



Registered Charity No. 1068608
www.herefordshirebirds.org

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at Holmer Parish Centre on Thursday 19th April 2018

Present: Susanna Grunsell Chairman; Gareth Morgan President; Gerald Wells Vice President; Norman Fincham; Una Morgan; Viv Quinn; Chris Robinson; Robert Taylor (Vice Chairman); Jim Wilkinson

1 Apologies: Mick Colquhoun; Mervyn Davies; Nicky Davies; Rachel Jenkins; Tom Weale

2 Minutes of 15th February Meeting: These were agreed and signed.

3 Matters Arising:

Bird ID training (item 3.6): Innes Jones has been asked but is too busy and will suggest some alternative names.

Curlew meeting (item 3.11): Chris has a group who are interested. He will be going to see what Shropshire do.

Wildlife Crime (item 11) Gerald has done some research on wildlife crime and will contact a new group Birders Against Wildlife Crime to see if we can use their publicity. Una will contact a possible speaker on the topic.

Action Una and Gerald

4 Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report had been circulated. The Tim Birkhead meeting will be at Bartestree Village Hall on the Friday 15th February 2019 as the Withington hall has no audio. The Bank mandate will be amended to add the new Chairman. There was a brief discussion on the downturn in membership; the downward trend has continued for the past 20 years. Over 50% of bird sightings are by non members.

5 General Data Protection Regulations:

The committee agreed the wording and newsletter item suggested by the Treasurer and agreed the privacy statement would be re considered in the new website design.

6 Website:

The committee agreed on the Alpha designs quotation and authorised Robert to proceed. They will need a 20% deposit before they start.

7 Youth leaflet and encouraging young birders:

Andrew Strong's email and leaflet was considered. Concern was expressed that we do not have anything to offer the young people or children we want to encourage as indoor meetings and field meetings are weekdays and our age profile is getting older. The Secretary and Chairman will reply to Andrew's email to say we are considering what can be done and we want to get a small working group to sort out what we can offer. Gerald will check with some other Bird Clubs.

Action: Una, Susanna and Gerald

8 Safeguarding/ Child Protection Policy:

Our existing Child Protection Policy is dated December 2007 and should be reviewed regularly by the trustees. Una will send out a newer sample safeguarding policy and our old one so it can be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Action Una

9 Outdoor Meeting Organiser:

Gerald Wells has agreed to be the co-ordinator of the existing group. This group is Sue Griffin, Robbie Ledlie, John Pullen and Gerald Parker.

10 Correspondence:

Speaker request: We have been asked to supply a speaker to the Hereford and Gloucester Canal Trust on 17th July 18 in the evening. John Pullen has said he would talk but wants technical back up. Chris Robinson thought he could help. Una will establish what topic is wanted.

Action Una & Chris

Mortimer Forest planning: Chris has passed on what information he has and thinks there is a danger to some red listed breeding birds (or potentially red listed) . Gerald Wells thinks we need to respond and it was agreed we would notify the people who had raised it with us that HOC would object at the appropriate time.

Action Gerald

Breinton and Hereford By Pass: Norman has been checking what information is available and asking questions. Balfour Beatty say they will be doing a survey but it is after the consultation. The whole river is an SSSI.

Naturetrek has offered to organise holidays for HOC. Gerald has experience of the firm

Mick has received a request for a farm survey at Brampton Abbots from the farmer Ben Taylor-Davies to follow a RSPB one done 14 years ago. Chris will look into it and talk to possible surveyors

Action Chris Robinson

11 Appointment of Sub Committees:

The Executive committee is Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary

Editorial Mervyn Davies is Chairman. Members Mike Townsend (replaces Espen), Tony Eveleigh, John Pullen, Gerald Wells, Gerald Parker and Gareth & Una Morgan

Rarities: Mick Colquhoun is chairman. Members Steve Coney, Tony Eveleigh, John Tilby and Nick Pegler
Education/ Publicity and Conservation - no volunteers

12 Sub Committee Business

Mervyn's report on the Editorial Meeting held on 6 April to discuss plans for the 2017 Annual Report

- ⤴ Actions agreed to follow the similar schedule as for the 2016 Report with publication in Jan 2019
- ⤴ Writers of species scripts are same as 2016 except Mike Townsend replaces Espen Quinto-Ashman; documents to be sent to writers asap after 30 April
- ⤴ Authors of Review articles agreed except the 'environmental' article which I have yet to progress."

13 Charity Status

Work still to be done

Action Una

14 Dates of 2018 committee meetings

See attached list

15 Any Other Business

Ann Wilkinson is taking over the Garden Birdwatch recording. Thanks to Ian & Natalie Buttriss for their work.

The HWT email on consultation on the Government's farmland review has a tight deadline, so the Executive will do a response.

Brockhall water levels. Mick has contacted Charlotte of the Duchy who say they will monitor.

Date of next meeting Thursday 21st June 2018