



EGM held South Hill Park

Attendees

Hugh Barnard (HB)	Steve Eagles (SE)	Lissie Mitchell (LM)
Colin Bird (CB)	Richard Elsbury (RE)	Jon Munday (JM)
Maggie Britt (MB)	Steve Forster (SF)	Michael J Norton (MN)
Roger Britt (RB)	Paul Eaton (PE)	Trevor Scott (TS)
Michael Byrne (MBy)	Malcolm Hawkes (MH)	Helen Viner (HV)
Rose Byrne (RBy)	Andy Mansfield (AM)	Neville Pike (NP)
Nicky Clothier (NC)	David Metson (DM)	
Paul Cooper (PC)	Lynette Nunn (LN)	

Apologies

Officers of BCV

RB introduced the meeting stating that the main item on the agenda was to discuss the possibility of nominating deputies for the Chair and the Secretary

- RE said that he was willing to stay on as Chair, but this would be for one year -2023/4 only. He strongly believed it was time that a newer member took on the role
- HV volunteered to put herself forward as deputy to the Chair. She was voted in unanimously
- LM said that she would be content to take on the role of organising the AGM and any other extraordinary meeting deemed necessary. This was also accepted by the meeting. this was for

Action

All group members to consider any roles/assistance they would like to take on

(Continuation of AGM agenda)

Miyawaki forest (<https://www.creatingtomorrowforests.co.uk/blog/the-miyawaki-method-for-creating-forests>)

- MN said that while he had received positive feedback from Rangers regarding the concept of creating a miyawaki forest he had had difficulties in identifying an appropriate contact in Bracknell Forest Council. After some discussion it was agreed that MH would contact the Biodiversity Office in BFC and MN would liaise with Rangers Oscar and Andy to try and move this idea forward. Size of the land required would be something like that of a single tennis court.

Actions

1. MH to contact Biodiversity Office in BFC
2. MN to liaise with Rangers

Reserves

MH reported that he had received mixed messages regarding potentially improving the interest rate we receive on our funds in view of our current reserves of £10000. He will investigate further

Action

MH to investigate interest rates

Constitution

Items 16 and 17 of AGM agenda combined

The constitution includes a section on distribution of financial resources if BCV ceases to exist

MH said that a further issue was that authorisation for spends now required 3 signatures. It was also intended to move banking on-line. The constitution will need to be amended to reflect both matters

Action

MH to amend as above (**action now completed 13/7/23**)

Tick Protection

MH informed the meeting that between 2% and 5% of ticks in the UK carry lime disease or worse. There are approximately 3000 cases in the UK annually. Symptoms include feeling flu-y, and a bulls eye rash. This can last up to 4 weeks after a bite.

NC said that she had been successful in removing ticks using soap around the tick which loosens its grip. There is also a recommended tool which is available from vets. It was agreed that one should be purchased for the First Aid Kit. It was also recommended that members wear long trousers tucked into socks. While it is best to avoid long grass that is not possible given the nature of out tasks.

Action

Purchase tick removal tool for First Aid Kit

AOB

- Council Biodiversity Meeting

MN attends this on behalf of BCV. MH also attends on behalf of Ascot wildlife. MN reported that there were sometimes difficulties getting issues on the agenda. He was concerned that some discussions were not fully reflected and was unsure how to raise this. It was agreed that MN and MH would liaise ahead of scheduled Biodiversity Meetings to co-ordinate approach. MN will also forwards minutes of the meetings to RB

Action

MN to continue to represent BCV and update group

- Communication with Parks Department

This has been an on-going concern. There is a lack of clarity in the chain of senior management in the Parks Dept, and it is unclear who we should be contacting.

Action

Team leaders to arrange meeting to discuss improving communications

- Public presentations

BCV is occasionally approached by other organisations to give presentations on the work we do. It would useful if there were a pool of volunteers ready to take this on, as well as a pre-prepared presentation to deliver

Action

Members to consider whether they would volunteer

- Ad hoc requests to attend tasks

JM said that he receives requests from businesses and individuals to attend for team building days and career development/work experience. Business requests are passed onto the Parks Dept, but he asked for clarity on individual requests. These can be from students looking to build up a CV. TS said that anyone under the age of 18 would have to accompanied by a responsible adult

Action

All to note in the event requests are received

Meeting closed 12.15

