A presentation and background to CCS were given and the challenges are highlighted as follows:

1. State of the art facilities come at a big price. Are we doing the right thing? Are we getting to where we want to be with CCS?
2. Is it not that CCS should be more adapted to Primary Animal Health Care [PAHC]?
3. Should the veterinary graduates not be at the forefront of PAHC and servicing the areas where there are no veterinary services?
4. PAHC does not require huge amounts of resources.
5. The actual mindset of the new graduates when they commence CCS is a completely different idea to what CCS is going to offer them. They have the idea that CCS is a grand opportunity to do clinical work.
6. CCS graduates need to be educated before they commence CCS programmes and that they should be looking at PAHC.
7. The situation is that basic equipment was not available, some don’t have hoof trimming equipment, some of them have no equipment, it varies greatly from province to province.
8. Council did speak to the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries [DAFF] about many of these problems. DAFF makes sure that these problems are resolved. A DAFF audit team is at the moment going around to the different facilities to see if they are up to date or not up to date.
9. Funding, apparently was a problem because CCS started at the end of a financial year.
10. A lot of advanced equipment was not in use in some of the facilities.
11. Basic medication, including vaccines, were not available; again it was dealt with in different ways as there are nine provinces and one national Department.
12. Many CCS veterinarians are out there in the provinces and they fall under the provincial administration. There is a gap in communication of what is expected and how CCS is to be implemented.
13. The biggest concern for Council is that the mentors were not available due to their own work commitments or not able to mentor as they are supposed to do. [Distances].
14. CCS graduates did not receive programmes from their mentors or were not taught how to perform the work.
15. Mentors did not know what was required ito mentoring, they’re far away from the veterinarians that have been placed out in the field, so the CCS veterinarians felt that they were getting absolutely no support and they had no idea of what was going on.
16. Placement of CCS graduates and available resources are both interlinked and a problem.
17. Locum work needs to be addressed.
18. The CCS Forum was dysfunctional.