Zoo and Circus Licensing Officer, APHA, Horizon House, Deanery Rd, Bristol.
3. The licence must show the standard conditions plus any additional conditions imposed by the licensing authority. Directions are NOT required to be shown on the licence but if present will be provided to the Zoo licensee by the Licensing Authority under separate cover.
3. The Zoo at present qualifies for a dispensation under Section 14(2) of the ZLA, which taking into account the numbers and variety of animals currently kept, the inspectors consider is still an appropriate dispensation for this collection.
4. The zoo licensee should be aware that completion of any of the Conditions to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority, which are fulfilled prior to the issue of the Zoo Licence will permit the removal of such conditions from any licence subsequently issued.

\*this might include general background about the zoo (type of collection, size etc) and any relevant information or comments from the pre-inspection audit

## Findings at inspection

Guidance note: Where possible a Yes, No or Not Applicable (N/A) answer should be given. Where not all criteria are met for a particular question, comments and clarification should be made indicating where any deficits occur. If appropriate, means of correction or improvement should be included as Conditions or Recommendations under 'Additional conditions' or Additional space' towards the end of the form.

1. Provision of food and water	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
<b>Section 1A(c)(ii) ZLA 1981:</b> 1.1. Are animals provided with a high standard of nutrition?	Yes	Foodstuffs are of good quality and any supplements used only under Veterinary supervision/advice.
1.2. Is food and drink that is supplied appropriate for the species/individual?	Yes	Diet sheets for individual species are prepared and are based largely on professionally sourced suppliers.
1.3. Are supplies of food and water: (a) kept hygienically?	No	Some food is stored in freezers and defrosted in a refrigerator prior to feeding to the animals. most of the food consists of hay and pelleted food, with some fresh veg & fruit for specific species. Freezers must be labelled appropriately to indicate contents and intended usage. In the food prep area in the large barn, where milk feeds or lambs etc is prepared, the area must be tidied and an insect repellent/ insecticide be installed. ( See Conditions 2,4). In all other areas of this section the zoo is compliant
(b) prepared hygienically?	No	
(c) supplied to the animal hygienically?	Yes	
1.4. Has natural feeding behaviour been adequately considered to ensure that all animals have access to food and drink?	Yes	No evidence to the contrary was seen and good practice was noted throughout the collection.
1.5. Are feeding methods safe for staff and animals?	Yes	
1.6. Is feeding by visitors permitted?	Yes	Food is specifically prepared for public feeding and is controlled in type and quantity and supervised effectively.
(a) if 'yes', is it properly controlled?	Yes	
<b>2. Provision of suitable environment</b>		
<b>Section 1A(c)(i) ZLA 1981:</b> 2.1. Are the animals provided with an environment well adapted to meet the physical, psychological and social needs of the species to which they belong?	No	Some of the buildings, e.g. the old timber enclosures at the lower part of the slope behind the large barn containing Ducks, Racoons and other species are particularly showing deterioration and must be upgraded/ replaced. Other areas such as the reptile house are now dated and plans should be considered for updating to modern standards. (See Direction 1 re: development and collection plan) Provisions in other areas are compliant
2.2. Are the following environmental parameters appropriate:		
(a) temperature?	Yes	
(b) ventilation?	Yes	
(c) lighting?	Yes	
(d) noise levels?	Yes	
(e) any other environmental parameters?	Yes	

