



Registered Charity No. 1068608  
www.herefordshirebirds.org

## Minutes of a Committee meeting held at Holmer Parish Centre on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Present:** Gareth Morgan, President; Susanna Grunsell, Chairman; Mick Colquhoun; Mervyn Davies; Norman Fincham; Una Morgan; Viv Quinn; Chris Robinson; Robert Taylor; Tom Weale; Jim Wilkinson.

**1 Apologies:** Nicky Davies; Rachel Jenkins; Gerald Wells.

**2 Minutes of the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September:** these were agreed and signed.

### **3 Matters arising:**

Proposed Partners' Meeting: we would send out the letters again as there had been no takers yet.

Action Una

Bird ID: arrangements made for 1<sup>st</sup> May at Sellack; Dan Webb will help Ed Drewitt. Decided to advertise in February Newsletter and follow up those who expressed interest in the members' survey. There would be a nominal charge of £10 or £15

Action Robert

Safeguarding and Charity status still to do as Secretary had been ill

Action Una

### **4 Treasurer's Report**

As circulated.

Discussion on possible purchase of new lighter screen but still need 8ft but we will also try the mounted wall screen in situ.

Still need to recruit new officers for March 2019. Jim will work with Susanna to produce a short piece about what is involved and send to all members on email from Susanna; we will hand out slips at the indoor meeting; Mick will put on the website with Susanna as the contact. Without a Treasurer and Secretary the Club would fold.

Action Jim, Mick

### **5 Website Actions update**

Robert reported that it would soon be in a working state for us to see and he would send all the committee a link to see the proposed site in detail when it is ready to look at. We would include policies and the Club Rules. Hope to be ready early next year.

We will have generic emails which will divert to the correct post holder.

### **6 HOC Birding sites**

Still looking for some writers for a few sites. Committee made suggestions and will give Robert the contact information. At a later date we will send out as a PDF to all members. New members get it when they join.

### **7 Publicity**

Publicity for the Tim Birkhead talk: committee members will publicise with their contacts in neighbouring bird and natural history clubs and Nicky will be asked to put it on Facebook.

Robert & Jim would put the words together. Decided against a paid advert but we would do an article for the Hereford Times and try to get something on BBC Hereford & Worcester.

Castle Green event; Susanna reported that she has some local support but needed more.

The Club's display boards need to be done afresh using the curlew project. The Treasurer confirmed funds were allocated for this.

### **8 Indoor Speakers**

The Committee thanked Rachel for organising the speakers for 2019-20 but expressed concern at one cost. It was decided that £200 should be the maximum for a speaker. We would ask Rachel to contact Mark Cocker re his honorarium. Susanna would send another suggested name to Rachel in case a substitute was needed.

The Nick Davies talk will be the Dr Walker Memorial lecture in November.

### **9 Outdoor Meetings**

The committee decided that it is worth HOC participating in the Hereford Walking Festival. Phil Williams had sent the pro forma as he was on holiday and gave us notice that he would not be continuing because of age. The Secretary would send this on to the Outdoor meeting group to make the arrangements.

### **10 Herefordshire Birds Conservation Fund**

Robert's paper was agreed in principle; it was felt that this was a good idea which matched the Club's objectives, but best not to advertise the total fund amount.

Publicity could go on the website and newsletter and we could approach tertiary level colleges

### **11 Willow tits**

Mick outlined what was being requested; it was decided that the survey would be too labour intensive for our limited manpower so we would not participate.

### **12 Slides**

Nick was going to collect the many slides on offer from Chris Mason and a decision would be made once we saw what was there. Some important ones could be digitised.

### **13 Nest Boxes**

Andrew's reply was read out, explaining he did not want to take part in HWT's scheme.

As we had information from Beryl it was decided to put this in the newsletter to see if there were any other members interested in assisting HWT.

Action Una

### **14 Sub Committee Business**

Editorial : the Annual report should be complete by end of November; as we accepted a tender for 3 years last year we will use the same printers.

Rarities : Subcommittee had met to decide on the first 6 months rarities.

### **15 Dates for Committee Meetings**

These were agreed for 2019 as on the list and Una will book the room.

### **16 Any Other Business**

Chris Robinson's email re Don Langford looking for a research project on local ornithology and the suggestion was Burley Gate or possibly the curlew project.

Mick reported we now have a presence in "Bird Watching" thanks to Nick and John Tilby.

Chris outlined some possible expenditure on the Curlew project and it was agreed he could have up to £500.

**Date of next Meeting Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019**