



**MINUTES OF THE 47TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE WILTSHIRE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 30TH MARCH 2022
VIA ZOOM**

1. Welcome and Apologies:

The Chairman Matt Prior welcomed 40 members to the 47th Annual General Meeting conducted via zoom as a result of the Corona virus pandemic.
Apologies were received from John McAllister and Jim & Jane Drewitt, and Frank Mogford,

2. Minutes of 2021 AGM:

The minutes of the 2021 AGM had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members accepted the minutes without comment.

3. Chairman's Address: Matt Prior

1. Thanked the Committee for the work done over the last year.
2. Thanked David Little for his work as secretary.
3. The Editorial Board of Hobby, Paul Castle, Stephen Edwards and Bill Quantrell were thanked for their hard work producing the Wiltshire Bird Report.
4. Claire Jones, the Recorder has done a fantastic job, and her team working with her, receiving record numbers of records which have been processed.
5. Mike Hamzija has served the Society well over many years but is standing down from the Records Committee. Matt thanked him for all his work.
6. Andrew Bray has unfortunately had to stand down from the Committee and as BTO Representative due to ill health. Matt thanked him for his contribution.
7. Indoor Meetings have been replaced by Zoom meetings, with good attendances. Sue Wilthew is moving away and stepping down, so an Indoor Meetings Organiser is needed.
8. Outdoor meetings resumed in October. These are always popular and often over subscribed. Thank you to the trip leaders and Granville Pictor for organising the programme.
9. WOS News. Matt thanked the editorial Team of Christine Johnson, Alison Rymell and Bruce Maxfield for the continued high standard of the quarterly bulletin.
10. Finance. The pivotal role of treasurer Ted Smith, in the administering of the accounts, but also providing advice about WOS reserves and undergoing audits was applauded.
11. Conservation Projects. Covid restrictions threatened to stop the monitoring of Tree Sparrows, numbers adversely affected by the long wet winter, but the summer of 2021 was successful with an average of 9 young per pair.
12. The Curlew Project, run by Jonny Cooper, has raised the profile of this species. One bird from Blakehill was sighted 272 km away in Cornwall, the first record of such a movement.
13. Membership. Frank Mogford has managed the applications well. Membership stands at 482. The setting up of a twitter account already has 396 followers.
14. Gareth Hawkes continues to manage the website, protecting it from cyber attacks. Matt thanked Graham Deacon for maintaining the Latest Sightings page.
15. WOS has struggled to attract younger members. Izzy Fry & Charlie Murphy have provided WOS with great ideas to address this. Some will be evident at the Bird Fair with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust at Langford Lakes on 24th April.

4. Treasurer's Report:

Ted Smith presented the report ..

5. Recorders Report:

Matt Prior read Claire Jones's report to the audience.

6. Election of Chairman:

Matt Prior was re-elected as Chairman for the coming year.

7. Election Treasurer:

Ted Smith was re-elected as Treasurer.

8. Election of Secretary:

David Little was re-elected as Secretary.

9. Election of Executive Committee:

Paul Castle was re-elected as deputy chairman.
Graham Deacon, Granville Pictor, Frank Mogford,
Gareth Hawkes, and Peter Cranswick, Jonny Cooper
were re-elected to the Committee.

David Marson was accepted as Auditor for 2022.

10. Election of Auditor:

11. Any Other Business:

There being no further business the Chairman closed the formal meeting at 2000 hours.

DJL 8.04.2022