2. Provision of suitable environment (contd.)	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
2.3. Are there satisfactory measures in place to safely confine the animals?	No	In the large barn and in some outdoor enclosures , baling twine has been used to act as hinging on gates or for closure. This is not adequate . (See Direction 2 &3 re : Locks and closure mechanisms).
2.4. Do animal enclosures have sufficient shelter and refuge areas?	Yes	See recommendation re; optimising environments for rabbits.
2.5. Do animal enclosures provide sufficient space?	Yes	
2.6. Are backup facilities for life support systems adequate?	Yes	Temporary power back up for sensitive areas in case of emergency is available.
2.7. Is the cleaning of the accommodation satisfactory?	No	See Direction 6 re: cobweb silks and dust in some areas. Potential fire hazard.
2.8. Is the standard of maintenance adequate for: (a) the buildings?	No	This is an ongoing process, and repairs and improvements being undertaken were noted on the day, but a structured development plan taking into account the proposed revision of SSSMZP is required. In particular the food prep area in the avian and racoon row of buildings need refurbishment. Other areas were compliant. ( See Direction 1 re ;Development Plan).
(b) the fences?	Yes	
2.9. Is all drainage effective and safe?	Yes	
<b>3. Provision of animal health care</b>		
<b>Section 1A(c)(ii) ZLA 1981:</b> 3.1. Are the animals provided with a high standard of animal husbandry?	Yes	Keeping staff are adequately qualified and an overall positive effort to ensure standards are maintained in this respect was evident at inspection.
3. 2. Do animals on display to the public appear in good health?	Yes	
3.3. Are observations of condition and health made and recorded?	Yes	Daily entries are made in a diary and are checked and processed by management before recording on computer. (See recommendation re: content of Day Diary).
3.4. Do animals receive prompt and appropriate attention when problems are noted?	Yes	There was no evidence to the contrary and Veterinary services are close by and on call as required.
3.5. Are enclosures designed and operated in such a way that social interaction problems are avoided?	Yes	
<b>On-site facilities</b> 3.6. Are catch-up and restraint facilities adequate?	Yes	For the species currently kept.
3.7. Is darting equipment satisfactory?	N/A	
3.8. Are on-site veterinary facilities adequate?	Yes	These are adequate for the type of animals currently held. The current location of the facility means that minor examination can be carried, but in most cases the large animals are examined and treated in their enclosures and housing.

3. Provision of animal health care (contd.)	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
<b>Veterinary care</b> <b>Section 1A(c)(ii) ZLA 1981:</b> 3.9. Are the animals provided with a documented and maintained programme of preventative and curative veterinary care and nutrition?	Yes	See recommendation on veterinary records.
3.10. Is there a system for the regular review of clinical and pathological records?	Yes	This is undertaken at the External Consultant Veterinary surgeon's visits .
3.11. Are appropriate veterinary records kept?	Yes	Copies in the zoo are brief, detail is kept at the Vet's premises. (See Condition 3).
3.12. Are medicines kept and disposed of correctly?	Yes	Limited amounts kept in a locked cabinet . OOD/ unused items are removed by the Vet. Records are kept but it is advised they be available at the medicines cabinet.
3.13. Are controlled drugs used and recorded satisfactorily?	N/A	No controlled drugs are stored on the zoo. Any use is under veterinary supervision and appropriate records kept.
3.14. Are appropriate antidotes available?	N/A	These ( when required) are kept by the Veterinary surgeon at the practice premises
3.15. Are <i>post mortem</i> examination arrangements satisfactory?	Yes	P.M.s are carried out on Veterinary advice and investigations carried through by specialist laboratories where appropriate.
<b>Isolation and containment</b> 3.16. Is adequate reserve accommodation available for isolation of animals for: (a) assessment?	Yes	Small but currently adequate "Isolation" unit is present which can be used for isolation of smaller animals. Large animals can be provided with isolation areas within the Barn or other farm areas. Farmed domestic species also are required to conform to additional regulation where necessary
(b) treatment?	Yes	
(c) recovery?	Yes	
(d) quarantine (where required)?	No	
<b>Sanitation and control of disease</b> <b>Section 1A(e) ZLA 1981:</b> 3.17. Are satisfactory measures in place to prevent the intrusion of pests and vermin into the zoo premises?	Yes	Effectiveness of measures taken even if successful should be recorded.( see Conditions 2)
3.18. Does it appear that general sanitation and pest control are effective?	Yes	

