

Chichester Natural History Society

Minutes of the 59th Annual General Meeting

Held on November 3rd 2021

At The Pallant Suite,

Chichester

Present: Christian Hance (Chair), Jim Bagley (President), David Hart (Treasurer), Sarah Hall (Secretary), Heather Hart (Membership Secretary), Helen Dignum (Website and Newsletter), Gill Hance (Outdoor Meetings), Linda Smith (Indoor Meetings), Dee Bowerman (Pub Meetings), Terry Timblich (Publicity),

There were 38 Members who attended.

Apologies for Absence:

Ann Griffiths, Jamie Woods, John and Phillipa Arnott, Jill Sutcliffe, Elizabeth and Nick Sturt, Jane and Simon Foster, Peter Etheridge, Bruce and Julia McFarlane.

Minutes for the AGM held on November 4th 2020.

All Present approved of the minutes of the meeting held last year and it was signed by the Chair.

1st proposer – Helen Dignum

2nd proposer – Ken Smith

The Chairman's Annual Report.

After a very difficult year, we are glad that the society is running again as before the lockdown restrictions. CH gave thanks to the committee and others for keeping the society going over that time, especially the organisation of the field outings and the Medmerry Surveys run by Gill Hance and Phillipa Arnott. There were six field outings during the easing of lockdown to Nutbourne Marshes, Cobnor, Iping, Burton Mill, Slindon and Church Norton. The Medmerry surveys were recording such species as crickets, Damsel flies and dragonflies.

Post lockdown we enjoyed the Moth mornings run by Tony Burnand. Lots of wonderful results and species were found living in our gardens – amazing!

The Legacy projects have continued. Work with the National Trust at Slindon's Northwood, the Chichester Harbour Conservancy at Dell Quay and with the Friends of Maybush Copse at Chidham.

The Bat monitoring project has been very successful even detecting a very rare Kuhl's Pipistrelle Bat which was mentioned in the the National press and on the Countryfile Website. The Bat detector was used for 152 nights and there were around 50,000 records of 15 species of bats.

Membership of the Society dipped in the early part of the year but has risen to pre lockdown numbers recently.

It has been a good year for the Society, but there are some committee roles that will need filling: Chair, Membership Secretary, Secretary and Treasurer. None of the roles take up too much time and if possible, it would be fortuitous to work with the current committee member to learn the ropes of the role. Without a committee, there will be no Society.

The Honourable Treasurer's Report.

The Society is in a strong position with £768 above last years balance. The Masonic Hall kindly waived the rent and there was no Christmas party.

The Number 1 account has a healthy balance of £4,817.14

The project account spent £475.17 on the Moth project, £800 on the National Trust pond and Owls boxes at Maybush had £79.60 donated.

The total for both accounts is £10,587.10

1st Proposer – Jim Bagley

2nd Proposer – John Kelsall

Election of the Committee.

John Kelsall has retired from the role of Webmaster and Helen Dignum will take over the role.

1st Proposer – Linda Smith

2nd Proposer – Maria Wildman

Dee Bowerman will take on the role of Pub Meetings.

1st Proposer – Gill Hance

2nd Proposer – Heather Hart

Election of the President.

Jim Bagley is happy to continue as President.

1st Proposer - Ken Smith

2nd Proposer – Rodney Wildman

Appointment of Independent Accounts Examiner.

Richard Fisk has agreed to continue as the Accounts advisor.

1st Proposer – Linda Smith

2nd Proposer – Maria Wildman.

Final Comment.

After a good year and after the break there will be show and tell tables with members and their stands offering information on some of the projects and activities that have been going on throughout the year.