

Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust – South Notts. Local Group

Minutes of AGM held Thursday 20th April, 2017, Methodist Church Rooms, West Bridgford.

Gordon Dyne, Chair. welcomed 19 people to the meeting.

1. **Apologies** There were three apologies received including Jacquie Glenn, secretary + **Neil Glen and Jeff Richards**.
2. **Minutes** The minutes of the AGM held on 21st April 2016 were approved and accepted.
3. **Chairman's Report** Gordon Dyne presented an overview of the activities during the last year. :

Walks and Talks 17 wildlife walks had taken place, 2 reserve open days and six wildlife-related talks. A similar programme is planned for 2017/18; but in order to avoid a shortfall on talks finance it was proposed and accepted to put the cost per evening per participant up to £3, the first increase since 2008.

Spring Fair This was successful again this year being the most profitable for several years, with new initiatives being a tombola and sale of knitted badgers. In 2017 we will be selling knitted bumblebees.

Local Work Parties These continue to be held on a regular basis at Wilwell, Wilford Claypits and Skylarks. In addition to work parties held by 'Friends' Groups at five associated venues.

Pub Quiz This is on hold this year as the Larwood and Voce no longer organise them. We are trying to find an alternative venue.

Summer Fetes etc. We visited three summer fetes in the district in addition to a Christmas Tree Festival at Keyworth.

Wildlife on your Doorstep SNG continues to support wildlife concerns in Rushcliffe by participating in the Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy, promoting NWT's Wildlife on Your Doorstep Awards, and keeping in contact with local Friends groups. The Trust is involved in local projects, in particular the Wetland Landscape for All Project where the Trust is being funded to carry out work along the Trent Valley; the Rushcliffe Service Level Agreement where the Borough Council continue to support NWT in assisting 7 Friends groups, advising 10 landowners and 8 farm visits, 12 Skylarks Outreach activities, 20 School activity days and 8 wildlife training days. In addition the Trust responded to 71 significant planning applications. The Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy Implementation Group is starting to develop a Landscape Conservation Scale project in the Cotgrave Forest area.

The **Badger Vaccination** scheme halted last year owing to a lack of suitable vaccine. It is hoped to resolve this shortly and to recommence vaccination this summer on the original 23 sets, plus hopefully an additional 26 sets. Work continued on surveying badger sets in the target area of Cropwell Butler.

Working locally, South Notts. contributes towards the national nature conservation effort across the country, where the 47 independent Wildlife Trusts have 800,000 members, 45,000 active volunteers, and 2,300 nature reserves. Thank you to all the unsung heroes who continue this work month after month.

4. **Accounts** Val Holt presented the accounts for 2016/17. Income from talks was down (n.b. decision noted at the beginning of the meeting to increase the charge for talks); the Spring Fair had been successful and £167 had been raised for the Badger Vaccination scheme with the sale of knitted badgers. A donation to The Trust of £1,500 had been made (it was noted South Notts. is by far the largest local group donation within Notts.). A closing balance of £926 was declared. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Cat Lovatt and seconded by Ron Blades and they were accepted.

5. **Election of Officers and Committee**

The following have indicated they are willing to stand again: Chair, Gordon Dyne; Secretary, Jacquie Glenn; Treasurer, Valerie Holt; committee: Margie Richards, Graham Leigh Brown, Neil Glenn, Judith Booth, Cath Lovett, Cally Keetley; and Chris Overton was elected to the committee for the first time.

6. **Other Business** Co-op members **can contribute** 1% on some of their **local spend to charity**, and members were encouraged to choose Wilford Claypits as their nominated charity on the Co-op website.

Wildlife on Your Doorstep Awards Gotham Sandbanks Nature Reserve Trust group have been awarded the group prize; and Jenny Craig was present and has been awarded the individual prize for her work in Bingham Linear Park. They were congratulated.

Gordon Dyne thanked everyone who had worked hard and contributed in any way to the Trust during the last year.

The AGM was followed by a very interesting talk by Michael Walker from the local Bat Group, on the Bats of Rushcliffe.