4. Provision of an opportunity to express most normal behaviour	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
4.1. Do the accommodation and management regimes encourage normal behaviour patterns and minimise any abnormal behaviour, taking into account current enrichment and husbandry guidelines?	Yes	Overall there is a positive approach to continuing improvement of welfare standards in the light of any new recommendations/standards.
4.2. Are animals of social species normally maintained in compatible social groups?	Yes	
<b>5. Provision of protection from fear and distress</b>		
5.1. Are the animals handled only by or under the supervision of appropriately experienced staff?	Yes	
5.2. Is physical contact between animals and the public consistent with the animals' welfare?	Yes	
5.3. Are interactions between the animals such that they are not excessively stressful?	Yes	
<b>6. Transportation and movement of live animals</b>		
6.1. Can the zoo demonstrate a knowledge of, and compliance with, the regulations covering transportation of animals, and provide copies of certificates to show compliance when transportation has occurred?	Yes	
6.2. Can the zoo demonstrate that: i) transport and movement equipment is in good order?	Yes	
ii) facilities suitable for lifting, crating and transportation of all the types of animals kept within the zoo to destinations both inside and outside the zoo are readily available?	Yes	For the species currently kept.
iii) catching and transportation techniques take account of the animal's temperament and escape behaviour in order to minimise injury, damage and distress?	Yes	Always managed by senior staff and /or professional transporters.
iv) adequate provision is made for the animal's and the public's safety and well-being while the animal is being transported or kept away from the zoo?	Yes	

7. Conservation, education and research	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
<b>Section 1A(a) ZLA 1981:</b> 7.1. Is the zoo participating in at least one of the following: (i) research from which conservation benefits accrue to species of wild animals?	Yes	The zoo currently undertakes no research, but facilities are provided for Local FE colleges/University students to carry out non invasive research, once approved by the ethics group.  Outcomes of such are recorded , where possible.   breeding of domesticated rare breeds is evident.  Financial support may be given to approved projects.
(ii) training in relevant conservation skills?	Yes	
(iii) the exchange of information relating to the conservation of species of wild animals?	Yes	
iv) where appropriate, breeding of wild animals in captivity?	Yes	
(v) where appropriate, the repopulation of an area with, or the reintroduction into the wild of, wild animals?	No	
<b>Section 1A(b) ZLA 1981:</b> 7.2. Is the zoo promoting public education and awareness in relation to the conservation of biodiversity, in particular by providing information about the species of wild animals kept in the zoo and their natural habitats?	Yes	Examples of the updated signage are apparent in the zoo and appear to be clear, relevant and contain all the required details of the animals occupying enclosures.
7.3. Where appropriate are animals managed in a way consistent with the conservation needs of the species, (such as exchange between zoos, accommodation to encourage natural behaviour and breeding etc)?	Yes	
7.4. Are on-site education facilities adequate for the resources of the collection?	Yes	Educational talks are prepared for differing audiences and educational aims and small but adequate classrooms are available for educational use.
7.5. Are the conservation efforts adequate for the resources of the collection?	Yes	These are adequate and are usually carried out by support to external individuals and bodies, and also involve some rare breeds of domestic species. The current program will be reassessed following introduction of the revised Standards.
7.6. Are the research efforts adequate for the resources of the collection?	Yes	None carried out by farm staff but the facility for external researchers is provided.
7.7. Is captive breeding properly managed?	Yes	Managed with veterinary advice and based on licencee's interest in rare breeds.

