



## **Lothian SOC**

### **Annual General Meeting minutes**

**Date of meeting:** 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**Venue:** Zoom

**Committee members present:**

Alison Creamer  
Gillian Herbert  
Stephen Hunter  
Anne Hyatt  
Richard Leslie  
Hilary Maxfield  
David Parmee  
Gill Parmee  
Mike Thornton

**Members present:**

Michael Black; Jane Broderick; Donald Bundy; Irene Carter; Barbara Cartwright; Martin Chick; Stan da Prato; Donald Dickie; Val Donaldson; Steuart Ferguson; Rosie Filipak; Alan Fleming; Sue Goode; Christina Graham; Carolyn Hargest; Morag King; Doreen Main; James Main; Alan Marks; John McInnes; Helen McKellar; Colette Nelson; Maksymilian Roman; Colin Shepherd; Anne Sinclair; Fay Stanton; Dave Stewart; Eppie Sweeney; Mako Tanaka; Winifred Thomson; Graeme Waters; Mairi Wheeler; Carolyn Williams; Molly Woolgar

Some other members were present, but full names were not shown on Zoom so are not captured in the above list.

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mark Holling.

#### **2. Approval of minutes from branch AGM held on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020**

Richard reminded everyone the minutes of last year's meeting had been made available to members via the SOC website. He explained we had held the last AGM in August instead of April due to uncertainties around what we could and couldn't do because of the COVID-19 pandemic. He asked if there were any comments on those minutes, but none were forthcoming.

The 2020 AGM minutes were proposed by David Parmee and seconded by Gill Parmee.

#### **3. Branch Chair's report**

Richard reminded members his Chair's report had been published on the SOC website, but highlighted a few things:

He gave special thanks to Alison Creamer, who was stepping down as secretary and acknowledged she had been a great source of support to Richard and the rest of the committee. He also thanked David Parmee for agreeing to take on the role of secretary at this AGM.

Richard made mention of the south-east Scotland winter bird atlas in his report and asked Mike Thornton if there was anything further on this. Mike said there had been good coverage in most of the tetrads with timed visits in early and late seasons. However, the number of roving records across the atlas area were down and lower than had been expected, so the atlas is going to run over another winter season this year concentrating on the roving records. Details will be provided in due course and it will start in November.

Richard acknowledged the programme of speakers this year, organised by Kathryn Cox at SOC HQ and Mike Thornton from the committee, had been great. He referenced Stan da Prato and John Harrison who attracted particularly big Zoom crowds. Richard also thanked all members who had joined us over this season.

Richard also acknowledged those members who are no longer with us, mentioning Willie Prest who passed away recently.

#### 4. Branch Treasurer's report

The summary of the branch accounts for 2020 to 2021 was displayed on screen for members to view. Branch Treasurer, Stephen Hunter, noted the main source of income for the branch as coming from the 2018 Lothian Bird Report, with more than £790 profit allowing for printing, sales of the report and licensing revenue. Stephen said sales have been affected by the closure of Waterston House and the Viking shop, which meant we didn't have as many sales as we would normally have, but we had quite a few mail sales. Stephen explained we had made two donations of £500 this year – one to the Fair Isle Bird Observatory rebuild project and one to the Aberlady Bay Baseline project. Stephen said if members ignored the donations made from existing funds, the club made £448 this year. With donations we made a loss of £550, which was intentional because we felt we had a bit too much money in the branch account.

Income	Sales of Lothian Bird Reports	£876.25
	Lothian Bird Report licensing revenue	£564.97
	<b>Total income</b>	<b>£1441.22</b>
Expenditure	Waterston House meeting room hire (outstanding from 2019-20)	£60
	Lothian Bird Report printing (2018 issue)	£645.70
	Donations to Fair Isle Bird Observatory rebuild project and Aberlady Bay Baseline Projects	£1000
	Competition prizes	£86.98
	Honorarium paid to the Lothian Bird Recorder	£200
	<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>£1992.68</b>
	Income deficit	£551.46
	Account balance as at 31 March 2020	<b>£2913.61</b>

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Stuart Ferguson and seconded by Mike Thornton.

#### 5. Election of committee members

Richard confirmed that Alison Creamer was stepping down as secretary, but David Parmee had agreed to take on this role. David's nomination was proposed by Stephen Hunter and seconded by Anne Hyatt.

Stephen Hunter was due to retire from the committee by rotation, but he has agreed to stand again. Stephen's nomination was proposed by Gill Parmee and seconded by Hilary Maxfield.

Mike Thornton was also due to retire from the committee by rotation, but he has agreed to stand again. Mike's nomination was proposed by Anne Sinclair and seconded by Donald Bundy.

Richard noted that committee member Anne Hyatt was also stepping down from the committee due to the commitment of taking on a new role with the new RSPB group.

## **6. Election of new committee members**

Richard confirmed no interest had been indicated from any members in joining the committee at this year's AGM.

## **7. AOCB.**

There was no other business.