8. Public safety	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
<b>Section 1A(d) ZLA 1981:</b> 8.1. Are there satisfactory measures in place to prevent the escape of animals?	No	Spring loaded bolt closures in the main Barn mean that the public could unfasten and release some gates. In some areas baling twine has been used to hold gates closed. (See Direction 3 re; closures in barn and gate fixings).
8.2. Are there satisfactory measures in place to be taken in the event of any escape or unauthorised release of animals?	Yes	A written escapes policy is in place.
8.3. Are escape drills carried out four times a year, recorded and regularly reviewed (at least two drills should include the escape of a Category 1 animal where present)?	No	The correct number of animal escape drills have been carried out at present, but only one annual emergency drill has been carried out in the preceding year. This must be addressed. (see Direction 4).
8.4. Will the perimeter deter unauthorised entry and aid the confinement of zoo stock?	Yes	Where the perimeter is definable it meets the requirement Under section 1A(d) of the ZLA. and is thus compliant.
8.5. Do stand-off barriers appear adequate?	Yes	See note adult pig enclosures. (See Condition 5)
8.6. Are adequate warning signs provided?	Yes	
8.7. Are prohibited areas appropriately signed?	Yes	
8.8. Are exits clearly marked and accessible?	Yes	
8.9. Do public areas, walkways and buildings appear safe?	Yes	
8.10. Are trees regularly inspected and appropriate remedial action taken?	Yes	It is recommended that written records be kept of tree inspections and the resultant actions that are carried out.
8.11. Have appropriate risk assessments for direct contact by the public with animals been carried out?	Yes	Under normal conditions this will not apply widely, except in educational and other controlled facilities.(Donkey rides,feeding specified species in controlled manner.).
8.12. Are the special safety requirements for walk-through or drive-through exhibits adequately met?	Yes	Walk through is only found in the domestic farmed animal barn and is monitored regularly. The cattle (domestic ) species in the large barn are adequately separated from the public.



9. Records	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
<b>Section 1A(f) ZLA 1981:</b> 9.1. Are there up-to-date records of the zoo's collection, including records of: (i) the numbers of different animals? (ii) acquisitions, births, deaths, disposals and escapes of animals? (iii) the causes of any such deaths? (iv) the health of the animals?	Yes Yes Yes Yes	These are kept on computer in the seven column approved system on basic spreadsheets. (See Recommendations re clarity)
9.2. Are daily diaries maintained, and do they contain appropriate information?	Yes	See note re: wider use of Diaries for routine information.
9.3. Are animal stock records clear and up-to-date?	Yes	See 9.1
9.4. Are annual stock records completed in the correct format and submitted to the local authority?	Yes	
9.5. Are animal source and destination records kept?	Yes	
9.6. Are archived records secure?	Yes	Backed up to computer, but it should be ensured that back ups are stored away from the master computer area. (Recommendation)
<b>10. Miscellaneous</b>		
10.1. Do staff numbers and training of staff appear adequate?	Yes	For the species currently kept.
10.2. Is the management structure and organisation of staff adequate to ensure compliance with the Standards at all times?	Yes	
10.3. Are effective risk assessments carried out where appropriate?	Yes	
10.4. Has an ethical review process been established and implemented?	Yes	Committee formed and outputs recorded. ( See recommendation re : external representative.)
10.5. Are public toilet facilities adequate and serviced?	Yes	
10.6. Are parking facilities adequate?	Yes	For the current numbers of visitors
10.7. Is a First Aid policy and accident reporting and recording system in place?	Yes	

11. Associated legislation	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
11.1. Is electrical equipment routinely serviced?	Yes	PAT tests are up to date but sight of full current electrical certificate was requested following the inspection.(produce to L.A.) (See Condition 1)
11.2. Have fire precautions been agreed and implemented?	Yes	Protocols are in place and extinguishers are checked and placed at strategic points in the zoo. (See recommendations)
11.3. Is refuse and clinical waste disposed of correctly?	Yes	Clinical waste (if any) from zoo species is removed by the Veterinary surgeon.
11.4. Are the required needs of disabled visitors met?	Yes	Some areas of the zoo are slightly steep and these should be indicated but all of the public area of the zoo is accessible to visitors.
<b>12. Compliance check including licence conditions</b>		
12.1. Is the current licence or a copy on public display at each public entrance?	Yes	
12.2. Is adequate Public Liability Insurance current?	Yes	
12.3. Have any Additional licence conditions been met?	Yes	

## Additional space

The following space is provided for:

- additional notes and comments on the answers to the earlier questions
- recommendations (other than in respect of grant or refusal of a licence and any specific conditions recommended for a licence) including those based on comments already made to earlier questions
- any general remarks which the inspecting team may wish to record

The Inspectors thank the Proprietor and the administrative staff for the completion and submission of the PIA and for making other information available on the day.

Most of the previous conditions have been completed, some are still not complete or are in progress, and there is an ongoing program of maintenance and development taking place although this seems a little ad hoc dependent on time, resources available, and planning permissions. Paper work and administrative practice is now very much improved but still has a somewhat random access process which needs tidying up.

Older areas of the zoo formerly showing some wear and tear but still serviceable in some cases, have been upgraded and new developments are completed to a high standard. Additional maintenance and repair/replacement of specified areas must be planned and undertaken.

Staff appear qualified and well briefed for their tasks. The education programme is well considered and itemised for use for public education. Subsequently the educational programme is under regular review.

Zoo talks are delivered by management and senior keeping staff and are carried out in the schoolroom as well as out in the display

Overall the zoo is much improved since the last inspection and management and staff are to be commended for the improvements seen, however, this improvement must be maintained to ensure future compliance. Particular attention must be paid to the final new revised standards which may require substantial review of some aspects of the Zoo, specifically, they are likely to require more active participation by the zoo in conservation and research.

The Zoo continues with regular renewals and re-developments which improve both the welfare of the animals kept and the ambience and recreational value for the visitors. The development plan needs to take into account, trends and changes expected by the visiting public as animal welfare perception influences the future management of the collection.

The inspectors commend the ongoing programme of renewals and new developments.

It is vital that the zoo licence holder understands and complies with, the conditions placed on the licence and with Directions notified to the Zoo. Failure to complete Directions in particular, will in some cases, lead to closure of parts of, or in extremis, the whole zoo. If this were to be the case, then the welfare of the animals and the commercial viability of the Zoo would suffer major jeopardy.

### Recommendations:

1. The ethics committee is well supplied with a variety of skills, but all of those involved are connected in some way with the operation of the zoo. It is recommended that at least one "external" member who has no direct connection to the Zoo management be recruited to ensure balanced opinions are expressed. Minutes of all meetings should be kept.
2. It would be helpful to management and to Licensing Inspectors if the numbers of school age visitors / outreach students who are benefiting from the education programme could be assessed and if some feedback directly from the schoolchildren could be considered in addition to the formal response from supervising teaching staff. Overall approximate annual attendance numbers should be assessed.
3. It is recommended that use of portable electrical extension sockets in proximity to animals should only be in temporary or emergency cases. Sockets in permanent use should be safely fixed.
4. The trees in the zoo are not formally monitored at present and no written record of tree inspections and any actions taken as a result of such is present. It is recommended that regular tree inspections take place and written records be kept at the zoo.
5. The rabbits are now not kept in hutches and are free to range in their enclosures. Additional improvement to welfare would be achieved by some degree of exposure to outdoor environments where possible.
6. A review of the locations and numbers of fire extinguishers at present on the premises is recommended, following advice from the Fire service or other competent advisers.
7. The route of travel for the public in the large barn is not well indicated. Some Directional Arrows either on the floor or affixed to walls or gates, could assist in crowd control.
8. Staff appraisals should be carried out on at least an annual basis and outcomes recorded.

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## Additional space

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9. Day Diaries although present record mainly only items and reports of problems with animals and/or enclosures. It is recommended that each day following review, it is recorded that "no", or "no other" problems are noted in the collection for that day. More other pertinent minor notes could also be recorded in this log, so that a "snapshot" of the daily circumstances can be illustrated.
10. Information signage is comprehensive and fulfills all requirements of the SSSMZP. This could however be reviewed so as to emphasise the required elements and a larger font size be utilised where signage is placed more remotely from the viewing public. New signage is being introduced as part of an ongoing programme
11. It is recommended that Staff tasked with monitoring hand washing of the public on exit from the large barn seek to deter the public from backtracking into the barn after washing or if they so do, ensure that a second washing opportunity is presented. The inspectors would remind the zoo licence holder that as the Zoo is substantially also a Farm to which the public have access and on which they also, in some areas, have availability for direct contact with animals, the licence holder should be aware of, and take notice of, other guidance from competent bodies ( e.g Access to Farms, March 2021, Industry Code of Practice V.3). This draws attention to the possible public health risks to the Public when visiting farms: quote;  
"Arrange adequate and appropriate levels of supervision in "animal contact " areas for any time while they are being used. The number of supervisors will depend on the size of the area and the number of visitors permitted or expected in that area at one time. Depending on the level of risk and other control measures in place, consider whether supervision is needed as part of your control measures for "look and see" areas".  
"Ensure that children are supervised while they wash their hands. Part of this responsibility rests with Parents or teachers, but in some cases, Staff may need to offer help in supervision, or remind people to wash hands ". (End quote).
12. Veterinary records for the animals kept are present in outline at the zoo, but the details of any treatments carried out either at the zoo, or at the veterinary surgery should also be kept alongside the animal's history in the zoo. (See also conditions).
13. It is recommended that the current records on computer are reviewed and the layout of information is improved such that access to the information held is made as clear and easily accessed as possible.
14. The fence at the paddock currently holding Rheas is wide mesh. The animals currently held are young and at present are presenting no hazard to the public, but regular monitoring of behaviours should take place and any future aggressive changes should be controlled either by moving to alternative accommodation or provision of stand-off barriers at this enclosure.

## Inspecting team's recommendation to the local authority

Having inspected (name of zoo)

Smithills Open Farm & Zoo

on:

19th July 2022

the inspecting team make the following recommendation:

Please tick appropriate box

- it is recommended that a licence be refused .....
- it is recommended that the above collection be licensed in accordance with the ZLA 1981 subject to the conservation measures in section 1A .....
- it is recommended that the above collection be licensed in accordance with the ZLA 1981 subject to the conservation measures in section 1A and the following Additional Conditions (N.B Additional Conditions must be clearly worded so as to be enforceable and a timescale applied for compliance) .....
- it is recommended that the following alterations be made to the above collection's licence conditions .....

### Additional Conditions (if appropriate)

1. P.A.T tests are carried out, but at the time of the inspection no evidence of a full 3 year formal inspection certificate was seen. Sight of an up to date certificate is required. In order to comply with Section 1A (f) (Misc) of the ZLA 1981 and with SSSMZP (2012) Section 11.1 The zoo licence holder must produce a copy of the full formal 3 year electrical inspection certificate (including any relevant recommendations) to the licensing authority. This Condition must be completed within 3 months from the date on which this Condition takes effect. ( NOTE: there appears to be some confusion in the current lease as to where the responsibility for such maintenance lies. Irrespective of this the inspection and issue of the subsequent certificate is required under both the ZLA and probably under H&SaWA regulations and compliance must be ensured).

2. There was no evidence of excessive pests or vermin present on inspection, however there was no indication or records of the method by which such risk is controlled. In order to comply with Section 1A(e) of the ZLA 1981 and Section 3.17 of SSSMZP, the Zoo licence holder must produce to the Licensing Authority evidence that a program of control for pest and vermin has been put in place at the Zoo and written reports of its effectiveness be kept at the zoo. This condition must be completed within 3 months from the date on which this condition takes effect.

CONTINUED on Page 14;

Inspector(s) signature(s)

Date signed

*M. J. Filding* D.V.M.S., M.R.C.V.S.

06/08/2022

## Inspecting team's recommendation to the local authority

### Additional Conditions (if appropriate)

3. The veterinary care plan for some animals on the zoo was present, but appears to cover only routine endo- and ecto-parasite treatments and vaccinations of animals. This must be reviewed to include, where appropriate, screening of potential zoonotic disease and outline geriatric care plans for ageing or chronically disabled animals in the collection. Thus;

In order to comply with Section 1A(c) (ii) of ZLA 1981 and Section 3.9, 3.10 and 3.11 of SSSMZP, the zoo licence holder in conjunction with the zoo's Veterinary Surgeon must review and update the current veterinary care plans, for the animals kept at the zoo to include a comprehensive plan for each group and /or species of animals present, to include where appropriate geriatric / disabled care and monitoring for zoonotic disease. In addition copies of animal treatment records and evidence of the Veterinary Surgeon's CPD, must be kept at the zoo.

This condition must be completed within 6 months from the date on which this condition takes effect.

4. Various freezers are in operation and use in the collection, but not all are externally identifiable as to their contents. Thus;

In order to comply with Section 1 A (c) (ii) of ZLA 1981 the zoo licence holder, must mark each freezer in use in the zoo with a label which appropriately identifies the use and contents held. The label to conform with accepted practice and any applicable health and safety regulations currently in force. (e.g animal by products regs).

This condition must be completed within 3 months from the date on which this condition takes effect.

5. In the large barn several animals (e.g. Adult pigs) are signed to indicate a possible bite risk, but the gates separating the public from the animals could still allow bite risk through the wide bars. Thus:

In order to comply with Section 1A(d) of ZLA 1981 and Section 8.6, 8.9 of SSSMZP, The zoo licence holder must prevent the public being able to place their hands (or other parts of their body) through the gate bars of the enclosures containing animals where a bite risk exists. This may be done by meshing the gate fronts or an internal of external stand off barrier, or other effective action which minimises this risk.

This condition to be completed within 3 months from the date on which this condition takes effect.

## Inspecting team's recommendation to the local authority

### Directions

Where there has been non-compliance with an existing condition on the current zoo licence the licensing authority **must** issue a direction indicating the steps required to be taken to ensure the original condition is met. The existing conditions on the zoo licence included the Section 1A conservation measures, the standard additional licence conditions, and any that may have been added as a result of previous zoo inspections.

The inspecting team recommends that the following directions are issued to the zoo:

1. During the inspection of the zoo on 19th July 2022, it was noted that the development and collection plans for the zoo are incomplete. The development and collection plan are present at the zoo but are limited in size and scope. They also, as yet, do not take note of some trends in modern keeping and display of some animals and as yet give no indication of how the proposed update of the SSSMZP may effect this zoo. Thus:

In order to comply with Section 1A (c) & (a) of ZLA 1981 and Sections 1, 2 & 7 of SSSMZP the current collection and development plans must be revised to indicate the future content of the collection and the measures to be taken to properly accommodate the animals in that plan taking into account required modern practice and standards for keeping of all animals in the collection. This must include an approximate time scale for redevelopments/ refurbishments of enclosures to be built or renovated in the zoo. A copy of the completed plan to be lodged with the licensing Authority.

The plan must be completed within 6 months of the date from which this Direction takes effect.

At present this Direction does not require the closure of any specific area of the Zoo

2. During the inspection of the zoo on 19th July 2022 it was noted that in some areas nylon baling twine is being used to hold and /or hinge enclosure gates. This is not acceptable, thus:

In order to comply with Section 1(A) (c) (i) of ZLA 1981 and Sections 2.3, 2.8 of SSSMZP, the zoo licence holder must ensure that all gates, fencing, or other methods of ensuring security of enclosures, where baling twine is in use as a closure or support fixture, must be firmly fixed using appropriate materials of sufficient strength to meet the Standard.

This Direction to be completed within 1 month of the date from which this Direction takes effect.

The zoo is not required to be closed during the period of this Direction.

3. It was noted during the inspection on 19th July 2022 that: In the large barn and in some instances in other areas of the collection the entrances to enclosures are fixed solely by a spring loaded bolt system. These fixtures are mostly in public areas and are not a locked fitting. Thus:

In order to comply with Section 1 (A) (c) (i) of ZLA 1981 and Section 2.3, 2.8 of SSSMZP, the zoo licence holder must secure these access gates by additional means (Such as chain & lock), so that they cannot be opened by the public and thus allow escape by the animals contained and also deter entry by the public into the enclosures.

This Direction to be completed within 2 months of the date from which this Direction takes effect.

At present the zoo is not required to be closed during the period of this Direction.

4. It was noted during the inspection on 19th July 2022 that; Although practices of the escapes procedure had taken place in the zoo, the requirement for 4 such practices to take place annually had been fulfilled, but only one (non escape) emergency drill had taken place. Thus

In order to comply with Section 1(A) (d) of ZLA 1981 and Section 8.3 of SSSMZP, the zoo licence holder must ensure that full practice emergency drills must be carried out at the zoo during any consecutive 12 month period. All such practices must take place on the zoo and "desktop" practices do not qualify. Such routine emergency drills must ensure that public safety is prioritised.

This Direction to be completed within 12 months of the date from which this Direction takes effect.

At present the zoo is not required to be closed during the period of this Direction.

5. It was noted during the inspection on 19th July 2022 that in some food preparation areas (Particularly the milk feeding area in "pets corner" of the large barn), insects were seen (Flies). This is not acceptable in food preparation areas. Thus:

In order to comply with Section 1A(c) (ii) of ZLA 1981 and Section 1.3 b&c of SSSMZP the zoo licence holder must review insect controls in all food preparation areas and ensure effective controls are in place and any mechanical device so used is in full working order.

This Direction to be completed within 3 months of the date from which this Direction takes effect.

At present the zoo is not required to be closed during the period of this Direction.

6. It was noted during the inspection of 19th July 2020, that in some areas (particularly in the Pets Corner of the large barn) Cobweb silks were seen in some cases holding dust and hay/straw fragments. These indicate inadequate cleaning and a possible fire risk.

Thus: In order to comply with Section 1 A (c) (i) of ZLA 1981 and Section 2.7 of SSSMZP the zoo licence holder must, as part of the regular cleaning routine of buildings and enclosures in the zoo, include the brushing and removal of cobweb silks and collected debris in such a manner that the premises are clean of such and that any collateral fire risk is reduced.

This Direction to be completed within 1 month of the date from which this Direction takes effect.

At present the zoo is not required to be closed during the period of this Direction.

## Inspecting team's recommendation to the local authority

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### Directions

[Empty box for directions]



## **The Data Protection Act 1998 – Fair Processing Notice**

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The purpose of this Fair Processing Notice is to inform you of the use that will be made of your personal data, as required by the Data Protection Act 1998.

The local authority in England (or in Wales as the case may be) is the data controller in respect of any personal data that you provide when you complete this zoo inspection form. The information that you provide may be used by the local authority in its consideration of issuing or amending a zoo licence in accordance with the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (ZLA). The local authority may be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs) or the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). However, local authorities will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor act in contravention of their obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA).

Where the zoo, to which this inspection report applies, is owned by the local authority, the local authority must send a copy of the completed form to Defra (in accordance with section 13(2) of the ZLA) where the zoo is situated in England, or to the Welsh Government where the zoo is situated in Wales. Defra or the Welsh Government (as the case may be) may use the information contained in the form to ensure that local authorities are carrying out their duties correctly in accordance with the ZLA.

Defra and the Welsh Government are also subject to the EIRs and the FOIA and so may be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request. However, as above, Defra and the Welsh Government will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor act in contravention of their obligations under the DPA.

